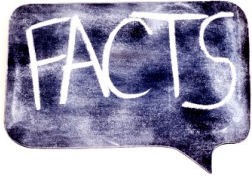




# AIM: TALKING TO TEACHER

**OUR TARGET:** Let's help our kids be respectful to their teachers. Our teachers work hard to help our kids learn. The least we can do as parents is be on their side and guide our kids at home to listen, speak respectfully, and stay appropriate in the classroom.



Teachers spend a lot of time and money preparing themselves to run a classroom.

Our country loses thousands of great teachers every year because the teachers do not feel like they are being respected by their students.

Instruction time in the classroom increases dramatically when students improve their listening skills.

## Targeting More Meaningful Parental Involvement

Leaps Correlations:  
Listening to My Teacher |  
Talking to My Teacher |  
Appropriate Conversations  
For Beginners



**TEAM UP!** Try these simple ideas to help your child want to talk.

Go into the room your child is in and try to enter quietly so they can't hear you. Put the palms of your hands over your mouth and blow hard to make that loud, inappropriate "toot" sound. This should cause a few surprised laughs from you and your child. Now that you have their attention, it's time to talk about why we DON'T do this in class!

## TALKING TIPS to help you sit down and start the conversation...

Just like your kids are guests when they go over to a friend's house, let your child know that they are guests in their teacher's classroom— they are not home. Hold your kids to this and expect the same polite behavior out of them in class that you would at a family friend's house. Let your kids know that you will be keeping up with their behavior at school and that you expect them to be a respectful student and classmate.

*Tell your kids to listen to their teachers and not to interrupt or cause distractions.*

It is normal that kids often want to be silly and laugh about potty humor and make themselves burp. But you have to assume that these things will make some people uncomfortable. It is always better to be more considerate than you think you should, rather than possibly offending a whole room.

- Every house has its own rules, its own humor, and its own level of comfort with topics that other people might think are offensive. Keep those things at home, and make sure you tell your kids to do the same.
- Your family can be thought of as rude by others if you talk about inappropriate things in public. If you're outside of your home, you DO NOT talk about:

**BODILY FUNCTIONS | DEATH OR VIOLENT ACTS | NAME CALLING**

**BODY PARTS (inappropriate) | PRIVATE MONEY MATTERS (asking or telling)**

# AIM: TALKING TO TEACHER

**DECISION TIME:** You and your child shake hands and CHOOSE to be considerate of others, including especially your child's teacher. As the parent, you need to work to be appropriate with your words and actions in public too. Sometimes it's a little too easy to see where a child learns his or her inappropriate habits. If your child can see that you are careful to respect others through your public behavior your child will have a role model and a reason to improve their actions in order to make you proud.



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[selfforschools.com](http://selfforschools.com)

**GIVE IT A TRY!** A chance to practice the target skills together at home:



**HAVE YOUR CHILD STAND UP IN FRONT OF YOU WHILE YOU SIT READY TO LISTEN TO THEM LIKE A STUDENT WOULD PAY ATTENTION TO A TEACHER IN THE CLASSROOM.**



⇒ Tell your child to “teach” you how to do something very simple, like how to brush your teeth step-by-step, or how to get dressed in the morning. Tell them to pretend that you don't know how to do it at all, so that your child will explain it to you in detail, one step at a time.

⇒ While they're explaining, start looking around and whistling, showing that you're not really paying attention to your child talking about their topic. Watch to see how your child reacts to you not listening and call attention to their frustration as a chance to ask if that might be how their teacher feels when the class isn't listening well.

**\*\*Tell your child you'll listen from now on and ask them to continue teaching.\*\***

⇒ Once your child gets on a role explaining again, blurt something out that is very random and not at all related to what they're talking about. For example, “Did you know I had 4 cats when I was your age?!” Your child should react with a little frustration. Apologize, and let your child know that you are trying to make a point about how their teachers feel. Ask them if they can understand why it's important to listen to their teachers better now that they have tried to teach and been interrupted.

⇒ Tell your child that they can be a leader in the classroom by helping their classmates listen to the teacher as well. Encourage your child to help others follow the rules, talk politely, and to not speak or act inappropriately.

## Stay On Target

Tips to help keep your child's new skills in action at home and school.

- Read all the notes that come home from your child's teacher and talk to your child about them. If your child is not listening well or is being rude by talking out of turn, remind your child that you decided TOGETHER to get better at these things.
- Correct your child in public for inappropriate behavior. If you forget to remind them of this, your child will think it's not important, and the behavior will continue to embarrass your family.