

My Classroom Management

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### Philosophy

My classroom management philosophy is to different types of practice and procedures so that each student in the classroom is an environment where their learning and educational growth can thrive. The environment that these student will be apart of will be a safe, friendly and most importantly comforting area where they are encouraged and reassured that their success is the most important goal. Striving to accomplish this goal will take a great deal of amazing classroom management skills. What is told in Wong & Wong “Classroom management is an essential element of student achievement”. This statement is true because without any effective classroom management, there will not be an effective teacher. Without an effective teacher, student are not given the opportunity to better their education and it will hurt their academic success. With the use of multiple classroom management strategies and skills an amazing classroom with be made for the betterment of student academic success and the teacher educational success as well.

### The First Days of School

As a rookie teacher there are some plans that must be addressed and ready to go months in advance because of how important it is. These plans are for the first day of school. The first days of school are when the student are just coming back from summer break and they are not really excited to sit in a building for seven hours while it is still warm outside. It is even harder when there is a brand new teacher that they have never met before and do not know anything about. This is a crucial time for the teacher fully reach their student. I have to reach my students early and as quick as possible because if there is no connection I have lost them for the entirety of my class for the rest of the year

The most important thing that I will do on the very first day of school is greet every student as the door of my classroom. With a firm handshake and an excited greeting is how every

student will enter my class on the first day. This is the best way to and easiest to start the connection between student and teacher. I will then directly jump into the what the rules of my classroom will be and start to establish my procedures. The best way of setting up a solid set of procedures is by using the strategy of Create, Implement, and Assess each procedure strategy (Wong 2014). When these procedure have been created and are implemented I will teach, rehearse and reinforce each of them with my classroom and my students. With all of these procedures yet and ready to go, I will have made that connection with my students.

### The Big Five

The Big Five is a strategy of setting up a strong base for all the procedures that will be done in your classroom. The Big Five are the rules, routines, praise, misbehavior and engagement. I will go through all these five to show how I will use them in my management strategies.

### Rules

Rules are an important because they set the main base for how student will act and what they can do in your classroom. Rules are very tricky because if you have to many the students do not have enough freedom to do things in their own way and learn to regulate themselves but if there are not enough the whole classroom could go into complete state of chaos. The rules and the procedures that come along with them I find to be good for students at the secondary level.

That it why I will only have two man rules that my classroom will follow:

1. **Respect-** Respect will be shown to yourself, your fellow students, your teacher, and everyone's ideas and opinions.
2. **Try to Have Fun-** When you enjoy school, learning becomes way easier. Even if it is not your favorite subject, try to find fun in every activity.

These two rules will be what I will base all of my procedures off of. Most of which will fall under the Respect Rule because overall it is the most important. The procedures that will come under the Respect Rule will be the following:

1. Coming to class on time.
2. Bringing all materials with you to class.
3. Not using a cell phones in class.
4. Not talking unless it is your turn to talk.

These will be explained on the very first day and repeatedly reinforced when needed throughout the year or until every student fully understand the rules and are following them properly so that they do not need to be reinforced. For students to reach this goals of following rules they must get into a routine

#### Procedures into Routines

Routines are just procedures that have been reinforced so that that students do not have to be told or showed what to do when given a task or assignment to do (Wong 2014). In this section I will go through procedures and explain how I will turn them into routines.

#### **Tardiness:**

The procedure will be to show he school and classroom tardiness policies will be explained and what to do if they are tardy to class. Tardy student will enter class in a manner that is not distracting to students. If student has a tardy excuse slip it will be set on my desk and student will immediately go to desk and start on work. If student has unexcused tardy, unexcused tardy note will be taken from folder on door and placed on the desk with name and will be talked to after class. I will have student demonstrate the proper way of doing the steps in the tardy policy so that all student know where the unexcused tardy sheets are and where to set the different sheets

on my desk. Once they have gone through this at the beginning of the year they will implement this without any troubles.

