

12 Reminders Which Will Help You Have a Better Year Teaching

1. Set, model and enforce consistently clear, concrete rules, guidelines, and expectations for interpersonal behavior and academic work and growth - school-wide, department-wide plans.
2. Demonstrate your support and interest in the students by daily building and nurturing positive relationships with them.
3. Develop a sense of delight, humor, wonderment, and celebration within the year that you are together,
4. Build where possible positive school-home partnerships based on mutual hope for students' educational, emotional and physical well-being.
5. Communicate subject matter through visual, auditory and experiential presentations - teach to sight, hearing and touch.
6. Plan your span of teaching to maximize students' skills for on-task concentration, participation and for assimilating information during quiet down time.
7. Systematically encourage students by stimulating with praise, other reinforcement and relevant life materials in multiple ways.
8. Provide options for deductive and inductive problem-solving by stressing continuities of knowledge and facts, reviewing and applying previous materials in success experiences and providing examples of the completed, as well as the building blocks needed for the task at hand.
9. Teach and reteach the basic word, sight, sound and touch vocabulary of your units' materials.
10. Arrange, rearrange desks, chairs, instructional displays and students in such a way as to maximize the desired communication of you messages - behavior, interpersonal and informational.
11. Encourage students to set goals daily, weekly or monthly along with plans for how to achieve them and how they want you to be a helpful resource.
12. Encourage learning through homework assignments, after school activities and sharing ideas that parents can easily follow.

Adapted from:
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