

Instructional Routine for Teaching Rules

- I. Begin with a discussion about the importance of having rules. Have students identify the purpose of having rules (i.e., to keep us safe, to create an orderly environment, to protect, etc.).
- II. Have students identify some rules that adults as well as students must follow on a daily basis. Ask students what might happen if we did not have rules that we followed.
- III. Review the classroom rules that have been developed for your classroom by:
 - Stating the rule, (“The first rule is.....”)
 - Asking students to repeat the rule, (“Everyone, what’s the first rule?”)
 - Providing a rationale that explains the importance of the rule, (“The reason for having a rule about _____ is, _____.”)
 - Providing examples of what following the rule looks like/sounds like and whenever possible, model examples and non-examples
 - Checking for understanding by providing some scenarios or role-playing and asking the students if each scenario or role-play is an example of following the rules, or not following the rules, (“Tell me if this is an example of following the rules, or not following the rules.....”).
- IV. Review the consequences for compliance with the rules
- V. Review the consequences for rule violations
- VI. Monitor the fidelity with which you enforce the classroom rules.

**Teachers may choose to ask students for input and feedback. This will depend largely on the age and maturity of the students in the classroom.*