

Building Healthy Relationships

Routines and Procedures

Why does building relationships with your students matter?

“No significant learning can occur without a significant relationship”.¹ When students have a constructive relationship with their teachers, they are more likely to succeed both within the school walls and beyond!

¹ James Comer, Professor of Child Psychology, Yale University

Routines are what the students actually do.

- **Keep routine expectations consistent; moving targets do not support building strong teacher-student relationships**
- **Reinforce approximations**
- **Examples of how to reinforce students correctly following classroom routines: have your students beat their best time by tracking how long it takes to begin and end a routine, break the class into teams and reward the teams that follow the routine the best**
- **Pro Tip: if there are multiple routines that need improvement, isolate and prioritize 1 or 2**
- **Pro Tip: return to “first day of school” practice after long breaks**

Procedures need to be taught just like any behavior.

- **Break it down, make it visual, check for understanding, practice, and reinforce!**
- **Examples of procedures: completing work, keeping desk orderly, asking for help, entering classroom, returning after absence, etc.**

Procedures are how you want something done.

- **Procedures need to be directly taught and practiced throughout the year**
- **Procedures are the railroad tracks and learning content is the train**

