

Classroom Management Final Paper

University of Mary

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Classroom management has been one of the things I have been most worried about when it came to becoming a teacher. I work at a daycare when I don't have class, and I remember driving home from work one day, and I called my mom and I cried because my kids at the daycare were so naughty that day and I didn't know how to control them, and I told her that if I controlled my own classroom someday the same way I was trying to control my daycare classroom that I was going to be the worst teacher in the world. After a month of taking the classroom management course, my entire daycare classroom dynamic had switched. We weren't having to send children to the office as often or sending messages home to families. I fell back in love with my job and my children weren't crying at drop offs anymore. I was implementing the procedures and the strategies that we were learning about and my children were thriving.

I think one of the most important things you can do at the beginning of the year is send out a welcome packet to your students to help them get to know a little bit about you, your name, how long you have been teaching for, and get your contact information out to the parents before an issue arises and they don't have your number when they need it. The get to know your teacher welcome sheet that I created has a plant/succulent theme which will introduce them to what our classroom is going to look like. I want my classroom to have a nature theme. I love the calming effect that nature has on me, and while living in North Dakota it can be very hard to bring all of the nature elements into the classroom, especially during the winter months, I am going to try the best I can by making the theme of our classroom very nature filled, especially with succulents, because they're a harder plant to kill! My Get to Know the Teacher sheet can be found in Appendix A. On the sheet I tell them a few of my favorite things such as food, colors, and school subjects. I tell them where I went to college and received my degree from and that they will be my very first class, ever! I let them know when our school wide open house is for the 2022-2023

school year, so that they know they have the opportunity to come in and meet their teacher before the first day of school, and I know a lot of students get first day jitters and that first day back at school can be quite frightening, especially when it is a brand-new teacher that you have as your teacher. I left my contact information at the bottom of the page for parents to know my email and my phone number. I want parents to be able to email me when their child is going to be home sick and find out where they will find their homework that they will need to complete before they come back to school the next day. I want parents to feel like they can communicate with me openly when they see problems arising, so that we can work together to come up with the best solution.

You will find my first five days of school plan in Appendix B. The very first thing I will do when my students start arriving on the first day of school is greeting them at the door. Dr. Lamb is incredible at this and makes you feel so welcomed into her classroom and like you are a part of her family even if you don't know her outside of the four walls of the classroom. Dr. Cain is also amazing at making sure she greets every single student that comes into the classroom. She doesn't stand outside the door like Dr. Lamb does, but she always makes sure to tell everyone good morning and it makes everyone feel so welcomed into their classrooms. After all of my students have entered the classroom and I have greeted all of them, I will let them know that all of their names are on magnets on the white board, and that there are three options for lunch in our school, hot lunch from the cafeteria, cold lunch from the cafeteria, or that they can bring their own cold lunch from home. I will let them know that they are supposed to put their name under which lunch choice they choose, and that this is also the way I will be taking attendance. I'll let them know the importance of putting their name down for lunch as soon as they come into the room, so that I can get the correct lunch count to the lunch ladies so that they make sure to make

enough food so that we can feed everyone who wants lunch that day. Until it becomes a problem, I plan to have a very lax bathroom policy. I plan to teach third or fourth grade, and at that age, while still children, they do know the difference of right and wrong, and do pretty well picking out what is of real importance and what is not. I will have a sign in/sign out portion of the white board. One for boys and one for girls. If they need to go to the bathroom, they can simply get up, and as long as no one else of the same gender is signed out at that time, they are allowed to leave to go to the bathroom. I will inform them that if they choose to go during the middle of the lesson, I will not be re teaching a lesson to them since they chose to go to the bathroom while I was teaching. I will make sure they know that if they choose to leave to go to the bathroom during work time, and then don't complete the work they were assigned, that will be due as homework for the next day. On Day 1, we will do a team building activity with them on the first day that will be a team scavenger hunt. They will have to find different classrooms, items and teachers around the school. It will help them grow together as a class, and also help them to know where teachers and items are located around the classroom.

