Matrix Location: Classroom

Core Value: Be Safe

Behavior Expectations: Hands, feet, and objects to self

Objective: While in the classroom, you will be safe by keeping your hands, your feet, and objects to yourself.

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<th>Teaching Example</th>
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<td>Identify the concepts: Be safe keeping hands, feet &amp; objects to oneself.</td>
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<td>Start with terminology: (Done in the classroom setting)</td>
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<td>Define terms:</td>
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<td>Be Safe: No longer in a position to do harm, free from danger</td>
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<td>Use prior knowledge:</td>
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<td>Read and discuss the book: “Bullies Are a Pain in the Brain” by Trevor Romain.</td>
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<td>Another good resource: “How to Handle Bullies, Teasers &amp; Other Meanies” by Kate Cohen –Posey</td>
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<td>Discuss previous situations that have occurred in the classroom, when someone did not keep their hands, feet or objects to themselves. “How did the person feel when the classmate did not keep hands, feet or objects to themselves?</td>
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<td>Discuss better choices the student can use if a peer is bothering them: tell the teacher, use their words, walk away, etc.</td>
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Discuss what the consequences are in the real world if one does not keep their hands, feet or objects to themselves. (assault and battery)

Discuss TV Shows or movies where real consequences are enforced: police shows, related news events, court news, etc.

Review with students what they need to do if someone is not keeping their hands, feet or objects to themselves:

1. Tell the student that is bothering you to stop. “Stop teasing me, I don’t like it.”
2. If the student continues to bother you, tell the teacher or staff member. Reinforce making a good choice as opposed to “getting even” with the student by engaging in inappropriate-unsafe behavior.

Use a picture strip to be kept on the student’s desk with picture icons to remind the student to keep their words, hands, feet and objects to themselves.

Teaching Example for preventing accidents in the classroom:
Discuss accident prevention in the classroom by keeping all 4 chair legs on the floor at all times. Keep hands and feet to themselves, in their own personal space.

Teach a song: “Keep all 4 on the floor or your head will hit the floor and you will be sore”.

Design a picture board depicting the desk in the correct position, then tipped sideways, then tipped over. Depict student as fallen over, injured in some way. Discuss options.

Role Play Examples:

Prior behavior before hitting is usually verbal. Therefore, students can start out with name calling. Before behavior escalates, the student role plays, using his words: “Stop teasing me”. If behavior continues, the student role plays telling a staff member, thus making a good choice,
staying out of trouble and being safe.

Role Play Examples for preventing accidents in classrooms:

Model hands, feet and object to self. Two staff will then show an unsafe example by using their hands to poke at the other staff person (staff always model the poor behavior choice).

1. Model tipping the chair or desk backwards or sideways. Ask: “What happened here?” Discuss possible outcomes: falling over, hurting self or others.

2. Discuss responsible behavior when a student observes another student tipping his chair. Are you afraid he might get hurt?

3. Model appropriate language to use to redirect the behavior. Such as a calm tone, simple direction: “all 4’s on the floor”.

Positive Reinforcement 4 to 1 rule:
Good job, I like the way you are using your words to ask_____ to leave you alone.

Thank you for coming to me and letting me know that _____has been bothering you. You are making good choices and being safe.

I like the way everyone is being safe by keeping their hands, feet and objects to themselves.

Awesome job Frank, being safe…putting your brakes on.

You all are doing great keeping your legs and feet on your mat.

It’s really nice to see how mature the class is behaving, being safe and respectful of each other. Keep up the good work. I am very proud of you!