

TEACHING ASSISTANCE GUIDE

BEHAVIOR SUPPORT

Positive Choices. Strong Relationships. Success for All.

RESPECT RESPONSIBILITY SAFETY READINESS KINDNESS



PURPOSE

Positive behavior support helps create a safe, respectful, and productive learning environment where every student has the opportunity to succeed. By teaching clear expectations, reinforcing positive behaviors, and responding consistently to challenges, educators can encourage students to develop self-management, responsibility, and strong interpersonal skills.

This Teaching Assistance Guide provides practical classroom strategies for promoting positive behavior, building meaningful relationships, and supporting students through proactive classroom management techniques.



WHO CAN BENEFIT

This guide is designed for:

- Transitional Kindergarten (TK)
- Kindergarten
- Elementary School (Grades K–5)
- Middle School (Grades 6–8)
- Special Education Classrooms
- Intervention Programs
- Alternative Education Programs
- After-School Programs
- Homeschool Educators



WHY POSITIVE BEHAVIOR SUPPORT MATTERS

A well-managed classroom allows teachers to focus on instruction while helping students develop the social and behavioral skills needed for long-term success.

Positive behavior support helps:

- Create a safe learning environment
- Increase student engagement
- Improve classroom routines
- Reduce classroom disruptions
- Encourage student responsibility
- Strengthen peer relationships
- Build self-confidence
- Promote respectful communication
- Support academic achievement

Teaching expected behaviors is just as important as teaching academic skills.

ESTABLISHING CLASSROOM EXPECTATIONS

Students are more successful when expectations are clearly communicated and practiced.

Effective classroom expectations should be:

- Simple
- Positive
- Age appropriate
- Consistently reinforced
- Easy to remember

Examples include:

- BE RESPECTFUL
- BE RESPONSIBLE
- BE SAFE
- BE READY TO LEARN
- BE KIND

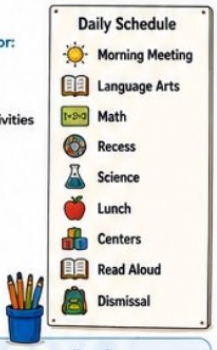
Display classroom expectations where students can easily see them throughout the day.

TEACHING CLASSROOM ROUTINES

Students benefit from practicing routines until they become familiar habits.

Teach and model routines for:

- Entering the classroom
- Morning procedures
- Transitioning between activities
- Independent work
- Small-group instruction
- Using classroom materials
- Asking for help
- Lining up
- Cleaning up
- End-of-day procedures



Review routines regularly, especially after school breaks or schedule changes.

ENCOURAGING POSITIVE BEHAVIOR

Recognize and reinforce behaviors you want students to continue.

Examples include:

- Offering specific verbal praise
- Celebrating effort and improvement
- Recognizing teamwork
- Highlighting acts of kindness
- Providing leadership opportunities
- Encouraging self-reflection
- Acknowledging responsible choices



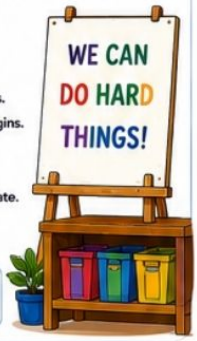
Positive feedback is most effective when it is timely, specific, and genuine.

PREVENTING BEHAVIOR CHALLENGES

Many classroom disruptions can be reduced through thoughtful planning.

Helpful strategies include:

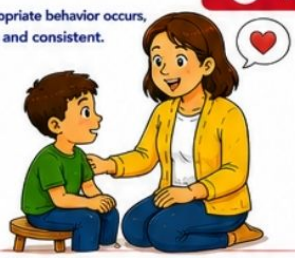
- [ ] Maintain predictable routines.
- [ ] Keep students actively engaged.
- [ ] Provide clear directions.
- [ ] Break large tasks into manageable steps.
- [ ] Prepare materials before instruction begins.
- [ ] Use visual schedules.
- [ ] Monitor student understanding.
- [ ] Offer movement breaks when appropriate.
- [ ] Encourage positive peer interactions.



Proactive strategies often reduce the need for corrective responses.

RESPONDING TO CHALLENGING BEHAVIOR

When inappropriate behavior occurs, remain calm and consistent.



Consider these approaches:

- Redirect attention to the expected behavior.
- Use private conversations when possible.
- Give students time to reflect before responding.
- Offer choices that encourage appropriate behavior.
- Reinforce positive behavior as soon as it occurs.
- Maintain consistent expectations for all students.
- Focus on problem-solving rather than punishment.



REMEMBER:

Responding respectfully helps preserve positive teacher-student relationships.

TOGETHER, WE BUILD A POSITIVE CLASSROOM WHERE EVERY STUDENT CAN LEARN, GROW, AND THRIVE!





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SELF-REGULATION · RESPECT · SAFETY · RESPONSIBILITY · KINDNESS

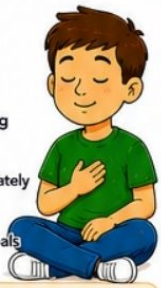


TEACHING SELF-REGULATION

Students benefit from learning strategies that help them recognize and manage emotions.