**Greeting:**

This procedure will be to make sure students understand how to properly introduce themselves when they walk into the classroom. From *Love and Logic*, building a relationship with students is key to being a successful teacher and using a greeting is the best way to start it. They will be given the option for a handshake, high five or a fist bump because it should not be too formal and should be a fun way to enter class. I will tell them their options as they walk into class on the first day. I will rehearse this procedure by reminding them every day they come into class until they are able to make their own choice as they walk into the class.

**Seating Chart:**

As students are entering the room after the greeting there will be name tags on each of the desks in the classroom that will be set and I will instruct them to sit in their assigned seat. Students will be informed that these seats will only be assigned until after the next chapter test and after that there will be a new seating chart. To rehearse this procedure their name tags will be set up until I see that each student is comfortable enough to find their seat on their own and the name tags will be put away. This will be repeated after each chapter exam.

**Attendance:**

For attendance there will be a chart with every student's name on a whiteboard in the front of the class and there will be a green marker where if the student is here they will check by their name before they take their seat. This will be explained on the very first day after everyone has taken their seats. I will rehearse this behavior by telling students at the greeting until they are able to do

this without my help. Then if a student forgets I will reinforce by letting them know they have to do this before they can sit down.

**Agenda:**

The agenda will be posted on the board at the beginning of each class period. I will explain what an agenda is to the class after they have found their seat and how it will be used every day. I will also explain what will be posted on the agenda and how this is what order it will be in. I will rehearse this procedure by reminding students to look at the agenda until every student knows how it is used and does the first thing on the agenda without asking.

**Opening assignments:**

I will explain to the students that the opening assignment is not graded for correctness but it is used so that I know that each student knows the main topic of the last lecture. I will explain that this is what you should do as the very first thing when you sit down and how it will be on the agenda for the day. If a student is struggling on the assignment they are encouraged to ask their neighbors for help but not for the answer. I will rehearse by helping students out and reminding them about the opening assignment at the beginning until they are doing it on their own. If students get off task I will remind them that they need to focus on the assignment and that neighbors are used for helping on the assignment only.

**Turning in Papers:**

I will ask students to gather all of the papers that need to be turned in for that day and place them in the middle of their desk cluster to be picked up. I will pick up and place all turned in papers on a bin marked "Papers Due" on my desk. If a student is tardy they will turn in their paper as they are leaving the class in the "Papers Due" bin. I will rehearse this procedure by having students do

this with their first opening assessment on the first day. I will remind them how to do this until they are able to do this without me asking.

### **Dismissal From Class:**

How to be dismissed at the end of the class will be explained to students near the end of the first day of class. They will be informed that they may not pack up or leave their desk until I have given them permission to do so even if the bell has already rung. They must make sure that all homework and assessments that are to be done outside of class have been documented. I will rehearse this procedure by going through it step by step at the end of the first class. Then throughout the first week or weeks I will constantly remind them when they can and how to do it if the students need help with it still. This will be done until I only have to say that “You guys are now dismissed” and they can leave.

These are the most important procedures that, if the classroom is going to be successful and smooth, will be rehearsed and reinforced so that they become routine as fast as possible.

### **Praise**

Students are the most important part of every teacher's career and should always be at the front of their mind. Sometimes it is hard for students to do well in certain subjects and maybe overall in school but every success should be praised and acknowledged. The best way to give praise is to make it personal to the student themselves. Like if a student named Tommy got a 75 on the last test but on this he got an 82 you should praise him for his achievement. A good way to make it personal to him is to tell him “Tommy you did an amazing job on this last test, your improving and that makes me a very proud teacher”. This is how I would show my students that I care about them and that I am rooting for them to succeed. This also brings along the ripple-effect. This means when one student see another student being praised for their actions that they

will want to have the same reward. This will force them to follow what the previous students did and the chain continues till everyone is doing the same good achievement. Praise is very useful tool to implement in a classroom and it lead to better attitude about learning in students and pushes them to keep achieving more and more.

