

## GREAT INFLUENCE OF POSITIVE DISCIPLINE

*by:*

**April S. Jamili**

*Teacher I, Calaguiman Elementary School*

Positive discipline is an approach that has gained popularity in recent years as a means of managing behavior in the classroom. This approach aims to promote self-discipline, responsibility, and problem-solving skills in students, rather than relying on punishment or rewards to control behavior. For elementary learners, positive discipline can provide a supportive and nurturing environment that promotes their social, emotional, and academic growth.

One of the main principles of positive discipline is the use of clear and consistent rules and expectations. Teachers should communicate these rules and expectations to students in a way that is age-appropriate and easily understood. Students should also be involved in the process of setting rules and consequences, which can promote a sense of ownership and responsibility. When students understand what is expected of them and the consequences for their behavior, they are more likely to self-regulate and make positive choices.

Another important component of positive discipline is the use of positive reinforcement. This involves recognizing and reinforcing desired behaviors, such as showing kindness to others, following directions, and completing tasks. When students receive positive feedback and recognition for their efforts, they are more likely to repeat these behaviors in the future. Positive reinforcement can be as simple as verbal praise, a high five, or a sticker on a chart. By focusing on positive behaviors, teachers can create a positive classroom culture that promotes cooperation, respect, and learning.

However, positive discipline also recognizes that students will make mistakes and misbehave at times. When this happens, it is important for teachers to respond in a calm and supportive manner. Instead of punishing students, teachers should use the opportunity to teach and guide students towards more positive behaviors. This can involve discussing what went wrong, how the student can make amends, and how they can make better choices in the future. By using mistakes as a learning opportunity, teachers can help students develop problem-solving skills and resilience.

In addition, positive discipline emphasizes the importance of building positive relationships with students. Teachers who have positive relationships with their students are more likely to create a classroom environment that promotes learning and cooperation. Teachers can build positive relationships by showing genuine interest in their students, listening to their concerns, and demonstrating empathy and understanding. By building positive relationships, teachers can create a sense of belonging and safety that supports student learning.

Implementing positive discipline in the classroom requires a shift in mindset from punishment and control to collaboration and support. It is important for teachers to receive training and support in this approach, as well as ongoing reflection and evaluation of their practices. With the right tools and mindset, positive discipline can promote a positive and productive classroom environment that supports the social, emotional, and academic growth of elementary learners.

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