Day 2 will start the same as every other day in my classroom will start, with me meeting them at the door and greeting them good morning. I will give a little prompting if needed for the lunch count/attendance procedure. I will see how the bathroom procedure seems to be going. The first few days of school usually aren't as heavy with lessons and worksheets, so it will be hard to tell how that procedure is working until a few weeks into the school year. On Day 2, I will introduce the attention getter I plan to use for the school year. When I want to get their attention, I will say "Hocus Pocus." I will teach them that when I say that, they will respond "Time to Focus." and turn their attention to me and shut their voices off. This is one of my favorite movies and a fun way to get the attention of your students. I will introduce Student Numbers to them on

the second day of school. Each student will be given a number, and it will just be an easy way to keep track of things throughout the school year. I will go over homework procedures with my students on Day 2. I personally don't believe in assigning homework. My plan for homework is that I will give them work time in school to work on anything that I have assigned them. When and if they don't finish what they were assigned to be doing in class, then it will become homework that is due as soon as you walk into the classroom the next day. I think this teaches the responsibility of being on task and having good time management. If you are messing around with your friends, during work time, then you end up with homework, and it better be done by the time you come to school the next morning or it won't be accepted.

On the morning of Day 3, I will greet them good morning at the door. I will reinforce my homework procedure by collecting at the door any homework that they may have ended up with if they didn't finish it the day before when it was assigned during work time. I will check to make sure that all of the procedures we have already learned are being reinforced and working smoothly. I will then introduce morning meeting to them. I saw this in my practicum classroom this spring and the kids loved it, and I also loved it as a pre-service teacher. During morning meeting, I will go over the agenda for the day, let them know what specials we have going on that day, if there is anything different going on today, or if someone knew is coming into our classroom (like a student teacher.) I will then ask them to tell me something good from the night before or from the weekend if it is a Monday. I will let them know that everyone that wants a turn to share will get one but we each only get one turn so that we have enough time for a game at the end of morning meeting every day. Then I will end morning meeting with a fun game that will promote team building among my students. Morning meeting is something that I would like to do every day in my classroom, and I would like for it to last anywhere from 12-15 minutes

including the agenda, tell me something good, and the game. I will then introduce “morning work” to them. There are always going to be students that come into your classroom a little bit before the bell rings, and I don’t want them to just be aimlessly running around my classroom, especially while I am outside the door greeting the rest of the students who are coming in for the day, so I will have their morning work that they are supposed to be doing projected onto the smart/white board. Some ideas for this would be Edutyping, DreamBox, Fast Math, Xtra Math, DEAR, brain boxes. I want there to be something that they can do quietly until I walk into the classroom and get lunch count and attendance sent down to the office and am ready to start morning meeting with them.

On Day 4, I will greet them at the door and tell them good morning. We will have our first morning meeting after I have introduced it. I will remind them of the rules for any procedures that don’t seem to be going too smooth. Today is the day that I am going to be teaching them how to line up and what the hallway behaviors are. They will line up in number order. When they are in the hallways, their hands are at their sides, they are looking straight ahead, they are in single file line, they have their listening ears on, and a bubble in their lips that keeps them from talking. The hallway behaviors are some of the hardest rules for students to remember. This will be one that I am sure I need to enforce often, and I will, because I want to have the class who other teachers don’t even notice when they are walking in the hallway.

On the final day of the week, I will greet them all at the door and collect any homework that may be from the day before. We will have our morning meeting. I will reinforce all procedures learned through the week, and I will introduce what we are to do during the tornado, fire and lockdown drills. Each school has different rules for what they do during each of these drills. Whatever school I end up in will have procedures set into place. I will make sure to teach

those procedures to them, so that the whole class knows what to do. After a little bit of fear being put into them about a possible tornado, fire or lockdown, I will do another team builder with them to bring up the mood a little bit, so that it's not so down!

I said in my welcome week packet that I want to send family's an update at the end of each week about their child and what we have been doing during that week, so each week I will send a generic rundown of what we covered during the last week, and what they can expect from the following week, and any important dates coming up. On top of the generic letter that each family will get each week, I will also fill out the 3 Glows and a Grow found in Appendix C. I feel like it is a great way to let parents know the things their children are doing wonderfully in school, as well as letting them know things they could potentially be working on with them at home. I left a spot for me to be able to leave comments as well. I love the idea of creating a great open relationship that communicates well with all of the families of my students and I feel that this will be a great way to do that.

