

## Décor Considerations for Elementary Classrooms

A teacher can use the following questions to assess the classroom's décor.

- What do you want students to see as they enter and leave the classroom?
- What will students see when they are seated at their desks?
- What will students see when they are engaged in group work?
- What will students see in learning center areas?
- Are wall spaces available for bulletin boards, calendars, and displays to post learning goals, special announcements, and student work? What is the best placement for these things?
- How much empty space will be set aside for later use?
- What could be distracting?
- Is the room welcoming?
- Does the room communicate an overall focus on learning?

A teacher can use the following checklist as a starting point as he or she decides what to put on the walls of the classroom.

- A calendar
- "Homey" touches such as photos, posters, and curtains
- A place for school announcements and school spirit paraphernalia
- A place for posting expectations regarding the correct format for assignments (headings and so on)
- A place for listing daily assignments or the daily schedule
- A place for displaying information about current topics
- A poster with a pocket for each student that can be made of laminated envelopes; these pockets can be used to send messages to individual students

*Source: Adapted from Marzano Research. (2016). Marzano compendium of instructional strategies. Centennial, CO: Author.*