

# Prepare Lessons on Your Expectations

(Excerpt from *The Solution Book*, Topic Booklet A)

**Prepare lessons on your expectations for student behavior for all major activities and transitions.** Students will not know how to act responsibly unless you teach them your expectations. You have to do this separately for each major activity because responsible behavior in one activity (e.g., talking with peers during a cooperative group activity) may be a misbehavior in another activity (e.g., talking with peers while the teacher is presenting a lesson).

For each major activity and transition, these lessons should clarify for students if they can talk to each other. If so, clarify about what, at what volume level, and how many students can be talking together. Also clarify if students must stay in one place or if they can move about the room. In addition (and perhaps most importantly) clarify what students

should do to demonstrate active and responsible participation in this type of activity.

Below is a list of activities and transitions that are common to many classrooms. For each that occurs in your classroom, prepare a short lesson on your expectations:

- Entering the classroom
- Attendance/announcements/opening exercises
- Teacher directed instruction
- Independent seatwork
- Cooperative groups
- Taking tests
- Center or lab activities
- Movement within the classroom (i.e. lining up)
- Putting away materials/clean up
- Leaving the classroom