In Appendix E, you will find my Classroom Management Philosophy. The main points of my classroom management philosophy are that everything boils down to trust, respect and consistency. If you keep those three things alive and thriving in your classroom, then your classroom will always be one that students will thrive and learn in.

Classroom Management has been one of the best classes I have taken, ever. There are so many things that I learned that I would need to have ready to go to be a successful teacher that I would never even think of had I never had this class. Something as simple as how you are going to take attendance or let your kids go to the bathroom or line up are things that we just expect we can figure out on the first day of school, but if we expect to have a thriving classroom, then we need to put in the work to make those things great weeks before the first day of school.

References

Bailey, B. (2014). *Conscious Discipline: Building resilient classrooms*. Loving Guidance, Inc.: Oviedo, FL.

Fay, J., & Funk, D. (1995). *Teaching with love & logic: taking control of the classroom*. Golden, CO: Love and Logic Press.

Appendix A

Meet the Teacher

Miss Kolden



HI! My name is Miss Kolden! This is my first year teaching. I received my Bachelor's of Science degree in Education from the University of Mary. Go Marauders!

This year in 3rd grade is going to be filled with so many fun learning activities, and I can't wait to get to know each of my students. I already know that we are going to have such a blast this year.

A Few of My Favorites

Food: Tacos or Steak
 Plant: Succulents
 Candy: Kit-Kat
 Season: Fall
 Subject: History
 Color: Purple
 Book: The Giver



YOU'RE INVITED!

The open house for our 2022-2023 school year is going to be on August 19 at 6:30pm. There will be beverages and cookies! I can't wait to meet all of you third graders and get to know you before the first day of school! See you then!

My goal is to keep open lines of communication with the family's of all of my students. I will be sending weekly email updates to each family, so please let me know the best email to reach you at! Please never hesitate to reach out to me with questions or concerns you may have! I can be called or texted at (701)-661-0599 and emailed at cayli.kolden@garrisonschools.gov.



Appendix B

First Day

- Meet students at the door and greet them Good Morning. Every day.
- Procedure for Lunch Count/Attendance.
- Procedure for How to Use the Bathroom/Leave Classroom.
- Team Building Activity



Second Day

- Meet students at the door and greet them Good Morning. Every day.
- Reinforce procedure for Lunch Count/Attendance and make sure they are doing it right. If they seem like they need a little more reinforcement go over it again.
- Reinforce procedure for How to Use the Bathroom.
- Introduce "Attention Getters." I say Hocus Pocus, they say "Time to Focus"
- Go over Student Numbers
- Homework Procedures



Third Day

- Meet students at the door and greet them Good Morning. Every day.
- Reinforce all Procedures we have already learned. Go over any that they seem to not be remembering as clearly.
- Introduce Morning Meeting w/ Team Building Activity
- Introduce Morning Work/Agenda to them.
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Fourth Day

- Meet students at the door and greet them Good Morning. Every day.
- First Morning Meeting After Introducing it
- Reinforce any procedures that they seem to be struggling with
- How to Line Up, Hallway Behaviors



Fifth Day

- Meet students at the door and greet them Good Morning. Every day.
- Reinforce all procedures learned throughout the week.
- Tornado/Fire/Lockdown Drill Procedures
- Team Builder
- Phone Policy
- Three Glows and a Glow from the week from the students for me!



Appendix C

My Week in 3rd

3 Glows to Celebrate for the Week:

1.

2.

3

1 Grow to Work on for the next week:

1.

Comments from Miss Kolden:



Appendix D

What If

What if I have a student who is being bullied?

I will first assure them that whatever reason they are being bullied is not because of them or who they are as a person. I will make sure they know how great they are and that what these other students are saying about them or doing to them does not accurately reflect who they are.

I will then go to the student who is bullying and find out why they are bullying and what's going on in their life that is making them think it is okay to bully our classmates.

I will make it known to them that we have an absolute zero tolerance for bullying no matter why you are doing it and let them know that a letter will be sent home to mom and dad.



Appendix E

Classroom Management Philosophy

My philosophy of classroom management is based upon Love and Logic. When students walk through the door to our classroom, I want them to know that they are safe and respected, and trusted. Our classroom environment will be built upon trust, respect and building relationships with everyone within our classroom. I will be both fair and consistent with my students as well as give them a voice and choices within our classroom.



