



# SMART CLASSROOM MANAGEMENT



Good morning! It may seem like I often direct the articles I share toward just teachers, however, aren't we all teachers of something? If we look around, every single person is a teacher, especially those of us working with children. I found this definition of the importance of teachers.... *Teachers are an extremely important facet of any society for a number of reasons and their role in society is both significant and valuable. Teachers play an extraordinary part in the lives of children for the formative years of their development and the importance of teachers is something that cannot be understated!*

So what do we all do when working with children?

We...

1. Inspire
2. Encourage
3. Motivate
4. Realize a student's potential
5. Role model
6. Develop a community of learners
7. Lead
8. Provide a safe environment
9. Counsel

10. Cry with them
11. Hurt for them
12. CARE

And the list goes on and on, but we need to remember the importance of our jobs in whatever compasity in which we work with children. I have a poem in my classroom that I read every so often so that I can remind myself, that I am making a difference however small, I am a star polisher. **WE ARE ALL** star polishers when working with children and we have to keep that thought in our heads as we cannot begin to imagine the impact we are making. In fact, we may never know how or what impact we are making, but that is ok. What we need to remember is that we are there for our kids and no matter how difficult a day is, how difficult a child may be, how difficult our jobs may seem, we are all making some difference. Please read the poem and understand that our jobs on every single level are important.

# THE STAR POLISHER

i have a great job in the universe of occupations.

what do i do?

i'm a "star polisher."

it's a very important job.

if you want to know how important,  
just go out at night and look at the stars  
twinkling and sparking.

you see, i'm a teacher, an educator, am mentor.

the stars are the children in my class.

my job is to take them in  
whatever shape they come,  
and shine and buff them  
and then send them out

to take their places as bright twinkling beacons  
in the sky.

they come into my room in all shapes and sizes.

sometimes they're bent, tarnished, dirty, crinkly, or broken.

some stars are cuddly and soft.

some are prickly and thorny.

as i buff and polish,

i train and teach my little stars;

i tell them that the world cannot do without them.

each night as i look at the sky,

i'm reminded of my very important job

and awesome responsibility.

then i get my soft buffing cloth

and my bottle of polish

in preparation for tomorrow

...for my class of little stars.

-leah becks

