

CLASSROOM MANAGEMENT TIPS FOR NEW ELEMENTARY TEACHERS

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Being an elementary teacher is exciting yet challenging especially when you are a newbie. You need to face different challenges such as dealing with various types of pupils and classroom management. Making your classroom more organized and structured to promote a positive learning environment helps the children stay focused, engaged, and motivated; this will make the teacher's job much easier and smoother. For new elementary teachers who are ready for these challenges, here are some tips to strive to be successful educators easily.

Children can do better things if we set expectations or set things that they should do or possess. As a teacher, it is important and helpful if we set standard classroom rules and regulations and keep these guidelines consistent from time to time. By this, we can encourage them to follow and obey rules for they to reach the set expectations inside the classroom. It is also helpful if we post these rules and regulations inside the classroom where everyone has access to see them, that will be an easy way to remind them regularly of what is expected of them.

The key to better classroom management is having a positive and good relationship with your students. If we do appreciate, value, and respect our students, they are more likely engaged and will participate actively in the class. We are also obliged to know their interest, what their likes and dislikes are, check how they are doing, and even create a positive warm welcoming environment where they can truly feel that they are valued and heard. Always remember that respect comes back to you if you give importance to this aspect.

Children are most likely trying their best to follow routines and rules inside the classroom, this will not be possible without the effort of consistent and firm implementation and reinforcement. These rules and regulations serve as an assurance for the children to feel safe and sound. Setting schedules and managing time regularly such as time for activity, quizzes, and health breaks helps them to cope with the challenges in the classroom and even in the whole school community.

As an effective educator, we should not focus only on reinforcing the bad habits and attitudes of our students, we should also take into account their good behavior so that they will be more motivated to strive to do more positive things and right choices. Simple affirmations will have a great impact on them such as “Very Good!”, “Thank you for being responsible”, and “I appreciate you trying your very best every day”. Take also into consideration having extra time for them even a small celebration like awarding them certificates, or giving them reward stickers, and gifts; this will boost their motivation to stay positive towards things. We should also recognize individual and group efforts as this will result in an encouraging classroom environment.

Regardless if how organized a teacher is, no matter how we plan and prepare ourselves day by day, things won't be always as perfect as we expect as it is. There are a lot of external factors that can affect our daily routine such as fire drills, unexpected visitors, or just dull moments naturally experienced by our students. In this situation, as a teacher, just to keep everything well and good, we need to stay calm and keep trying to solve things without any fatigue or a feeling of frustration. Keeping your composure in very stressful scenarios makes you an even stronger and enhanced educator.

Being strict at all times isn't really a solution for effective classroom management. It is more on creating a child-friendly, safe, motivating environment wherein a child can learn effectively and efficiently. By being consistent in implementing rules and regulations, exercising routines regularly, noticing and affirming good positive behaviors, and being a jack of all trades, newly hired teachers can be more likely to

succeed in their endeavors. As time goes by, these aspects will be more likely natural as you go along experiencing different scenarios in the field of teaching.

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