

Redirecting Four Types of Students

Tips for redirecting ACTIVE students

Redirect when their distraction behaviors are preventing them from engaging with the lesson.

- Incorporate movement into the lesson ("Let's play three turns of Simon Says every time we finish a slide." "Can you act out this word?" "Your turn to lead a stretch break!").
- Take wigggle breaks (or more frequent brain breaks).
- Ask your Reading Specialist if the student can be given a fidget object.
- Only correct behaviors that are distracting your student from engaging with the lesson. Be lenient with behaviors that are only distracting you.
- Keep the lesson moving fairly quickly.
- Be specific about the target behavior ("I want to see your eyes on the screen.").

Tips for redirecting TALKATIVE students

Redirect when the time spent chatting is significantly taking away from time with the lesson.

- Be kind, firm, and consistent about when it is a good time for them to chat.
- If you make a promise, follow through! Write down a note so you come back to it later.
- Use phrases like:
 - "Your turn to talk is coming, but first I have important information to tell you."
 - "I want to hear more about your baby brother! Let's finish 3 more slides and then we'll continue this conversation."
 - "You had a really big weekend! Let's work hard until 9:40 and then we'll leave the last 5 minutes just to talk about it."

Tips for redirecting WORK-AVOIDANT students

Redirect when your student frequently uses distractions to avoid starting a lesson or activity.

- Create an environment where it is safe and normal to make mistakes.
- Be clear, consistent, and realistic about your expectations.
- Compromise as appropriate. Maybe they would be willing to spell if you wrote down the letters on a piece of paper. This should be a temporary situation with the goal of reducing their anxiety surrounding the task.
- Build their confidence through growth mindset language, specifically process praise.
- Incorporate their personality into the lessons by giving them choices, as appropriate.
- Find out what motivates them. Create bridges between their interests and the lessons.

Tips for redirecting INDEPENDENT students

Redirect when your student's independence is preventing them from learning the content well.

- If you have instructions to give, make sure you get their attention and slow them down. It's okay to say, "Can I see you in the Ready Position? I want to give you important information before you start."
- Remind them that it's okay to ask for help then wait for their signal.
- Do not lower your standards to accommodate guessing or sloppy work.
- Some students enjoy pretending to be the teacher. Ask them to teach you the content or process! Make a mistake so they can correct you.
- If they have good command over the process or content, release responsibility to them.