



Prior to the beginning of the school year, it can be especially helpful to identify three to five important behavior expectations (guidelines for success) that all students will need to understand to be successful in your classroom. These expectations may be aligned with broader school-wide behavior expectations, but it is also important to consider what that means in your classroom.

1. Use the following form to identify three to five behavior expectations.

Expectations for Success
Select 3 to 5 broad and important positive characteristics that will allow students to be successful in your classroom all year long.
1.
2.
3.
4.
5.

2. Determine what students will do in your classroom to effectively demonstrate the behavior expectations. The more specific you can be about what the expectations looks like in your classroom, the more likely students will be to understand and demonstrate the expectations.

Behavioral Expectations in the Classroom	
Determine what students will do in your classroom to show they are being successful according to each expectation.	
Example: Being responsible	Students will arrive on time to class.
	Students will come to school with the materials they need.
	Students will finish and turn in the work they start.

3. Develop a plan for teaching behavior expectations at the start of the year.

"Creating a Lesson Plan for Teaching Behavior Expectations"

Use the following form to develop a lesson plan to teach the behavior expectations in your classroom. Teach each behavior within each category using direct instruction.

Begin by identifying the expectation (e.g., be respectful) and a statement of why it is important in the setting you select. For example: *"It is important for everyone to be respectful and listen the first time you are asked to do something so that we don't waste time and get to all the activities we need to do throughout the day."*

Next, decide what the expectation does and does not look like. Tell the students what they should do first. Then, tell them what it would not look like. It can be helpful to identify behaviors that occur in the classroom that you want to see less when describing specifically what the expectation is not (e.g., *"Being respectful and following directions means that you stop what you are doing, put your eyes on me, and listen to the directions the first time. Talking while I am talking or not cleaning up right away when I ask you to clean up is not being respectful."*).

Then, provide a prompt that will indicate to the students that it is time to use the behavior expectation in the setting (e.g., *"OK class, let's all be safe by moving to the carpet, keeping our hands and feet to ourselves without talking. Ready? Begin."*).

Behavior Expectation	
Expectation:	Why is this important?
What does it look like?	What does it not look like?
Provide the following prompt/precorrection:	

Next, decide how you will provide students with the opportunity to practice the behavior expectations.

If you want to demonstrate what not to do, be sure to do this yourself, as students don't need to practice not meeting expectations (e.g., *"Is this how to go to the carpet?"* The teacher skips and gently bumps into a student. **Students:** *"No."* **Teacher:** *"What wasn't safe about how I went to the carpet?"* **Students:** *"You didn't walk and you didn't keep your body safe."*

You could have one or two students first show the behavior (e.g., *"Melissa, can you show us being safe by walking quietly to the carpet?"* Melissa walks to carpet and sits on a carpet square with her name on it. *"Great walking. You went right to your spot on the carpet without talking and kept your hands and feet to yourself."*

After one or a small group of students demonstrates the behavior expectation, you can have all of the students practice.

Give a lot of support to make sure that your students will be successful. Be sure to follow up successful practice with plenty of reinforcement (e.g., *"Great work! You all lined up responsibly by keeping your hands and feet to yourselves."*).

Students will practice by:	
Practice 1:	Practice 2:
I will provide encouragement and give attention to meeting the expectation by:	
1.	
2.	
3.	

- Next, develop a matrix that includes the behaviors demonstrating the expectations for different settings that you can display in the classroom or in other settings. Typically, no more than three to five specific behaviors that represent broader behavior expectation categories (e.g., Respect) are included on the matrix. The following table includes examples of behavior expectations for the classroom.

Example: In Classroom		
Be responsible	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Complete seatwork ✓ Turn in signed homework folders 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Bring needed materials to class ✓ Follow instructions the first time asked
Be safe	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Use materials appropriately ✓ Keep chair legs on the floor 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Get teacher permission to leave class
Be respectful	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Listen when others are talking ✓ Ask for assistance appropriately 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Accept other opinions