

Tips on teaching emotionally disturbed students

- Get to know your students
 - Become familiar with student's educational history
 - Contact parents, licensed professionals
 - Behavioral IEP's
 - Student Behavior Intervention Plans
 - Document characteristics of the student
- Develop classroom rules
 - Good rules provide structure for ED students
 - Only create a few rules
 - State the rules in a positive way
 - Be specific
 - Behaviors stated in the rules must be observable and measurable
 - Consistently implement your rules
- Watch out for triggers
 - Reduce amount of stress for ED student
 - Be aware of seating assignment in the classroom
 - Create classroom routines
 - Prepare the student in advance of an upcoming change to the daily schedule
 - Provide cues for transitions between activities
- Be positive! ☺
 - Focus on positive feedback and reinforcement-this should break the chain of negative behaviors
 - Use reinforcers that are intrinsically motivating
- Lean on your team
 - Plan staff meetings that will facilitate program planning, behavioral consultation, and keep open communication between your colleagues