

Behavior Buster

TOOLKIT



Meet Brandie



During my first year of teaching I was placed in a special education class for students with severe behaviors. I was struggling to manage my class, and I was told to "figure it out."

This was my dream job, but it didn't take long before I was overwhelmed, burned-out, and questioning if this was for me.

There is a happy ending to the story. I figured out how to manage my class, and I learned how to handle the really tough behaviors! As a new teacher mentor, I never want you to have the struggles I had during my first year of teaching.

With what I've learned in my 20+ years of teaching and mentoring, I now help new teachers build their dream classrooms through behavior management systems that go beyond surface-level behaviors and get big results!

Inside this freebie you'll find:

- What classroom management is (taking it beyond systems like clip charts)
- 3 simple, yet extremely powerful, steps that, when implemented, will take your classroom behaviors to the next level.
- A few tips to try when you have "that kid", and you're not quite sure what to do.

Dive in and give it a try! I'd love to hear about what you're implementing and answer any questions in my [New Teacher Support Facebook group](#).

What is Classroom Management? More Than The Clip Chart

Classroom management is so many things. It is not JUST a behavior program. A management program is actually the total structure of your classroom! A classroom management system should provide a safe and comfortable classroom environment while maximizing opportunities for student learning and minimizing interfering behaviors.

Classroom Management is:

- Planning a daily schedule that works for all students
- Setting up rules that increases instructional time
- Determining and defining procedures for all parts of the school day
- TEACHING rules and procedures as you would reading/writing
- Identifying behaviors that are interfering in your ability to teach
- Identifying *why* students are showing the interfering behaviors
- Determining what behaviors you want to target INSTEAD of the interfering behaviors
- Having a plan to teach the new target behaviors (a lot)
- Setting up a reinforcement plan/system (that focuses on the target behaviors, rules, and procedures) and using it consistently throughout the school day
- Flexible! Be ready and willing to change your systems to meet the needs of your current students
- NOT easy
- NOT punitive
- NOT something that can be “thrown together” last minute
- NOT just about reinforcement (by only planning a reinforcement system, it is like making the icing before the cake, it might look good, but it has no base and nothing to hold it together)
- **The most important part of your planning each school year**

3 Steps to Busting Behavior

Step 1: Identify the behavior you DON'T want to see

- Over 2-3 days make notes of the behaviors that are happening in your classroom that you don't want to happen.

Step 2: Identify the behaviors you DO want to see instead!

- Step 1- Name the behavior
- Step 2- Be as specific as you can
- Step 3- Break the behavior down into 3 steps that you'll teach

Step 3: Practice Makes Perfect

- The one thing we know about behavior is that it needs to be taught and practiced (just like reading and math) so to get your creative juices going, come up with 5 ideas of how you can teach these skills on day one!
- **Here's an example:**
 - Play a game to teach/practice raising hands. Every time you say the word jello, the kids need to raise their hands (the way you taught them). This is a fun silly way to make working on behavior fun!



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Step 2: Identify the behaviors you DO want to see instead!

Step 3: Practice Makes Perfect

Tips for When you have "That Kid"

1. Stay Calm
2. Realize the behavior is NOT about you!
3. Know that dealing with behavior is hard
4. Define the behavior you don't want to see any more
5. Define the behavior you want them to do instead
6. TEACH TEACH TEACH new behaviors
7. Any new intervention that you try, give it TWO weeks to see if it works
8. Choose your battles
9. Some kids will be easier to work with than others
10. Reinforce the behaviors you want to see!
11. Keep your expectations reasonable
12. Remember, what works for one student does not necessarily work for another
13. Check your own thoughts and feelings about the student AND the student behavior
14. Instead of trying to change ALL of the behavior at once, work on one at a time. Once you get one behavior under control, add the next
15. Failure doesn't mean it's time to stop, it just means it's time to do it differently