

BEHAVIORAL MANAGEMENT

As an educator, I plan to set clear expectations for each and every one of my students.

I will implement explicit expectations for a class-wide behavioral system, as well as individualized behavior plans specific to each student's needs, motivating factors, and functional capabilities.

Within my classroom, students will take part in the rule-making process, which makes them more likely to follow the expectations put forth. Positive behaviors will be rewarded in a variety of ways including verbal praise, earning points toward the class-wide behavioral system, and individualized behavioral plans.



PHILOSOPHY OF EDUCATION

I strive to be an extraordinary teacher. I want to be the driving force that builds students up and helps them reach their full potential, both inside and outside the classroom. By creating a learning environment that focuses on the individuality of every student, I can help students grow to be the best version of themselves.

To cultivate a collaborative classroom community, teachers must foster a personal connection with each student. Through this connection, students can trust that their teacher is devoted to their individual growth. My purpose is to make all of my students feel loved, safe, and happy. Part of that purpose is to embrace individuality and teach a love for diversity.

My educational philosophy strongly reflects the teachings of John Dewey. The classroom should be a laboratory filled with rich hands-on opportunities. By creating an environment that facilitates learning through problem-solving and reasoning, children learn to think reflectively, which leads to both personal and social growth.

A teacher who steps outside the typical classroom setting and becomes inventive in their teaching is one that will drive their students to become lifelong learners. My hope is that students will take what they learned in my classroom and apply it to their everyday lives. When barriers are broken, and teachers put students at the forefront of every lesson, a positive classroom environment is born, and the realm of opportunities becomes infinite.



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LITERACY

I believe books inspire children to be the best version of themselves. To foster a love for literacy, my students will engage with reading and writing through multiple forums.

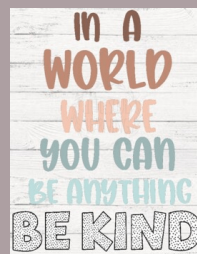
My classroom contains a literacy nook equipped with books of multiple genres, levels, and topics. The literacy nook also includes a small table and chairs where students can write, as well as access their independent reading bins. Students have daily reading and writing workshops where they engage in book clubs, guided reading, read-alouds, independent reading, and think-pair shares. Students also engage in a less conventional literacy time in which they read in the dark with flashlights or write using multi-sensory manipulatives such as in sand, play-dough, and magnets.



Classroom Environment

The physical classroom environment sets the foundation for learning. It is the first thing students notice on the first day of school and is where they spend the majority of their days. Everything in my classroom serves a purpose and is readily available to all students. My ideal classroom would include:

- A horseshoe table
- A literacy corner
- A cool-down corner
- Materials easily accessible
- Visual schedule
- Differentiated seating
- Laptops and SMART Board
- A word wall
- Student work hung throughout the room
- An array of developmentally appropriate materials



MATH

I believe that math should not be a dreaded subject, but rather an engaging part of learning that stimulates children's problem-solving. In order to inspire students to enjoy math, they must be given the proper resources. By incorporating technology, manipulatives, and real-life situations into teaching, math provides students with the opportunity to not only be successful, but thoroughly enjoy it.



TECHNOLOGY

Technology has become a great resource both inside and outside the classroom. It has made parent-teacher communication much more accessible and has given students an interactive way to engage with the curriculum. While we as educators often incorporate technology into daily routines, it is important we do not rely on it. Since it is not uncommon for technology to quickly become unavailable, I would utilize dry erase boards, white boards, books, manipulatives, and teacher made materials to conduct my lessons.