### Misbehavior

Sometimes a student who grew up in a household that really isn't the most caring or maybe they are just having a bad day but for some reason some student tend to misbehave. I am not the most hot tempered person on the planet and I am not the kind of person to just jump right into worse case scenario. If a student starts to misbehave in my class the very first thing I would do is come and get down to eye level and just ask the student "Is everything ok?". The best way to really reach a student is in doing something because of some sort of strong emotion is to just ask them not why they are doing or be hustle and question everything but to make sure they are doing alright as a person (Fay 1995).

There's a student in my class who hates to sit through my earth science class because we are working on a geology unit and he is just sitting doing nothing. I would first approach him and get down to his eye level and ask why he is not enjoying my class. I want to do know why he isn't liking the way I am teaching. I would give him multiple options on what he could do that could possibly make the class more interesting for him.

If I have a student is constantly on their phone when they know they aren't supposed to be I would make a very direct eye contact and make sure they know I can see them being on their phone. If that does not deter the action I will ask the student if they have found any information regarding what we are learning on their phone. If the behavior continues I will get to eye level with my student and inform them that "I find it very disrespectful that you are on your phone



during a lesson. I put a lot of hard work into the lecture and I was excited for everyone to learn it. So if you could please place your phone in your backpack and continues the lesson or you could come see after class to discuss when you will be coming over the weekend for detention.” This will hopefully make the student put the phone away so that it does not need to be physically taken away from them.

If a student is constantly tardy to my class or is constantly skipping or not showing up I will pull them aside during a work times to talk to them. I will explain that in our number one rule we have to show respect to the teacher, their classmates and themselves. I will explain that but constantly not showing up or missing half the class is not showing respect to their own education. That is how they will hurt their chance of being successful and that is a disrespect towards yourself. If this behavior does not change I will be forced to ask them to come in over the weekend for detention so that they have the ability to learn and what on the information they have missed.

If there is a student who is always being loud and disruptive during a lecture the first thing I would give him the teacher look that shows that you do not like the behavior that they are doing. If the student doesn't stop being disruptive I would walk up to the student and make direct eye contact keeping my disappointed teacher look and ask him “Is this an appropriate time to be loud and disruptive? This is very disruptive to all your classmates and myself.”. If this does not stop the student I will ask them to see me after class to find a time to have weekend detention.

For most of these bad behaviors I would want to show a more caring and understanding side before I have to play the mean teacher. Showing compassion builds and relationship with your students and it shows that you care about them even when they are not being good students. Punishment can be avoided if teacher shows the student understanding and compassion.

Detention is not what I want to give to students and it is my very last resort but if it must come down to it I will make sure it will happen.

### Engagement

Student engagement is one of the most important strategies that all teachers have to focus on. If a student is not engaged with the lecture and is not focusing on what is being taught, they aren't learning anything. If they are not learning anything, they cannot be successful academically and they aren't getting the education they deserve. I feel that going into the world of teaching science like biology, chemistry and earth science there are many opportunities to get students engaged in my class. For example if we are learning about different habitats in the state of North Dakota, we can go on the a field trip to the zoo and learn a lot about the different animals that are native and how they interact within their habitats. There is also a lot of ways for students to not just hear about what they are listening too but also see it. When we are talking about the human body there are dissections of pig fetuses and cats so that we can look what organisms with similar organ systems as ours to put a really picture to what we are learning. The hardest part engaging students in a lesson is trying to get every student who learns completely different to be engaged in everything. Every lesson must be tailored to students who learn through reading, writing, and tactile ways so that all students have the ability to be engaged and learn what the lesson is teaching.

### My Classroom

This, as a future teacher, is one of the most exciting topics to talk about. Hopefully I will have the opportunity to teach subjects like biology and earth science at the highschool level. The way I would set up my classroom is by using desks to bunch them together in groups of 4 or 6 but have them angled so that it is easy for students to see the board that will be lectured on. I like this

so that during group work everyone can see and face each other without having to turn around. Examples of this are in the appendix based off of if it is more of a normal classroom or a more of a lab based classroom.

I will also have posters of the different animals species with their scientific names around the room so that students have something to refer to when we are talking about the different animals that are native to different habitats. I really enjoyed looking at all of the animal posters and biology poster that my high school biology teacher had. I would also like to have posters that fit with the lecture that is being given. It gives students a visual representation of the lecture for students who like to learn visually.

