

# MO SW-PBS TEACHER TOOL

## CLASSROOM EXPECTATIONS AND RULES

**PRACTICE:** Classroom rules/expectations are aligned with school-wide expectations, posted, and referred to regularly.

### RESEARCH STATES:

- ▶ A dependable system of rules and procedures provides structure for students and helps them to be engaged with instructional tasks (Brophy, 1998).
- ▶ Teaching rules and routines to students at the beginning of the year and enforcing them consistently across time increases student academic achievement and task engagement (Evertson & Emmer, 1982; Johnson, Stoner, & Green, 1996).
- ▶ Clearly stating expectations and consistently supporting them lends credibility to a teacher's authority (Good & Brophy, 2000).

### What are they?

- ▶ Expectations are valued behaviors and attitude for success.
- ▶ Rules are specific criteria for achieving expectations.
- ▶ Rules meet these 5 guidelines.

### Guidelines for Developing Classroom Rules

Guideline:	This Means:	Example:	Non-example:
<b>Observable</b>	I can see it.	Raise hand and wait to be called on.	Be your best.
<b>Measurable</b>	I can count it.	Bring materials.	Be ready to learn.
<b>Positively Stated</b>	I tell students what TO do.	Hands and feet to self.	No fighting.
<b>Understandable</b>	The vocabulary is appropriate for age/grade level.	Hands and feet to self.	Maintain personal space. (K-1 rule) <i>*Children this age do not have a concept of "personal space."</i>
<b>Always Applicable</b>	I am able to consistently enforce.	Stay in assigned area.	Remain seated until given permission to leave.

### Implementation

- ▶ Involve students in developing rules.
- ▶ Have students commit to rules.
- ▶ Teach classroom rules by demonstrating examples and nonexamples.
- ▶ Monitor and give frequent feedback when students follow rules.
- ▶ Share rules with families and others.

### Teacher Self-Assessment Tool

Self-Assessment Features	Yes	No	In Progress
1. My classroom rules are aligned with schoolwide expectations (i.e. Safe, Respectful, Responsible, Ready)			
2. My classroom rules are observable, measureable, positively stated, understandable and always apply.			
3. I have 5 or fewer rules for each schoolwide expectation.			
4. My classroom rules are prominently posted.			
5. I have developed lessons to teach classroom rules.			
6. I refer to rules regularly when interacting with students.			
7. A teaching schedule that includes classroom rule lessons is developed and on file in the office.			
8. 80% of my students can tell the classroom expectations and rules.			



## References

- Brophy, J. (1998). *Motivating students to learn*. Boston: McGraw Hill.
- Good, T. J., & Brophy, J. (2000). *Looking into classrooms* (8th Ed.) New York, NY: Longman Press.
- Everston, C. M., & Emmer, E. T. (1982). *Preventive classroom management*. Alexandria, VA: Association for Supervision and Curriculum Development.
- Johnson, T. C., Stoner, G. & Green, S. K. (1996). Demonstrating the experimenting society model with classwide behavior management interventions. *School Psychology Review*, 25(2), 199-214.
- Jones, V. F., & Jones, L. S. (1998). *Comprehensive classroom management* (2nd. Ed.). Boston, MA: Allyn and Bacon.

## For More Information

To access the MO SW-PBS Tier 1 Workbook, videotapes and other resources go to the Missouri Schoolwide Positive Behavior Support website: <http://pbissmissouri.org/>

