

Reducing Visual Clutter

Conduct a "visual noise scan" of the classroom



Look for bright colors and busy walls, bulletin boards and carpets.

- Remove unnecessary information from the walls, windows and hanging from the ceiling.

Designate specific wall space to display student art work

While we want to showcase students creativity, having it all over the classroom can be overstimulating.



- Create an "Art wall" or specific areas for colorful student work, separate from instructional areas

Adjust lighting

Try to match the lighting to students arousal levels. Reduce fluorescent lighting and opt for natural lighting if you can.



- Dimming the lights after returning from an arousing activity may help students feel more calm.

Declutter shelves and work spaces

Clear desk and work spaces of unnecessary items

- Cover open shelving with plain coloured sheets

Reduce the amount of visible games, toys, books and other materials

- Put toys away in bins



Organize instructional materials simply



Too many signs and posters on the walls may cause students to miss important information that is posted. Minimize, organize and group information to make it easier to find.

- Keep material for learning at eye level

Reduce visual distractions to support concentration

Create blank areas of wall for the children to face towards when doing work that requires full concentration.



- Use study carrels or folders to help reduce visual processing demands of the environment.

Use natural colors

Primary colors are alerting and should be used selectively and for the purpose of attracting students attention (i.e. important information)



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