If the school allows me to have them, I would like to have classroom pets. This is a way for students to have something fun to look at if there is any free time and they have finished all of their work. I could also assign a student who may be having some behavioral issues to be the person who feeds the pets at the end of the day. This will show that even though they may be acting up, I still have trust and belief in their abilities. This will also add a little something interesting that may make student excited to come to my class and learn.

Designing my dream classroom and having an environment where students are excited to learn and excited to be in class. With a good classroom environment it will be easier for student to get engaged and learn what is being lectured (Marzano 2013). Even though it only looks like they are just fun posters and items in my classroom, they will all be tailored to the overall education of my students.

### Conclusion

To achieve a perfect classroom is a nearly an impossible goal to get too. There will always be troublesome students or something goes wrong with the technology in the class or

someone doesn't want to participate. These are things that need to be planned ahead of time. Like if the computer stops working with your lecture PowerPoint up, there should always be an extra copy for the teacher to use so that you can continue on with the lecture. Keeping up on new strategies that are being created by more experienced teachers. There are conventions that teachers can go to to help learn different types of management skills, so you can be kept up to date. There is also no shame in asking a veteran teacher in your subject or just in general to help with some management tips. There is no reason to be so proud to ask for help because that is only hurting you and your students. Veteran teachers will always be glad to lend a helping hand. Being prepared to deal with adversity is a skill any teacher has to have and being able to be flexible in stressful situation is a showing of a well-rounded and successful teacher.

References

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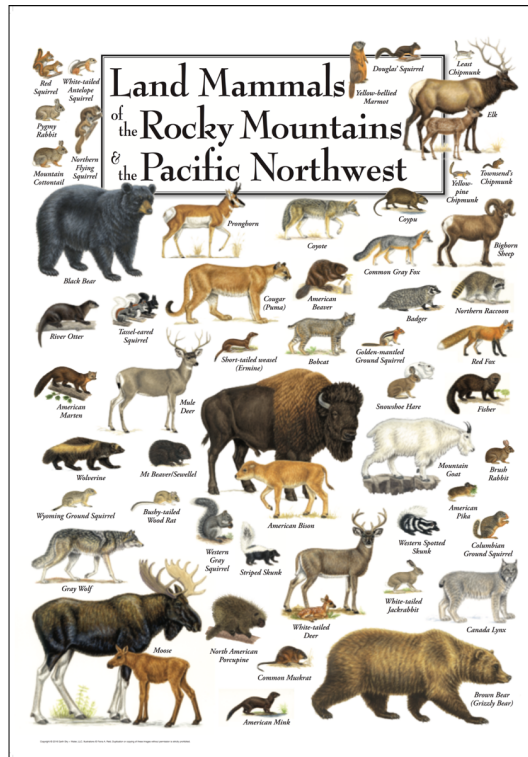
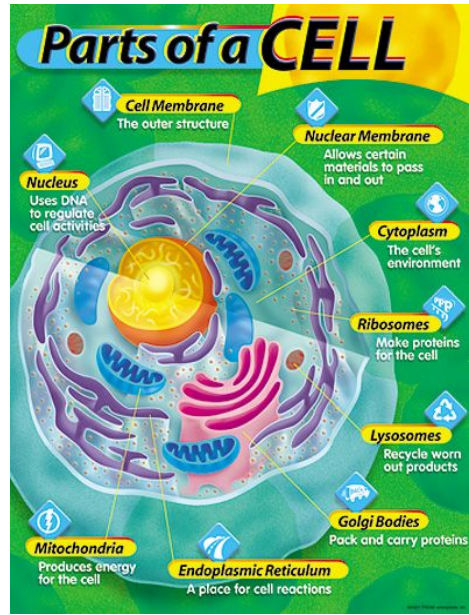
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**Seating Arrangement Ideas:**



**Poster Ideas:**





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ONLY **ONE** RULE:  
**RESPECT**

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