



# Teacher Tips

## Rules and Procedures

**Students have been out of school for much longer than the typical summer break.  
Re-teaching rules that were previously mastered is as important as ever!  
Here are some creative ways to approach this task**

Classroom job – “Procedure Protector” can review the procedures before transitions (bathroom breaks, walking in the hallway), at the start of the day (gathering materials), and new procedures (wearing masks in public areas)

Identify new procedures with students

Have students write/draw/describe procedures

Set a surprise alarm and “stop, remember, practice” procedures that are difficult

Create social narratives for procedures, review daily/weekly or more often if needed

Create short videos of rules and procedures with other teachers/staff members as students

Draft a classroom chat or cheer to remind students of rules/procedures

Keep reminders positive (“remember to walk” instead of “don’t run”)

Create a visual display of expectations for different parts of the school day (whole group instruction, centers, library, etc.) and spend 2-3 minutes reviewing the expectations orally/visually at the beginning of each activity for the first 2-3 weeks after returning

# *Teacher Tips*

## Remote Learning

**Students may spend a portion of the school year engaging in remote learning. Reviewing how to engage in remote learning ahead of time can help this process be successful!**

Have a specific plan for remote learning

To the greatest extent possible, include assignments and activities students can do with minimal support from a caregiver

Practice what these types of activities and assignments will look like while in the physical classroom

Share how to access remote learning steps with caregivers before remote learning begins. Consider using a video example and/or including pictures in your step by step guide.

When possible, create multiple ways to engage with remote learning, including paper/pencil and online options

Establish a procedure for yourself for providing feedback to students quickly

State the goal of the remote learning activity in a student-friendly way at the beginning of each activity or assignment



# Teacher Tips

## Increase Opportunities for Reinforcement

**Uncertainty about the future is stressful for adults and students. Students may need additional reinforcement to engage in behaviors they were doing independently as a result of additional stressors present.**

Identify a specific behavior (e.g. hand washing) to increase praise

Teach students to provide praise to each other

Update classroom rewards to include options that allow for social distancing (e.g. replace thumb wars with staring contests)

Change your focus. When there are specific patterns of behavior that are undesirable (talking out), identify what you want students to do instead (raise hand) and reinforce that alternate behavior

Use mystery as a motivator. Have students brainstorm potential rewards, and include them in a drawing. When a reward is earned, hold a drawing to determine what the reward will be!

Include a variety of rewards-some social, some that reduces the amount of work students complete or provides a break from instruction, some fun ways to get moving.

# *Teacher Tips*

## **Phasing in Instruction**

**The spring part of the school year might have evolved into an extended summer break. Some students haven't been able to complete assignments from the previous year. Some students are living in incredibly stressful environments. For all these reasons and more, instruction when the 2020-2021 school year begins will look different.**

Plan to review content that was covered in previous grades at the start of the year and when you begin each new unit.

Include options for extra practice for skills that have been learned but aren't yet fluent.

Set realistic goals for your lessons and for your students.

Clearly identify the most important content for students to master in conjunction with your colleagues



# Teacher Tips

## Strategies for home-school connection

**Some, or all, students may spend a portion of the school year engaging in remote learning from home. Identifying some ways to support students learning while not physically present in the building will be important.**

Provide caregivers sample schedules to use with students

To the greatest extent possible, include learning activities that will not require adult support in the home

Provide caregivers options for how to contact you with questions

When giving an assignment, provide caregivers with worked examples. If possible, take a quick video of yourself talking through and completing a portion of the assignment for caregivers or students to reference.

Consider setting up a network within your building to help address questions. One group of educators might help navigate technology questions, which another group might answer questions regarding instruction. Or consider setting up specific time frames teachers are available for support in the event school is 100% remote. One group of teachers might be available from 9-10, which another is available from 10-11.

Create a way for students to share their work electronically. Teach students how to use this, and create instructions for caregivers to reference. A video example might be helpful.

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## Challenges with new procedures

**There are changes to the daily routine of the school day to help prevent the spread of COVID-19. Help prepare students for changes like wearing masks, social distancing, increased handwashing, transitions within the building and many more by remembering the following tips**

Explain things ahead of time

Remind students of new procedures often

Use visuals when teaching and reminding about procedures

Allow students to role play

When giving an assignment, provide caregivers with worked examples. If possible, take a quick video of yourself talking through and completing a portion of the assignment for caregivers or students to reference.

Include reinforcement for following new procedures, even when students require additional prompts to do so

Use language students are able to understand