

Creating Classroom Rules

1. Discuss Need for Rules

Have students pair with a partner to discuss this question: Why do we need rules in the classroom?



2. List Rules

Number students on each team from 1 to 4. Ask Student #1 to take out a sheet of paper and write a classroom rule that they think is important. (Encourage them to keep the rules stated in a positive manner instead of starting with the word don't.) Have them pass the paper to Student #2 who adds a rule. Students keep passing paper and adding rules until time is called.

3. Select Best Rules

Designate a Reader on each team to read the list of rules back to the team. Have students work to select their top 3 rules and clarify the wording of those rules.

4. Compile Class List of Rules

Designate a Reporter on each team. Let each team contribute their best rules to a class list. Write each rule on the board or overhead as the Reporter reads it. Avoid duplication on the class list.

5. Vote for Top Six Class Rules

Through discussion and/or voting, reduce the list to no more than six classroom rules.

6. Post Rules

Create a class wall display or bulletin board of the rules. Allow each team to make a small poster (12 x 18) of one of the rules. If you have more than six teams, let one make a title card for the display.