Practice skills such as:

- Identifying emotions
- Deep breathing
- Counting before responding
- Using positive self-talk
- Requesting a break appropriately
- Reflecting on choices
- Setting personal behavior goals



Self-regulation develops over time through modeling, practice, and encouragement.

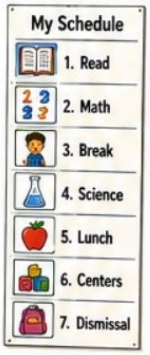


SUPPORTING DIVERSE LEARNERS

Behavior expectations should be taught in ways that are accessible to every student.

Consider providing:

- ☐ Visual behavior reminders
- ☐ Picture schedules
- ☐ Step-by-step directions
- ☐ Quiet workspaces
- ☐ Flexible seating
- ☐ Individual behavior goals
- ☐ Frequent check-ins
- ☐ Positive reinforcement
- ☐ Predictable routines
- ☐ Opportunities for movement



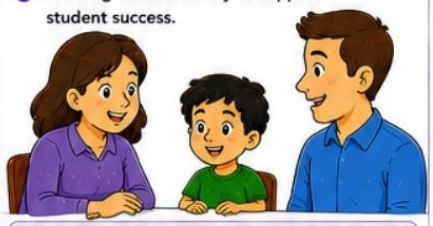
Supporting individual needs helps create an inclusive classroom where all students can succeed.

FAMILY PARTNERSHIPS

Consistent communication between school and home supports positive behavior development.

Consider:

- Sharing classroom expectations with families.
- Celebrating positive behavior improvements.
- Providing practical strategies for home.
- Encouraging consistent routines.
- Maintaining respectful communication.
- Working collaboratively to support student success.



Strong partnerships create consistency across learning environments.

CLASSROOM ORGANIZATION TIPS

An organized classroom can help reduce distractions and improve student behavior.

Consider:

- Clearly labeled learning areas
- Organized classroom materials
- Visible daily schedule
- Defined traffic patterns
- Accessible supply stations
- Comfortable learning spaces
- Consistent seating arrangements when appropriate



Students are more likely to remain focused when the learning environment is predictable and well organized.

POSITIVE REMINDERS



CROSS-CURRICULAR CONNECTIONS

LANGUAGE ARTS

- Cooperative reading
- Respectful discussions
- Reflective writing



MATHEMATICS

- Collaborative problem-solving
- Perseverance through challenges
- Following multi-step directions



SCIENCE

- Safe laboratory practices
- Team investigations
- Responsible use of equipment



SOCIAL STUDIES

- Citizenship
- Community responsibility
- Respect for diverse perspectives



VISUAL ARTS

- Sharing materials
- Collaborative projects
- Creative expression



WE CAN DO HARD THINGS!

Be Kind. · Be Respectful. · Be Responsible. · Be Safe. · Be Your Best!

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RECOMMENDED CLASSROOM SUPPLIES

Helpful classroom materials include:

- Behavior expectation posters
- Visual schedule cards
- Pocket charts
- Dry erase boards
- Whiteboard markers
- Sticky notes
- Classroom timers
- Reflection journals
- Goal-setting charts
- Storage bins
- Name tags
- Classroom labels
- Calm-down tools
- Sensory materials
- Flexible seating options
- Organization baskets







BEHAVIOR SUPPORT CHECKLIST

- ☐ Classroom expectations are clearly posted.
- ☐ Daily routines have been taught and practiced.
- ☐ Students understand classroom procedures.
- ☐ Positive behavior is recognized consistently.
- ☐ Classroom materials are organized.
- ☐ Students have opportunities for movement and collaboration.
- ☐ Self-regulation strategies are taught.
- ☐ Family communication is maintained.
- ☐ Behavior expectations are reviewed regularly.



FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

Q How many classroom rules should I have?

Most classrooms benefit from three to five broad expectations that are easy for students to understand and remember. These expectations can then be applied to different classroom situations.

Q How can I encourage positive behavior without relying only on rewards?

Focus on building relationships, teaching expected behaviors, providing meaningful feedback, recognizing effort, and creating engaging learning experiences that motivate students to participate successfully.

Q What should I do when classroom routines begin to slip?

Take time to reteach routines, model expectations, practice procedures with students, and provide consistent reminders. Reviewing routines periodically helps maintain a positive classroom environment.

Q How can I support students with different behavioral needs?

Provide clear expectations, predictable routines, visual supports, flexible strategies, and regular communication while recognizing that students may need different levels of guidance and encouragement.

PROFESSIONAL TEACHING TIPS

- Build positive relationships before behavior challenges arise.
- Teach expected behaviors just as you teach academic content.
- Be consistent with expectations and routines.
- Use calm, respectful language during difficult situations.
- Focus on student growth rather than perfection.
- Recognize positive choices more often than correcting mistakes.
- Encourage students to reflect on their actions and identify ways to improve.
- Create a classroom culture where every student feels respected, valued, and capable of success.



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