

## Classroom Management: Tips for New Teachers

Following are some tips that all new teachers can benefit from to begin the school year with a strong classroom-management plan.

1. Learn all your students' names.
2. Clearly articulate your classroom expectations, and spend time teaching them to your students.
3. Be consistent in enforcing classroom expectations.
4. Think of a nonverbal strategy to get students' attention (no shushing or yelling). Choose a strategy such as turning off the lights, playing (or stopping) music, clapping three times, counting down from three, and so on. Practice that strategy the first few weeks of school.
5. Create clear procedures in your class for things like where to turn in work, how to line up, where to get supplies, and so on.
6. Make a positive phone call to all parents within the first month of school.
7. Select five students each month to write positive cards for to mail home.
8. Create engaging lessons that allow students to be active learners instead of learners who listen passively to lectures.
9. Always begin each class with a warm-up. The minute students walk into the classroom, there should be an activity for them to engage in immediately. This should be a part of your classroom routine.
10. Eliminate down time. No student should have nothing to do.
11. Create a positive intervention plan in your classroom. Reward students with points for following rules. Give out prizes when students have earned a certain number of points.
12. Avoid reprimanding students in front of their peers.
13. Contact parents as soon as you can when you see behavior issues—do not procrastinate with parent contact.
14. Be approachable—and be aware of your facial expression. In other words, smile as much as you can rather than expressing anger or frustration.
15. Greet and welcome each student into your classroom.
16. Establish positive relationships with your students. Get to know them and their interests.
17. Praise and compliment your students as much and as often as possible.
18. Encourage student feedback.
19. Stay in control of your emotions; never respond out of frustration or anger.
20. Ask for help!