1. Tips to develop your own classroom rules

2. Classroom rules for lower grades; all listed on one sheet, one rule per sheet to print off and post on the wall, discussion starters to teach the rules.

3. Classroom rules for upper grades; all listed on one sheet, one rule per sheet to print off and post on the wall, discussion starters to teach the rules.
Five Tips For Establishing Classroom Rules

1. **5 x 5 Rule** Keep your rules simple in length and number. A good rule of thumb is to keep it to five rules, each stated in five words or less.

2. **Post them on the wall** The rules need to be mounted on the classroom wall in a location that is prominent enough that they will fall within the student’s line of sight on a daily basis and you can point to them easily for referral.

3. **Teach and re-teach your rules** If you post them and forget about them, so will your students. Periodically, use your rules as a conversation starter to discuss classroom climate issues. Have students role play scenarios that connect with the rules. Keep the rules alive.

4. **Start the year with a student contract** Start your year by teaching the rules and then having students sign a behavior contract with the rules included. Or, have your students use the rules as a the framework to create a classroom compact. Post the signed compact on the wall, too!

5. **Keep it positive** Phrase your rules in a positive way. For example, instead of “Do not wander around the classroom”, you might say “Stay seated at all times.” It may sound like the same thing, but the latter states the expectation and avoids the no/not word.
Classroom Reminders

• Still Bodies, Busy Brains
• Raise Your Hand, Wait, Share
• Pay Attention, Do Your Best
• Try It ‘Til You Like It
• We’re All Friends In Here

*It’s Elementary!
Classroom Expectations

Still Bodies, Busy Brains
Classroom Expectations

Raise Your Hand, Wait, Share
Classroom Expectations

Pay Attention,
Do Your Best
Classroom Expectations

Try It ‘Til You Like It
Classroom Expectations

We’re All Friends In Here
Discussion Starters

1. Jason never liked Jose. Jose leaves his notebook and pencil out while going to get water. Jason hides his notebook and breaks the lead on his pencil. What rule did Jason ignore?

2. It’s time to start reading and Danielle says out loud, “This book sounds boring. I don’t want to read it!” What rule did Danielle ignore?

3. Julia and Michael had a great time making up a rap song on the bus this morning. They are now singing the song in a loud whisper, making each other and those around them laugh while they drum on their desks and tap their feet to the rap. Which rule are they ignoring?

4. Paul wants to share with the class that he’s going on a trip. He raises his hand and starts telling everyone before the teacher calls on him. Which rule is he ignoring?

5. Crystal is in a bad mood from fighting with her brother this morning. She goes over it in her mind again and again while the teacher explains the math lesson. When it’s time to work on problems, she is lost and just lays down her head. What rule is Crystal ignoring?
How To Succeed Here*

Be Prepared

Be Respectful

Listen With An Open Mind

Do Your Best

Take Responsibility

*Everyday
How to Succeed Here*

Be Prepared

*Everyday
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Be Respectful

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Take Responsibility

*Everyday
Discussion Starters

1. Why does each rule end with the word, “everyday”?

2. What words do you associate with the word “rule”? What if you associated these words instead: expectation, guidance, helpful, supportive and success?

3. Make a list of things you know you’re not supposed to do in a classroom. Now connect them with one or more of the five rules posted.

4. Look at the “rules.” Do they tell you what not to do, or what to do?

5. Do you believe in these rules? Would you sign your name and pledge to follow and support them?
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