STRATEGIES OF GOOD CLASSROOM MANAGEMENT:

1. Start off your class by taking care of daily business...remember to take attendance, review yesterday's progress/or concerns and remind your class of the objectives of the assignment.

2. Effective teachers EXPLAIN and DEMONSTRATE what it is they want students to be able to do...before, during and after a lesson.

3. ALWAYS make sure you have the ENTIRE class's attention whenever you are speaking to them.

4. USE YOUR VOICE EFFECTIVELY...normal or loud when the moment calls for it. PROJECT your voice so that you have "command" of your students' attention. Use INFLECTION and some BODY LANGUAGE to get a point across...in other words, be interesting to listen to when you are talking.

5. MAKE CONTACT with your students..."kid" with them on occasion, smile, laugh, and interact with them on a light-hearted basis once-in-awhile.

6. BE FIRM but FRIENDLY when it comes to CONSISTENT discipline. If you have "had it" with a student's behavior, give him/her one warning and then TAKE ACTION. Don't allow misbehavior to continue at the expense of the other students who are acting appropriately...their/your rights are being denied by the student who isn't behaving.

7. If you have to finally get "harsh" with a student, or if you have to take drastic action (referral) make sure that you follow-up with a personal, firm and honest talk with the student to explain why you took the action you did. (Students can be forgiving if they know you're CARING and HONEST even while handling them in a stern manner.)

8. Be an ACTIVE WATCHER all during class time and be watching who is doing what. BE AWARE of the who, what, where, when and why in terms of classroom activity/discipline.

9. When working with individual students, MAKE SURE you have positioned yourself so that you are facing the entire class/room while you are working with that student to be observant. (DO NOT have your back turned so that you can't see what else is going on around you.)

10. CHECK YOUR SUPPLIES...make sure you get them ALL back after student use, they have not been damaged, they are clean, you have full glue bottles, etc. and supplies are organized and ready to use again.

11. If you sense that a student(s) are socializing more than they are getting their work done, you reserve the right to change their seating to get more productivity out of him/her.

12. ALWAYS be prepared with a comprehensive lesson plan. MAKE SURE you have tried the project ahead of time, so that you know what "obstacles" students might face while doing their own project. Also...your sample serves as a model for what the project "may" look like when it is done. (Of course, you don't want everyone to copy it, it merely serves as a visual explanation of what they can anticipate.)

13. MAKE SURE you have organized/prepared all of the SPECIFIC materials ahead of time that students will need to complete a particular project. (Once class has started you should have everything ready to go ...paper pre-cut, tools handy, etc.)

14. At the end of the day, do some visual/physical "damage control" for the following day. Make sure things are re-stacked, bottles have lids/tops put on tight, glue bottles are standing upright, glue guns are turned off, you have checked your kiln, etc.

WASN'T IT A GREAT DAY? TOMORROW, IT STARTS ALL OVER AGAIN!!