

Characteristics of Effective Classrooms

Effective Classrooms

- low incidence of behavior problems
- high success rates (80% or better)
- Academic learning time/engaged time
 - time with materials or activities related to the outcome measures that are being used

1. Instruction guided by pre-planned curriculum

- learning goals and objectives established.
- sufficient *allocated* time for each goal is established.
- curriculum calculated to provides kids several opportunities to learn.

2. Students are carefully oriented to lessons

- specify goals and objectives
- modeling
- pacing
- questioning
- prompting
- appropriate feedback
- praise
- corrective feedback
- low rates of criticism

3. Classroom learning time used efficiently

- high rates of engaged time
- high rates of student success (> 80%)
- teacher maintains student attention

EXAMPLES:

Errorless Learning

Smooth and Effective Transitions

1. teach transition rules
2. avoid disruptive practices/routines
3. schedule to minimize transitions
4. Pre-correction - advance organizers
5. create routines

EXAMPLES:

“Transition Procedures”

4. Established standards for classroom and school

“Characteristics of Effective Rules”

- Expected behaviors are explicit
- Rules are stated positively
- Rules are stated succinctly
- Rules are stated in observable terms
- Rules are made PUBLIC...easy to see
- Ensure enforceability/reward
- Smaller numbers of rules (about 5)
- Consistency
- Rules need to be taught
- Model the rules for the students

5. Teacher/Student Interaction

- high expectation for student learning
- incentives and rewards to promote excellence
- personal interactions between teacher/student are positive

Effective Characteristics

- scanning
- error corrections
- reinforcement
- assessment of learning
- redirecting

Rule Implementation Guidelines

- be consistent
- be business-like
- reinforce compliance

Instructional Sequence

- Presentation - tell and model
- Recitation - student Q & A
- Individual Work - with teacher feedback
 - make sure students get it
- Group work
 - activities, experiments, etc.
 - chance to discover application to real world
- Test
 - Make sure they have skill fluency

Respecting Others

WHAT YOU SAY TO OTHERS

Use nice words and actions

Examples: please, thank you, may I, excuse me

Non-Examples: put downs, name calling

HOW YOU SAY THINGS

Use a pleasant tone and volume of voice

Examples: calm voice, quiet voice, explain

Non-Examples: yelling, growling, arguing

WHAT YOU LOOK LIKE

Show that you are calm and interested

Examples: open posture, nodding, eye contact, personal space

Non-Examples: in someone's face, rolling eyes, mad face, shaking head, fists