

1. **Make eye contact.** When someone is speaking, keep your eyes on him or her at all times. If someone makes a comment, turn and face that person.
2. **Congratulate your classmates.** If someone in the class wins a game or does something well, we will congratulate that person.
3. **Respect other students' comments, opinions, and ideas.** When possible, make comments such as "I agree with \_\_\_ because..." or "I think \_\_\_\_\_ made an excellent observation!"
4. **If you win, do not brag. If you lose, do not show anger.** Instead, say something like "I really enjoyed the competition and can't wait to try again" or say nothing at all. Showing anger shows weakness.
5. **Cover your mouth when you sneeze, cough, or burp and say excuse me.** Turn your head away from others. Using your fist is not acceptable.
6. **Do not show disrespect with gestures.** Do not smack your lips, tsk, or roll your eyes.
7. **Always say thank you when given something.** There is no excuse for not showing appreciation.
8. **When you receive something, never insult the gift or the giver.** Never insult the giver by saying something negative about the gift or insinuating that it wasn't appreciated.
9. **Surprise others by performing random acts of kindness.** Go out of your way to do something surprisingly kind and generous for someone at least once a month.
10. **Follow along as we read together in class.** If I call on you to read, you must know exactly where we are and begin reading. (This will be communicated to students when expected.)
11. **Answer all written questions with a complete sentence.** Also, in conversation with others, it is important to use complete sentences out of respect for that person's question.
12. **Do not ask for a reward.** If you ask for a reward, it will not be given. It is rude to ask for something for good behavior. You should be good to better yourself, not for a reward.
13. **Subject transitions will be swift, quiet, and orderly.** The opportune amount of time to spend in transition should be less than ten seconds.
14. **Be as organized as possible.**
15. **When a substitute teacher is present all class rules still apply.** I know this is hard, but it is very important.
16. **Follow the specific classroom protocols.**
  - We will be organized and on task
  - Raise your hand and wait to be called on
  - Do not get up to use the bathroom or get a drink when I am teaching a lesson
17. **Keep yourself and the bathrooms clean.** Flush the toilet and wash your hands. Never leave a mess in the bathroom.
18. **Do not save seats in the lunchroom.** If someone wants to sit down, let him or her. Do not exclude anyone. We are a family, and we must treat one another with respect and kindness.
19. **Do not stare at a student that is being reprimanded.** You wouldn't want other students looking at you if you were getting in trouble or reprimanded, so don't look at others in that situation.

20. **After we eat, we will clean up after ourselves.** Whether in the cafeteria or elsewhere. It is important to be responsible for your trash no matter where you are.
21. **Hold the door for people rather than letting it close on someone.** Pull it open, stand to the side and let the person walk through.
22. **When walking in line, keep your arms to your sides and move quietly.** Walk single file, two to three feet behind the person in front of you with your arms at your sides. Face forward at all times. Absolutely no talking.
23. **Never cut in line.** If someone cuts in front of you, do not say or do anything. Let it happen, but let me know about it later. If you fuss, you could get in trouble as well and it's not worth it.
24. **If someone is bullying you, let me know.** I am your teacher. I am here to look after you and protect you. I will not let any student bully you or make you feel uncomfortable.
25. **Always be honest.** No matter what the circumstances. Even if you have done something wrong, it is best to admit to me. I will respect that.
26. **Show Respect to your peers in discussion.** Making eye contact, making sure your listening and not playing with anything. Adding to the conversation, not repeating the same things other students have said already!

\*\* The following "Essentials" are additional things I feel will help our students be the best people they can be, however, they are not disciplinary rules like the above.\*\*

27. **Stand up for what you believe in.** You shouldn't take no for an answer if your heart and mind are leading you in a direction that feel strongly about.
28. **Be positive and enjoy life.** Some things just aren't worth getting upset over. Keep everything in perspective and focus on the good in your life.
29. **Accept that you are going to make mistakes.** Learn from them and move on.
30. **Be the best person you can be.** By following these rules, it will lead you to be the best person you can be.