Classroom Management in My 2nd Grade Classroom CI 150 ECE

Classroom Guidelines:

I want my classroom to be successful, and to do that I know that I will have to have guidelines or rules for the students to follow. I truly believe that classroom management is the key for all students to learn to their fullest potential. Children will strive in a classroom that is well managed and learn better with explicit guidelines implemented by the teacher. The "Golden Rule" is always a great way to introduce guidelines to the classroom. In my class, that rule will be the key underlying concept to always fall back on. Of course, the Golden Rule is to *treat others the way you would want to be treated*!

I am dedicated to my students and will always try to make the classroom and learning environments a safe and engaging place to learn. By implementing a few standard guidelines, I will try my best to keep my students physically and emotionally safe. Caring for their classroom will be a must and by working together to build rules, they will enjoy coming to school and love to learn. According to Nelsen, it is important to focus on a solution to a problem rather than a punishment for their mistake (108). With that said, I will try minimize the use of punishments and focus on reinforcements in my class. Punishments can cause the four R's according to *Positive Discipline*; Resentment, Revenge, Rebellion, and Retreat (108).

Through talking to teachers, I have found out that the first weeks of school really set the tone of how your classroom is going to run the entire year. It is the most important week in which rules are made and established to be followed and reinforced throughout the school year.

Children in my class will know what is expected of them and understand consequences of misbehavior. With my implementation, there will be no surprises in the disciplinary actions and children can rely on consistency. On the first few days of school, I will have a class meeting to introduce my management plan. This meeting will take place on our carpet where all the students can sit and talk together with ease. To help the students feel comfortable enough to talk to everyone, including myself, I will sit on the carpet with them like we are all equal. As a class, we will discuss what is expected of them in my classroom. I will post my rules on the wall and they will help me read through them. The Wall Rules are:

Classroom Guidelines:

Be kind and courteous to others,
Be respectful and polite,
If you can't say anything nice,
don't say anything at all,
Treat others the way you would want to be treated.

Reinforcement and Discouragement of Behavior:

After talking about my classroom rules, the students will help me come up with ways to reinforce good behavior and discourage misbehavior. The class will be in charge as a whole, of what they will receive with good behavior; things such as extra recess time, or a gift from my Treasure Box (academic items inside like; pencils and erasers) at the end of the week or extra time on computers, etc. We will also discuss what they will receive with misbehavior, things such as heads down, one on one talk time with teacher or with a peer or buddy, or quiet time by themselves to think about their actions, etc.

Positive Choices list	"Ooops" List
Stickers	Talk to your buddy
Extra Recess	Find your "Cool Down" spot
First to choose recess equipment	Quiet, alone time to reflect
Lunch with Teacher	
Treasure Box Gift	

Giving students the opportunity to develop their own part of the management plan will provide them with a sense of pride and respect for their own classroom. It also places the responsibility on the students to know what is expected, because after all, they did help build the reinforcement and discouragement aspect of the rules. Finally, it

creates a sense of belongingness in the classroom and they become proud to be a part of my room.

I'm sure my school will implement the Character Counts education by Josephson, character building aspect of good behavior. I think this is a great tool to build upon and create a sense of guidance in my class.. This will hang on my wall as a reminder for the students.

When my students are working in groups or cooperative learning environments, just as Nelsen stated in *Positive Discipline*, cooperation will be based on mutual respect and shared responsibility because it is more effective then authoritarian control. I will give the students the task and expect them to work together to complete what is required. It is not only suggested, but it is advised to follow my classroom guidelines however, there are other rules to be followed as well, such as;

Conflict Resolution:

My solution to conflict in my classroom will be the Peace Path. In one of our classroom management seminars earlier in the semester, we learned about this unique way to resolve issues or conflicts in the classroom. According to Nelsen the three R's of recovery is a way to resolve an issue with east. With the Peace Path, they are able to Recognize, Reconcile and Resolve their issue. This path is a great way to make peace in the classroom without embarrassing or pointing fingers at anyone. It is stated by Nelsen in *Positive Discipline* that teachers should not add humiliation to a logical consequence and that is why this path would make perfect sense (27). The steps along the way include:

The Peace Path

1. Stop and think.
2. Give an "I message", tell how you feel;
3. Hear how others feel with their "I message".
4. Brainstorm and figure out a way to fix the conflict.
5. Decide and agree on an idea.
6. See if the idea fixes the conflict, if so smile and shake hands. If not try again.

Students Monthly & Weekly Goals:

It is important for students to have goals for their learning. Unlike most people who only set them on the first day of the year, students should make a new goal each month. This will not only get the students attuned to what they want to learn, but it will help them evaluate their own learning month-by-month. Before I have the students set their goals, it is important for me to figure out how I am going to keep track or records of their personal progress with their goals. I will probably have them write their own goals in a notebook where they are all together and it is easy to reflect on.

I'll have the students write their goals on the first Monday of each month in the morning right after recess. The time will never change and eventually it will become habitual. This way it stays consistent and the students can look forward to setting a goal

for the month.   I will let the students know that in order to meet their monthly goals; they have to meet their weekly goals. At the end of the week, there will be time to reflect, after recess of course. During this time, the students can reread their monthly goal and assess their daily activities to determine if they have succeeded. After self-reflection, I would make sure all the students feel validated and successful about their goal.

In conclusion, my classroom management plan will consist of several guidelines, and reinforcements. They will be implemented to create a fun and engaging environment for my students and inspire them to always do their best. I truly believe if I enforce the guidelines I have created for my students and with my students, they will have a great year with me and learn to love learning with my encouragement. After all, according to Nelsen "encouragement in the most effective way to teach behavior and it also teaches children the skills they need to be successful in life."

Character Counts in Miss A's Class!!

Trustworthiness:
Do what you say you will do
& Be honest

Respect:
Treat others how you want to be treated
& Be nice to everyone

Responsibility:

Always do your best,
Think before you act,
& Do what you are suppose to do

<u>Fairness</u>:
Take turns and share
Listen

<u>Caring</u>:
Be kind and forgive others

<u>Citizenship</u>:
Obey the rules
Work together