



OKLAHOMA  
Education

# Behaviors and Skills That Promote Learning

*November 2nd, 2021*

Recording

<https://youtu.be/fpNLpaSA2Yo>

Presentation slides can be accessed at

[https://drive.google.com/file/d/1\\_CGpOcb4zYdZ5pWi2LcNM2n9hcvjIM-f/view?usp=sharing](https://drive.google.com/file/d/1_CGpOcb4zYdZ5pWi2LcNM2n9hcvjIM-f/view?usp=sharing)

## Classroom Strategies

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## Relationship Building Strategies

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Self Control
Classroom Strategies
Group time signals to control talking over each other or the teacher
Class Dojo Points for rewards
Establish a personal bubble--You can use the book Harrison P. Spader, Personal Space Invader

**Book List:**

*Why Should I?* by Sue Graves

*Know and Follow Rules* by Cheri Meiners

*Tessie Tames Her Tongue!* by Melissa Martin

*Lacey Walker, Non-Stop Talker* by Christianne C. Jones

*My Mouth Is a Volcano* by Julia Cook

*Lilly's Plastic Purse* by Kevin Henkes

[\*The Monster Who Came To School\*](#) Author Unknown

*The Very Impatient Caterpillar* by Ross Burach

Independence
Classroom Strategies
Picture instructions
“Don’t Bug Me” Hat - glue plastic bugs to a hat and wear the hat during small group as a signal to students to find a friend instead of “bugging” the teacher
Visuals of the steps to a task that needs to be done. Using pictures of the children actually doing the steps for something that happens everyday (washing hands, etc.) is a great activity as well! They love getting to see themselves around the class.

**Book List**

*I Can Do It Too!* by Karen Baicker  
*All by Myself!* by Alike  
*Keisha Ann Can!* by Daniel Kir  
*Sheila Rae, the Brave* by Kevin Henkes  
*I Don’t Want to be Big* by Dev Petty

Focus
Classroom Strategies
An example I've recently heard of for short focus and physical movement is yoga. If you have them do a pose, such as 'tree', they have to focus on something stable in the classroom or else they will fall. Challenge them to stay up longer and longer.

**Book List:**  
*I Just Want to Do It My Way! My Story about Staying on Task and Asking for Help* by Julia Cook  
*How to Find Gold* by Viviane Schwarz  
*Interrupting Chicken* David Ezra Stein

Cooperative Play
Classroom Strategies
Establish and assign roles within groups so that students all have a job and the jobs rotate the next time they are in groups.
Use puppets to help them practice and see collaborative skills, such as sharing. Can give them a scenario for the puppets and have them practice sharing a toy both puppets want to play with.
Similar to collaborative art pieces, can also do collaborative writing (verbal or actual writing) where each child provides a sentence for the story. Allows them to be really silly while working together to create an understandable story. Includes literacy cross-over!

**Book List:**

*David's Drawings*, by Cathryn Falwell

*Swimmy*, by Leo Lionni

*Our Community Garden*, by Barbara Pollak

*The Enormous Turnip*, by Alexei Tolstoy

*Rainbow Fish* by Marcus Pfister

*Chester's Way* by Kevin Henkes

*Stick and Stone* by Beth Ferry and Tom Lichtenheld

*We Don't Eat Our Classmates* by Ryan T. Higgins

*Harrison P. Spader, Personal Space Invader* by Christianne Jones

*Take Turns, Max and Millie* by Felicity Brooks

Social Problem Solving
Classroom Strategies
Use scenarios that have actually come up in your class to act out with puppets
When reading a story, give the students a visual when you hear or see a source of conflict. Example. Give students a paper heart or have them make their own paper heart. The specific book I have used is Chrysanthemum, each time you hear someone say something negative, you tear off a piece of the heart. At the end of the story, you ask the students to put the heart back together. While they can piece it back together, there are some last effects that can't be erased, even though it is put back together. Talk through how words hurt and we often struggle after someone has said hurtful things.

**Book List**  
*Cool Down and Work Through Anger*, by Cheri Meiners  
*Talk and Work It Out*, by Cheri Meiners  
*Don't Hit Me!*, by Bernette Ford  
*Words Are Not for Hurting*, by Elizabeth Verdick  
*Hooway For Wodney Wat* by Helen Lester  
*Chrysanthemum* by Kevin Henkes  
*We Will Rock Our Classmates* by Ryan Higgins  
*The Bad Seed* by Jory John  
*The Good Egg* by Jory John  
*How Full is Your Bucket?* By Tom Rath and Mary Reckmeyer

Relationship Building
Classroom Strategies
2x10 - 2 quality minutes for 10 days in a row with a specific student to build a stronger relationship
Sit with students at lunch or make an agenda for play dates on the playground
Personalized greetings at the door - students get to pick their greeting
Using flex time in the morning where they can write and draw, and then share during morning meeting
Allow students to bring things to share about themselves, like pictures of their family or their pets to hang up, create an 'About Me' poster
Show N Tell holds a large value in them being able to express who they are
Acting silly! My co-teacher at one time dressed up as a shark for an activity we were doing. The kids loved it and talked about it for the rest of the year.
Home visits, even if you just stay outside!
Drawing/ writing little notes and popping them in their mailbox to recognize how special they are. Also, making notes for them when they are sick to let them know they are missed.