

Mrs. Olinik's "Clip It!" Behavior Policy

At the front of our classroom is our behavior system chart, known as the "Clip It" chart. Each child has a clothespin with his or her number on it attached to the chart. (See attached for a model of the chart.)

At the start of each day in school, each child starts with their clip on the green "Ready to Learn" section of chart. When a child breaks a rule, he or she is first given a verbal reminder or warning. The second time the rule is broken, the child will move his or her clip "down" the chart. At the yellow "Think About It" section, the child is asked to take a breath and consider his or her choices. At the orange "Teacher's Choice" section, the child will have a consequence, with the consequence depending on the behavior exhibited. For example, the child may need to fill out a "Think Sheet," make an apology, and possibly lose privileges. At the red "Parent Contact" section, the child's parents will be contacted via email, phone call, or note home, and further consequences may follow. If a behavior is very disruptive or dangerous, a child may skip sections, going directly to orange or red.

If a child is going above and beyond expectations for following the rules, they will be asked to move their clip "up" to the next color above where their clip is. There is blue for "Good Choices," purple for "Great Job," and pink for "Super Student." If a child reaches the pink section, he or she will get a small sticker on their clip. After three stickers, the child will earn a special privilege (more on that later!).

The Clip It policy allows students the opportunity to fix their behavior immediately. A child might move "down" to yellow, but if they do a better job following rules after that, they will be able to move their clip back "up." This also gives positive feedback to the students who consistently follow the rules.

Once a child earns three stickers for getting their clip up to pink, they can choose from a selection of special privileges that last for all or part of a school day of their choosing. Some of those special privileges are: sitting with a friend at a special table for the day, sharing the teacher's desk, homework pass, teacher's special helper, special craft time, extra iPad time, etc. As we go through the school year, the students will be able to help think of new and exciting privileges to earn to keep them motivated.

At the end of each school day, your child will color a dot on that day in their agenda to show you which color their clip was on at the end of the day. This way, you are kept informed of how your child's behavior is at school.

My expectation is that most students will spend their days "on green." Please remember that, especially at the beginning of the school year, your child is still learning

routines and expectations, and that there may be some bumps in the road—after all, we all have our good days and bad days!

This behavior system is new to my classroom this year. I will be reflecting often on whether or not this system is working, and there may be changes throughout the year as I adjust the methods of the program to fit our needs in the classroom. If changes occur, I will be sure to inform you through my weekly newsletter.