



Mrs. Mutner liked to go over a few of her rules  
on the first day of school.

# CHAPTER 12

BUILDING CHARACTER

AND TRUST



## ESSENTIAL QUESTION

HOW CAN I FOSTER AN ENVIRONMENT OF  
TRUST AND RESPECT IN MY CLASSROOM?



# TECHNIQUES TO BUILD TRUST IN THE CLASSROOM





# POSITIVE FRAMING

Guide students to do better work by using a positive tone with constructive feedback.

# PRACTICE POSITIVE FRAMING

“We are not going to have another day like yesterday, are we, Jason?”

“I’ve asked you twice to stop slouching, Jasmine!”

“I need the tapping to stop.”



## LIVE IN THE NOW

Don't nag students about things they can no longer fix. Instead focus on things a student must do to succeed from this point forward.

Ex: "Keana, I need your eyes forward." instead of "Keana, stop looking back at Tanya."



## ASSUME THE BEST

Don't assume the mistake was intentional. Perhaps a student just forgot to do something or did not understand what to do.

Ex: The class is being loud after you assigned them a task. They might be confused about the directions you just gave.





## WARM/STRICT

- Explain to students why you are doing what you are doing and how it will help them.
- Distinguish between behavior and people. Ex: Say the BEHAVIOR is inconsiderate rather than YOU'RE inconsiderate.
- Consequences are temporary. (don't hold a grudge against student)
- Use warm nonverbal behavior – smile, get down to their level



## EMOTIONAL CONSTANCY

- Walk slowly to the problem to give yourself time to chill out.
- Again, criticize behavior rather than people.
- Don't guilt them. Example "I thought I could trust you."
- Don't say. "You always do x."
- Don't flatter, don't fuss. "Don't overdo it with the praise."



## JOY FACTOR

- Incorporate games into curriculum. Ex: Jeopardy, math bees.
- Nicknames or funny handshakes.
- Come up with an idea for a silly song or to write a scene in a play.
- Use humor in the classroom
- Suspense and surprise. Put vocab words in a mystery box.

# ROLE PLAYING

I need three volunteers, please!





# TURN AND TALK

BRAINSTORM A FEW IDEAS ABOUT HOW TO ANSWER  
THE ESSENTIAL QUESTION.