

*Secondary
Edition!*



CHAMPS

Classroom Management

Tip of the Week

Building Relationships

As educators, the majority of our interactions with students are *contingent* upon their actions/behavior in the classroom. To build stronger relationships with students, consider increasing the amount of *non-contingent* attention that students receive- while still maintaining an appropriate amount of contingent feedback and praise. This is a fancy way to say, “Give time and attention to that student, regardless of how he/she behaves or performs academically” (Sprick, 2009).

In other words, show the child that you want to interact with him/her because you value them as a human *being*, not only as a human *doing*. After distributing a student survey, consider keeping a class roster with details about each student. You can reference this information throughout the year to personalize instruction and “check-in” with each student.

Sample Questions

- Do you have an afterschool or weekend job?
- If you could travel anywhere in the world, where would you go?
- Do you have any close friends in this class?
- What do you like to do on the weekends?
- Where would you like to attend college? Have you started applications?
- Who inspires you? Why?
- What do you never leave the house without?
- How would your friends describe you?
- What would you like me to know about you?
- What can you teach me this year?

