

Surface Management Techniques

1. **Planned Ignoring:** Systematic Ignoring of Undesirable behavior by teacher/staff. It is assumed that behavior which is not responded to will be extinguished through lack of reinforcement, and that the undesirable behaviors will cease when systematically ignored.
2. **Signal Interference:** Use of non-verbal techniques such as eye contact or hand movements, to express disapproval of behavior. This technique seems most useful for mildly inappropriate behaviors
3. **Proximity Control:** The physical presence of teacher/staff acts as a source of control for student. This presence may range from teacher/staff standing near student to actual touching of student on shoulder or arm. This technique allows intervention without verbal identification of student experiencing difficulty and permits saving face.
4. **Antiseptic Bouncing:** Allowing a student to save face and get back into control by asking the student to leave the room or situation for a short time (i.e. to get a drink or run an errand). This technique enables the student to calm down and regain sense of control without negative consequences.
5. **Support through Humor:** Utilizing humor to reduce the anxiety created around a stressful situation. The teacher/staff is able to communicate his or her sense of control and reduce the level of anxiety experienced by the student.
6. **Removing Seductive Objects:** Removing objects, which will distract the students' attention and reduce ability to control their behavior. The teacher/staff can help student s stay in control and keep their minds on expected tasks by removing temptation.
7. **Interest Boosting:** Expression of genuine interest by teacher/staff in the student. The teacher/staff may relate the activity at hand or delve into an area of intrinsic interest to the student
8. **Support through Routine:** Providing a consistent routine for the students can help them control their anxiety over the uncertainty of expectations. The teacher/staff acknowledges the needs of the students to feel informed and protected within their environment.