

Fire & Life Safety Education



Subject: Classroom Management Techniques

Having classroom management techniques available to use is being proactive in preventing problems from occurring to begin with while creating a positive learning environment. Creating that perfect learning environment is one of the most challenging aspects of teaching. Failure to set the right tone will greatly hinder your effectiveness as a facilitator and/or presenter. All teachers may sometimes feel frustrated by classroom management issues. Here is a list of management tips that you can use in any classroom or with any size group.

It is always a good policy to enlist the help of the classroom teacher. If there is time before going to present the lesson, talk with her/him about what the class is like, if there are any student needs that you need to be aware of, or what his or her expectations are for student behavior or movement.

- 1. Enlist the help of the classroom teacher.**
- 2. Be patient.**
- 3. Set limits—tell them what you expect while you are presenting their lesson. Be positive instead of negative. For example; instead of “No food and drink in the classroom,” say “Please leave food and drinks in the cafeteria.”**
- 4. Focus your attention on the entire class—stand or sit where you can see all students. Continue to make eye contact with all students in the class. Make sure that all students can see and hear you.**
- 5. Direct instruction so students know what is going to happen.**
- 6. Minimize transition time—keep the time between lesson and activity to a minimum.**
- 7. Come to class prepared. Arrive early so that you are ready to go when the class arrives.**

- 8. Show confidence—show the class that you are in charge and always remain calm and polite.**
- 9. Use a normal, natural voice.**
- 10. Speak when students are quiet and ready—wait until there is quiet and students settle down. Do not try to talk above their noise. There are some teacher techniques that you can use—such as “Clap once if you can hear my voice. Clap twice if you can hear my voice.” (By this time, they should be quiet). Holding one hand in the air and having them raise their hand, too, while making eye contact with students is also good.**
- 11. Always have a well-designed, engaging lesson. Keep the lesson moving and students actively participating. Make sure the material presented matches student abilities.**
- 12. Use positive reinforcement - Praise what and when you can and do so often.**
- 13. Be enthusiastic.**
- 14. Get disruptive students’ attention by:**
 - a. Pausing and looking toward them; making eye contact**
 - b. Casually moving toward the student and standing beside them while continuing to teach**
 - c. Directing a question to the student**
 - d. Changing from a sitting to a standing position**
 - e. Changing from a normal speaking voice to a whisper**

Reference:

Alber, Rebecca. “Classroom Management tips.”

<https://www.edutopia.org/blog/classroom-management-tips-novice-teachers-rebecca-alber>. 2015. Online.

Giesler, Marsha. *Fire & Life Safety Educator II*, Burlington, MA: Jones & Bartlett, 2018. Print.