

Avoiding Common Problems to Keep Students Interested

Key Question: How can you learn that common problems can be handled with solid classroom routines?

Directions: Review these key areas, assess your skill level in each area, and discuss your responses with your mentor. Effective teachers have efficient classroom management in place to minimize misbehavior.

1. *Classroom Management.* Have you structured your classroom in an orderly way to avoid potential problems? Traffic flow? Room setup? What could you change to avoid any further issues?
2. *Lesson Planning.* Have you designed lessons that meet the needs of all students so they don't get frustrated and angry when they can't succeed? Are the lessons challenging but doable? Do you have accommodations for grouping that avoid off task behavior? How can you redesign lessons to avoid problems you are experiencing?
3. *Rules, Rewards, and Consequences.* Are the rules clearly posted and understood? Do students "own" them, or are they imposed on them? Are you consistent when you apply the consequences? Do you treat all students fairly? What do you need to do to be sure your rules, rewards, and consequences are working to avoid problems?

In the review of behavior management, make sure you share with your mentor what is working and why.

Classroom Behavior	What You Are Doing	Why Is It Working?
Class members are passing in papers in an orderly way every day with their names on them!	Stopping class three minutes before the bell to allow time to pass in papers	Consistently ask students to check their names and pass in papers