

Great Classroom Idea



Grade level: JK-2

Subject (if applicable): Classroom Management

Please check all that apply:

- | | |
|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> lesson plan | <input type="checkbox"/> project-based teaching/activity idea |
| <input type="checkbox"/> technology integration idea | <input type="checkbox"/> graphic organizer |
| <input type="checkbox"/> integration of faith and learning idea | <input type="checkbox"/> webquest |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> classroom management technique | <input type="checkbox"/> virtual field trip |
| <input type="checkbox"/> devotional | <input type="checkbox"/> bulletin board idea |
| <input type="checkbox"/> science demo or experiment | <input type="checkbox"/> critical thinking strategy |
| <input type="checkbox"/> assessment tool | <input type="checkbox"/> original classroom game |
| <input type="checkbox"/> relationship-building idea | <input type="checkbox"/> other: _____ |

Description: (attach supplementary materials if needed)

In my classroom, we had 5 simple rules. This was for the JK level and could be adjusted according to the various grade levels. Every morning during Circle and Calendar Time we would recite our rules. Each rule had an action that helped the students remember the rules.

In my JK classroom these were the rules and actions:

1. **Rule #1, Listen while your teachers are talking.** (Hold up 1 finger, cup your hand to your ear, point to the teachers, use both hands to mimic talking.)
2. **Rule #2, Follow directions quickly.** (Hold up 2 fingers, ASL sign for "follow", snap fingers)
3. **Rule #3, Raise your hand for permission speak.** (Hold up 3 fingers, raise your hand high, use both hands to mimic talking.)
4. **Rule #4, Always do your very best!** (Hold up 4 fingers, move raised fist in a circular motion (like a cowboy), thrust the "good job" sign in the air (for best))
5. **And Rule #5, Respect others, respect yourself and respect your school.** (Hold up 5 fingers, ASL sign for "respect", point away from yourself, ASL sign for "respect", point to yourself using your thumbs, ASL sign for "respect", point towards the ground.)

*I used this technique last year and I found it quite effective. This was helpful, as it provides a daily reminder of the rules that should be followed throughout the day. I often used it as a tool for classroom management. For example, if I find the students were becoming talkative during my teaching I would stop and without saying a word I would mimic the first sign of one of the rules. In this case I would cup my ear with my hand. The students would then recite the rule aloud (while doing the actions) "Listen while your teachers are talking." Another example - if I find the students talking out of turn, I would stop and raise my hand. The students would then respond saying (while doing the actions) "Raise your hand for permission to speak." I would then respond "I'm glad you remember our classroom rules. Let's keep that in mind as we continue our lesson."

Submitted by: Beverly Mae Mariano

School: Crawford Adventist Academy