

Teachers Share “Best Bet” Discipline Strategies

- Learn all names the first week
- Start out firm and stay that way
- Greet your students by name at the door
- Identify the 20% who cause 80% of the problems
- Keep your eyes moving all the time
- Rarely sit down. Move around and throughout the room
- Make eye contact. Give "the look" when necessary
- Start out with small signals before using the "big blast"
- Get to know your students as individuals
- Have a private chat with problem students
- Refuse to be "baited" by students into debates
- Never pass up an opportunity to be friendly

Reflect on your teaching, what works and why, every chance you get

Use your voice as a powerful teaching tool, but never shout at anyone

- Invite colleagues to sit in your class and give you feedback
- Do team-building activities with students
- Try not to belittle or embarrass students
- Assess your students' reading and writing
- Teach to a variety of learning styles
- Don't take misbehavior personally
- Over prepare so that there is no "lag" time
- Keep students informed of their academic progress