

Helpful Hint

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Do you ever have those students who just seem to hate coming to music, mess around constantly, or continuously talk while you're trying to teach? No? Just me? Well, if you ever do...relationships are everything! We all know this and we've all heard it before, but it can seem impossible to build a relationship with every single student we teach. Especially with our vast curriculum staring us down and barely enough time to make it through. Good news, it is still possible! Try these tips and watch the beauty unfold.

- Use your lunch duty, recess duty, or outside duty as an opportunity to chat with different kids. Especially the ones who you can't seem to make a connection with in class. Ask about their interests, hobbies, or even their families. Kids are just like us, they love to talk about themselves!
- If possible, make it a goal to eat lunch with one difficult student every two weeks, or if you're an overachiever, more often than that.
- Share things about yourself with your students. They might make a connection with you that they never knew you shared.
- When you catch them doing the right thing, praise, praise, and more praise. Send their parent a quick email about how you noticed their student being an awesome human being or send them a postcard in the mail. Even a simple sticky note on a kid's desk can make their day.
- Embrace their personalities. We all know that not every student fits the cookie cutter mold. Embrace who they are and focus on helping them become the best human they can be by using your social skills to help sharpen theirs.