OLC Volunteering 101 Training: Student Behavior & Motivation

Best Practices for Behavior Management:
• Own your role as the adult
• Give clear explicit directions in the form of a statement
• Positively reinforce behaviors you’d like to see more frequently
• Do what you say you will do (be consistent; do not bargain with students)

Set Daily Goals

Take two minutes at the start of each session to explain the day’s agenda. Also review behavior agreements if needed.

Example:
• Today we will
  1) Review vocabulary words
  2) Finish reading *The Giving Tree*
  3) Complete practice B on Making Inferences

• Remember we are also keeping track of how many questions you take your time to answer carefully. Last week you remembered 5 times and forgot 3 times; when you take your time it helps you give better answers.

Make it Fun!

• **Use the big white board.** For example, ask the student to go up to the big white board and teach you long vowels while you pretend to be the student.

• **Act it out.** Choose a book with lots of characters and divide up the dialog between you. Read with lots of expression.

• **Use a timer.** Challenge a student to complete a task, like choose a read aloud book or read his sight words, in a certain amount of time.

• **Connect to student’s interest.** Get creative. What is your student interested in? (ex. drawing, football, sleepovers) How can you incorporate that interest into vocabulary or book choices? Ask your supervisor or colleague for help brainstorming.