

Classroom Strategies for Supporting Educational Resilience
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Teacher Rapport

Build strong relationships

"The more 'comfortable' students are with the teacher, the better able they are to ask questions and seek real help. The reduced stress level leads to better study modes."

Maintain high expectations

"Set goals for students to ensure they are striving to climb higher; feature comparisons to show growth. Interlace tough, academic work with hands on, enriching experiences that guarantee success."

Focus on student strengths

"When students know their strengths are appreciated they are more willing to 'strengthen' low areas."

Classroom Climate

Emphasize personal responsibility for success

"We teach our students their rights and responsibilities as students. We emphasize the importance of self advocacy in class, on the job, and if going on to higher education."

Maintain clear behavioral expectations

"Most of these students lack structure in their lives and school is one place where they get it. Following the same pattern has helped me teach and reach them."

Build a caring community

"A sense of group responsibility and cooperation in various activities. I have used the 'class meeting' technique to solve social issues."

Provide meaningful participation

"Students must see the relevance of classroom activities to their lives in order to 'buy in' and to do their best."

Increased Academic Achievement

Offer cross-age tutoring opportunities

"This is valuable as an investment in other people because it develops social responsibility."

"This works well and is great for self esteem and to reinforce skills that struggling readers may be experiencing."

Use cooperative learning projects

"I believe this is very critical, and it applies directly to future workplace situations."

Instructional Strategies

"There are many non-academic skills that are learned through extracurricular activities and keeps students out of trouble."

"Too often kids have no idea how to even make an appropriate apology. They don't always understand why anyone should apologize!"

"Most of these students are functioning at lower than grade level so while it would be nice to get them to grade level, getting them to increase or move up from where they are is more important so they achieve some success."

Encourage extracurricular involvement

Teach transferable life skills

Foster literacy skills

Student Skills