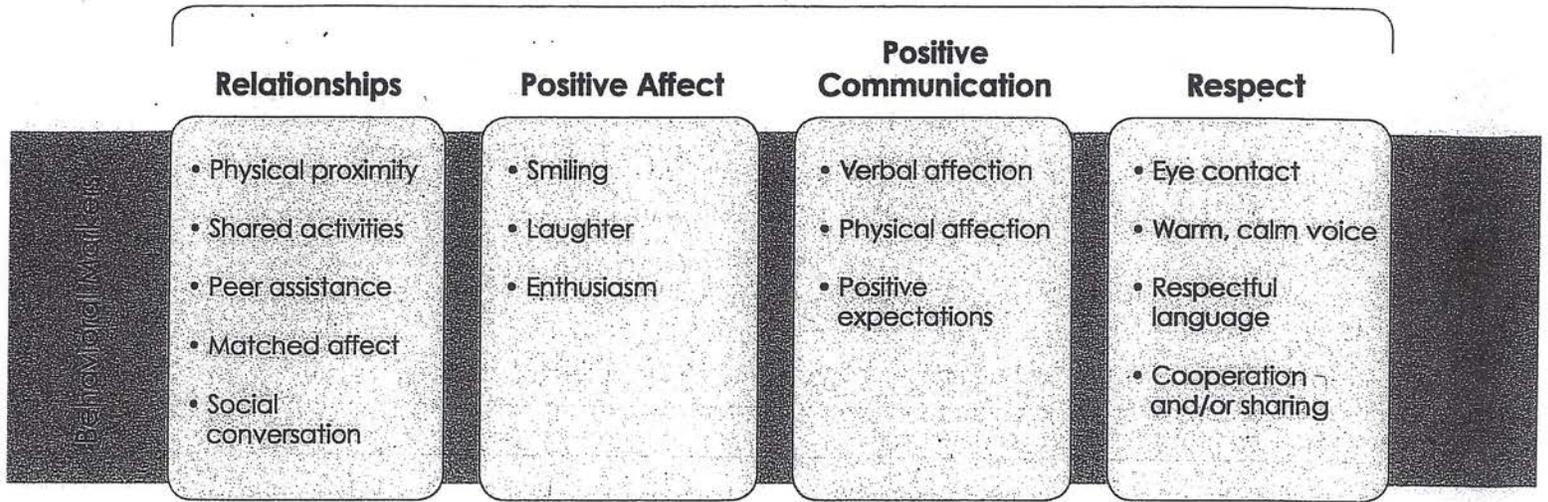


Positive Climate

Indicators



What is it?

In classrooms with a strong positive climate, teachers and children are enthusiastic about learning and respectful of one another. Teachers and children develop warm, supportive relationships with each other and clearly enjoy being together and spending time in the classroom. Their interactions provide children with a secure base for learning and exploration of academic and social skills.

Why is it important?

Children are more motivated to learn when they feel happy, relaxed, and connected to others. They get more out of lessons when they are excited about participating. When the classroom climate is positive, children have a secure base for learning. Teachers and children enjoy being with each other and are able to get the most out of their time together.

How can I create a more positive climate in my classroom?

Enjoy time with children.

Share in fun, relaxing moments with children. During free time or while walking to lunch, take time to interact with children and enjoy being with them.

Make learning fun.

Look for opportunities to make everyday learning activities fun for children. Think about the things that make children laugh and smile and find ways to integrate these things into everyday activities.

Show your enthusiasm.

Make sure you let the children know that you enjoy your job and like spending time with them. If you are enthusiastic about classroom activities, the children will be as well.

Make positive comments and communicate your warm feelings toward children.

Look for opportunities to comment positively on children's efforts and participation. Clearly communicate your warm feelings toward children. For example, tell a child that you missed her yesterday when she was home sick. Over time, your consistent positive interactions and warmth will help children feel connected to you and comfortable in the classroom.

Engage in social conversation.

Ask children questions about their lives outside the classroom, then remember to ask about things that are important to them, such as family members or their outside activities. Take time to listen when they come up to tell you something exciting that happened to them.

Be respectful and personal.

Be respectful in interactions with children. Use their names when you talk to them and model the use of polite language, such as please, thank you, and you're welcome.

Facilitate positive peer interactions.

Encourage children to engage in positive interactions with each other. Teach and model the importance of sharing, helping others, and being respectful so that children can start using these strategies in interactions with their peers.