

I-5: Create a welcoming environment

Essential Values, Perceptions and Skills for a Strong Classroom Culture

<p>Instill the Value of Personal Responsibility</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. If you want your students to be good decision makers, what opportunities are you giving them to make decisions? 2. If you want your students to learn resiliency, what opportunities are you giving them to make mistakes, learn from them, and possibly find ways to correct their mistake without blame or shame? 3. If you want your students to learn responsibility, what opportunities are you giving them to know that both successes and failures provide opportunities for learning? 4. If you want your students to learn cooperation, are you teaching them give and take instead of defining cooperation as, "Do what I want you to do"? Are you teaching them joint problem solving, where you brainstorm together until you find a solution that works for everyone?
<p>Cultivate Empowering Perceptions</p>	<p>Do you encourage the following key perceptions regarding...?:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Personal capabilities ("I am capable.") • Significance in primary relationships ("I contribute in meaningful ways, and I am genuinely needed.") • Personal power and influence in life ("I use my personal power to make choices that influence what happens to me and my community.")
<p>Develop Essential Skills</p>	<p>Do you emphasize the following...?:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Intrapersonal skills: The ability to understand personal emotions, to use that understanding to develop self-discipline and self-control, and to learn from experiences. • Interpersonal skills: The ability to work with others through listening, communicating, cooperating, negotiating, sharing, and empathizing. • Systemic skills: The ability to respond to the limits and consequences of everyday life with responsibility, adaptability, flexibility, and integrity. • Judgment skills: The ability to develop wisdom and evaluate situations according to appropriate values.