



Leadership, Differentiation and Behaviour

Why do students misbehave?

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Some of the reasons

1. **Boredom**
2. **Lack of motivation to learn**
3. **Peer pressure**
4. **Lack of self-discipline**
5. **The teacher**

Boredom

1. **Make the work fun and interesting**
2. **Use lots of variety in your lessons**
3. **Keep your lessons varied, use of different exercises and plenty of practical and active work.**
4. **Use all the senses; Try using some blindfolds to smell, touch, taste or hearing.**
5. **Keep the tasks short and focused: for students with short attention spans,**
6. **Offer a 'get-out' clause for instance 5 minutes off from work for a chat**

Lack of motivation to learn

- Make the learning very clear, by stating your aims.
- Divide the lesson into individual tasks and set targets
- Encourage the children to find 'learning partners'
- Sometimes the work is too easy,
- Introduce some areas that will really stretch the class

Peer pressure

- Rearrange the seating - Put any potential troublemakers with mature learners
- Get the 'ringleader' on your side

Lack of self discipline

- **Counting:** ask the children to shut their eyes and count backwards from 50 to zero. When they get to zero they should open their eyes and wait for the lesson to begin.
- **Backwards spelling:** ask the children to shut their eyes and spell some words backwards in their heads.

The teacher

- **Winding them up** with lots of frenzied activities in an attempt to keep them occupied?
- **Overreacting** reacting to minor misbehaviour as though it were an affront to civilization?
- **Being confrontational**: battling against them in a tit-for-tat competition of wills
- **Being bad-tempered** Constantly in a bad mood. Day after day he or she appears and nags at you, moans at you, complains about the smallest things.
- **Being negative**: 'I hope you're not going to behave as badly as last time'?
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- **Being boring**: Lessons a bit dull with lots of emphasis on completing worksheets