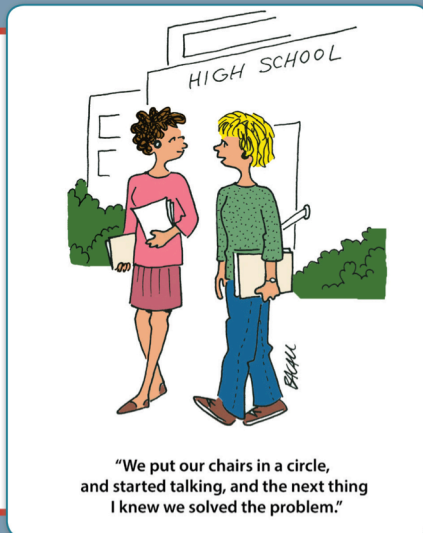


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Class Meetings



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Class Meetings

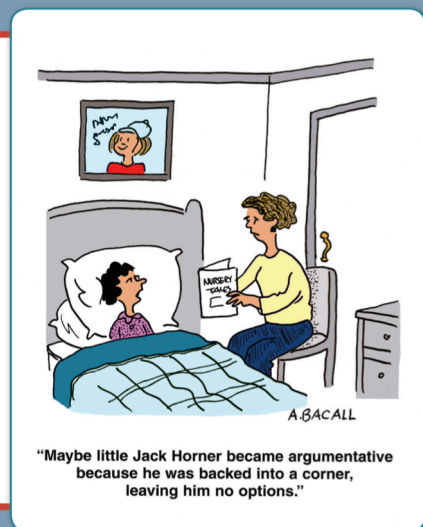
Class Meetings teach students valuable social and life skills.

1. Schedule daily Class Meetings.
2. Place an agenda notebook in a visible place that is easily accessible for students to record their problems (or take dictation for younger students at specified times).
3. Start every meeting with compliments.
4. Brainstorm for solutions to agenda items—write them all down.
5. Ask involved students to choose a solution that works for them.
6. Teach the 8 Essential Skills for Class Meetings which can be found at www.positivediscipline.com/teacher

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Curiosity Questions (Conversational)



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Curiosity Questions (Conversational)

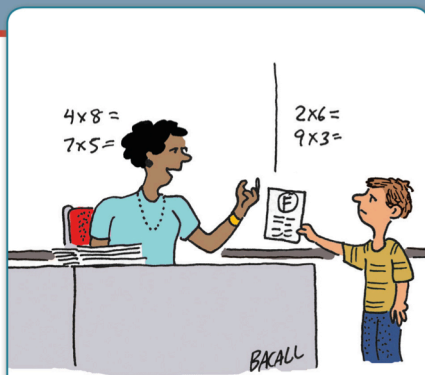
The root of education is educate — to draw forth.

1. Students will listen to you AFTER they feel listened to.
2. When students hear a command, a signal is sent to the brain that invites resistance. When students hear a respectful question, a signal is sent to the brain to search for an answer. In the process they feel capable and are more likely to cooperate.
3. Stop "telling" and "ask" curiosity questions (using your own words) such as:
"What happened?"
"How do you feel about it?"
"How do you think others feel?"
"What ideas do you have to solve this problem?"
4. See "Curiosity Questions Motivational."

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Encouragement vs. Praise



"Remember Edward, inside every 'F' student is an 'A' student trying to get out."

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Encouragement vs. Praise

Praise is like candy. A little goes a long way. Too much is unhealthy.

1. Praise teaches dependency on external validation. Encouragement teaches internal evaluation. **Examples:**
 - **Praise:** "I like your essay. I'm so proud of you." **Encouragement:** "I noticed you worked hard. You must be so proud of yourself."
 - **Praise:** "You are the best player on the team." **Encouragement:** "I appreciate your sportsmanship."
2. Catch yourself using praise statements and shift to words of encouragement. (See "Encouragement" tool card for more ideas.)

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Parent-Teacher-Student Conferences



"The bad news is your son failed every test this term. The good news is that mistakes are opportunities to learn."

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Parent-Teacher-Student Conferences

Conferences are respectful when parents, teachers, and students are all included.

1. The Parent-Teacher-Student conference provides an opportunity to create a connection between home and school.
2. Have everyone (parents, teacher, and student) come prepared with answers to these questions:
 - a. What is going well?
 - b. In what areas would improvement be beneficial?
 - c. What kind of encouragement is needed to support learning from mistakes as well as for improvements?
3. During the conference ask all participants to share what they have written. Let the student share first.

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