

*Secondary  
Edition!*



# CHAMPS

## Classroom Management

### Tip of the Week

#### Managing Independent Work Periods

When students are asked to work without direct teacher supervision, opportunity for misbehavior and/or time off-task increases. Consider the following suggestions to help keep students actively engaged in their work.

- Ensure that students can successfully complete the assignment independently.
- Provide initial support by beginning independent assignments with guided practice.
- How can accommodations be provided to the students who need them?
- Modify assignments to meet the needs of lower performing students.
- Set specific time limits (use timers).
- Set specific “help” expectations (i.e. Can students help each other? Should they circle and skip? Use available resources?)
- Provide exemplars and rubrics for students to self-asses their work.
- Create immediate accountability.
- Provide an activity or challenge to students who may finish early.
- Keep independent work periods brief- particularly near the end of the day.
- Spontaneously walk between the desks to monitor students’ progress.
- Narrate (speak aloud) the positive, on-task behavior you observe to the class.
- Provide private feedback to individuals and the class to reinforce work-related behaviors such as perseverance, attention to details, and quality.

