

First Week of School Lesson Plans:

- The first week back can be stressful and overwhelming, but don't succumb to the pressure. This first week is time to focus on establishing procedures, explaining expectations and building classroom community.
- Developed by veteran teachers, these engaging, interactive lessons and activities embody this focus while creating an organized, efficient daily schedule. Daily pre-assessment time is build into these plans to ensure that you are able to determine each child's baseline skills.
- Highlighted fields represent lessons and activities included in unit. Some materials and activities are used each day (i.e. Unpacking procedures and chart); these are included after Monday's lesson plan.
- Daily lesson plans and accompanying activities are color-coded to help with planning and organization.

Walking in line

- Teach point-to-point movement as students walk around the campus.
 - Identify a location or action and students move to that point and stop.
 - "Please walk to the pillar and stop there."
 - If students aren't quiet enough, walk them back and have them do it again.
- Challenge students to set goals and make sure you focus on speed. Speed and order are the goals of lining up and walking in line.
 - Get a stopwatch and time them; record times to track improvement and progress toward goals.
- Read "Who Will Be Mystery Walker?" poem before line and reward 1-2 students for great line skills (see below).
- If all students are doing a great job, give them a Quiet Line Loop. Loop these together to make a class chain. Determine how long the change needs to be before the class earns a reward. If the class earns a compliment while in line, add an additional loop to the chain. These simple procedures reinforce efficient transitions and also build classroom community as students must work together to earn a reward.



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READING STRATEGIES

DECODING ANIMALS



Point to each word while reading to help keep your place.



Use clues from the picture to help read words.

Detecting

COMPREHENSION ANIMALS



Retell the key points or main ideas of the story (Who? What? When? Where? Why?).

Summarizing



Picture the story events, characters and setting in your head like watching a movie or T.V. show.

Visualizing

Top Ten Tools for Back to School

Parent Tips

Review the Responsibility Chart with your child daily. Use the following discussion starters:

Loss of Star:

Did you lose a star?

Is a better choice for now?

Did you learn from this?

Kept All Stars:

How did you glow today?

What did you best at?

What are you proud of?

Children aren't perfect and we're not either. We're glad that they will lose a star. This loss of a star doesn't diminish their home. However, if your stars frequently, set stars at home.

Responsibility Chart should be a motivational tool. Set a goal each week (per week) and an parent reward.

To help your child develop responsibility and independence, create a checklist of daily duties.

Sample Checklist

- ____ Completed homework
- ____ Silent reading for 20 minutes
- ____ Responsibility Chart signed
- ____ Binder in backpack
- ____ Pencil pouch in backpack
- ____ Lunchbox packed (in refrigerator)



Golden Keys to Success

Classroom Management Plan
Parent Brochure

Important life skills and qualities that students need to become successful citizens

Top Ten Tools for Back to School

The new school year means endless meetings, countless hours of preparation and the dreaded Curriculum Night...all resulting in major stress! As veteran teachers, we understand the tension that Back to School time brings and are here to help. Our **FREE Top Ten Tools for Back to School** sample files included in this unit are:

- Beginning of the School Year Checklist
- [Golden Keys to Success Responsibility Chart](#)
- [Golden Keys to Success Parent Brochure](#)
- [Routines and Procedures](#): Walking in Line
- [Icebreaker](#): Top Ten About Me
- [Common Core Reading Strategies Poster](#)
- [Behavior Reflection Think Sheet](#)
- [First Day of School Lesson Plan](#)
- [Social Story](#): Following Directions
- [Parent Welcome Letter](#) sample

Click on the links to be directed to our Astute Hoot store for more school tools, entire units, and additional resources.

Beginning of the School Year Checklist

- Create [classroom management plan](#) (rules & consequences)
- Set up [routines and procedures](#)
 - Attending Morning Meeting/circle time
 - Gathering at carpet or general meeting place
 - Walking/Packing up
 - Bringing materials and cleaning up
 - Following teacher's signal
 - Engaging in active listening
- Establish cubbies
- Post eat signals (for bathroom, drinks, pencils)
- Post [checklist](#) including the following:
 - Classroom management plan
 - Assessment and homework guidelines
 - And specials' schedule
 - Checklist
 - And volunteer sign up
 - And Curriculum Night presentation
 - Communication logistics