

Responsive Classroom Themes

Here are some topics that teachers focus on when incorporating the Responsive Classroom approach:

- **Morning Meeting:** Gathering as a whole class each morning to greet one another, share news, and warm up for the day ahead.
- **Rule Creation:** Helping students create classroom rules to ensure an environment that allows all class members to meet their learning goals.
- **Interactive Modeling:** Teaching children to notice and internalize expected behaviors through a unique modeling technique.
- **Positive Teacher Language:** Using words and tone as a tool to promote children's active learning, sense of community, and self-discipline.
- **Logical Consequences:** Responding to misbehavior in a way that allows children to fix and learn from their mistakes while preserving their dignity.
- **Guided Discovery:** Introducing classroom materials using a format that encourages independence, creativity, and responsibility.
- **Academic Choice:** Increasing student learning by allowing students teacher-structured choices in their work.
- **Classroom Organization:** Setting up the physical room in ways that encourage students' independence, cooperation, and productivity.
- **Working with Families:** Creating avenues for hearing parents' insights and helping them understand the school's teaching approaches.
- **Collaborative Problem Solving:** Using conferencing, role-playing, and other strategies to resolve problems with students.

To learn more about how Responsive Classroom themes build positive relationships and improve academic performance, go to **Edutopia's research review of Mount Desert's successful strategies:**

www.edutopia.org/stw-sel-classroom-management-research

For more on the **Responsive Classroom** approach, go to: www.responsiveclassroom.org

