

# POWERFUL Instruction

How do you feel about this statement?

0=strongly disagree up to a 5=strongly agree

**“You know, kids don’t learn from people they don’t like.”**

Rita Pierson, a legendary educator, along with a substantial amount of other researchers would say that this statement should be rated at least a 3, 4 or 5. **There is a strong positive correlation between the amount students learn and the relationship they have with their teacher.** Please take a moment to reflect on the amount of time you work to build relationships with your students.

**Some self-reflection questions to ask yourself are:**

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- 1-I greet students at the door with a smile and a handshake.
- 2-I develop a system to monitor and ensure I have positive interactions with each student daily.
- 3-I practice equity (get what you need when you need it) and explain the difference from equality (all get the same thing at the same time).
- 4-I provide student choice of learning process, teach them to make good choices, and analyze why choices were or weren’t the best.
- 5-I change strategies to meet student needs rather than expecting students to change to meet my needs.
- 6-I explain reasons for why I’m doing what I’m doing or why I made the decision I did.
- 7-I model respect in words spoken, voice tone, eye contact, and in body language.
- 8-I avoid sarcasm and ridicule.
- 9-I promote intrinsic motivation (You did it!) rather than extrinsic motivation (You did it so you get a piece of candy.)
- 10-I use logical consequences directly related to the behavior.
- 11-I focus on future behavior rather than on past behavior.
- 12-I stay focused on learning; do not let off-task behavior or backtalk take me off track; note it and deal with it when it fits my agenda.
- 13-I resolve behavioral issues privately with minimum disruption of instruction.
- 14-I reward effort.
- 15-I show an interest in students’ lives beyond the classroom by learning and talking about their hobbies and families.



**Don't be this teacher. Click here!**

Importance of Teacher &  
Student Relationships