

## Ways to Build Connection in Your Classroom

# 12 STRATEGIES To Connect With Students



 <p>1. Know their story</p>	 <p>2. Talk to students <i>(in class and outside of class)</i></p>	 <p>3. Explicitly value the child over the content</p>	 <p>4. Play games</p>	
 <p>5. Through curriculum</p>	 <p>6. Through learning models</p>	 <p>7. Assume the best in every student</p>	 <p>8. Interview students</p>	
 <p>9. Let students interview you</p>	 <p>10. Have a short memory</p>	 <p>11. Attend their extracurricular events</p>	 <p>12. Be authentic</p>	 <p>13. Call home and celebrate successes early in the year</p>

<https://www.teachthought.com/pedagogy/strategies-build-relationships/>

### Other ideas:

1. Daily check-in: Thumbs up, thumbs to the side, thumbs down (be sure to follow up w/ students)
2. [Attendance check-in questions](#)
3. [Brain Breaks](#)
4. Student feedback/surveys
5. Practice [mindfulness](#) and [regulation](#) together
6. [Community Building Activities](#)
7. [Interactive, classroom bulletin boards and centers](#) (ie-class crosswords, art wall, who's who, etc)
8. Lots of positive praise, high fives, encouragement, celebrations
9. [View this presentation for Routines, Rituals, & Relationships](#)
10. Student jobs, student choice, student voice
11. Use every student's name every day, greet students at the door or as they leave
12. Incorporate humor and share stories

Access this handout online:



# EMOTIONAL REGULATION HIERARCHY



## EXTRINSIC REGULATION

Regulate your own body to help the child regulate.



## MUTUAL REGULATION

Engage in regulation strategies with the child.



## VISUAL REMINDER

Provide a visual reminder of a strategy the child can use.



## VERBAL REMINDER

Provide a verbal reminder of a strategy the child can use.



## OFFER CHOICES

Offer choices for possible strategies. Start with visual choices (2-3 options).



## ASK ABOUT NEEDS

After identifying the emotion, ask the child what might be helpful.



## SELF-REGULATION

The child regulates independently.