



THE CLASS[®] AT HOME

The Pre-K CLASS is divided into three domains that look at the quality of interaction between teachers and children.

Emotional Support domain interactions communicate, "I'm here for you."

Classroom Organization domain interactions communicate, "I make plans for you."

Instructional Support domain interactions communicate, "I'm ready to learn with you."

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Emotional Support: Looks at what teachers do to help children develop warm, supportive relationships, feel comfortable, and experience appropriate levels of independence.

Within Emotional Support is a focus on Positive Climate. Positive Climate includes building genuine relationships with children, having fun together, and treating one another with respect.

What could this look like at home?

- Have conversations with children about their day.
- Take time to play games, sing a song, or show you enjoy your time spent together.
- Encourage cooperation and sharing.
- Be physically affectionate.
- Be respectful and model polite language.
- Make positive comments and communicate your warm feelings.

Why is this important?

- Talking with your kids and acknowledging their feelings is crucial to their emotional security.
- Creating an environment in which they're comfortable to tell you how they feel results in happier, more confident children.



Classroom Organization: Considers how teachers manage children's time, attention, and behavior to maximize learning opportunities. It looks at interactions that help children develop skills to regulate their own behavior.

Within Classroom Organization is a focus on Behavior Management. Behavior Management is establishing clear expectations and redirecting any misbehavior effectively.

What could this look like at home?

- Provide specific feedback when children behave well. "I like how you worked with your brother to clean up your blocks."
- Be consistent with consequences.
- Be Proactive. Intervene before behavior gets worse and help children problem-solve.
- Use eye contact, a gentle touch, or a new activity to redirect a child getting frustrated.

Why is this important?

- Specific feedback encourages desired behavior.
- Responding to behaviors the same way every time helps children understand and meet expectations.
- Planning ahead and responding quickly prevents problems from getting worse or intensifying.



Instructional Support: Refers to specific behaviors that support children's cognitive development and language growth.

Within Instructional Support is a focus on Language Modeling. Language Modeling involves encouraging children to talk and providing them with a language-rich environment.

What could this look like at home?

- Have conversations! Comment on what your child is doing and ask questions. "You like that apple. Do you like red or green more?"
- Be a sportscaster. Describe what you and your children are doing. "I'm opening our snacks and pouring out a bowl for everyone."
- Repeat what your child says and then add a bit more of a new word. "Raining!" "It's raining. I wonder if there will be a thunderstorm."
- Sing, read, and tell stories together.

Why is this important?

- Children learn new language skills when they can use the language that they know and hear adults use more complex language.
- Conversations help children develop new language skills.
- Language skills are important for academic and social success.