

# Consequence IDEAS



This list contains a variety of different ideas because teachers teach in a variety of different schools. These are simply ideas – intended to spark your imagination. Please be aware of your school culture, age of your students, etc. when choosing consequences. What is appropriate and helpful for one situation may not be for another. We also recommend using logical consequences – consequences that follow logically from the behavior.

## **Have students walk laps during recess.**

This is a great alternative to taking away recess. It limits their fun but still lets them burn energy.

## **Use your school-wide discipline system.**

If your school uses demerits, detentions, or office referrals, don't be afraid to use them.

## **Have students stay after school.**

Students are required to be in your room after school for a certain length of time. This can be used to make up missing work or as consequences for inappropriate behavior.

## **Require students to clean your room.**

The student is required to clean your room during lunch, free time, or after school.

## **Give Class Dojo points**

Class Dojo is an incredible tool that allows you to give positive and negative behavior points. ([www.classdojo.com](http://www.classdojo.com))

## **Don't give a reward.**

Plan some type of reward for those who meet certain behavior or academic requirements. Those who do not meet the requirements miss the reward. (This is great for schools that don't allow direct consequences.)

## **Assign discipline essays.**

Instead of having students write the same sentence over and over, assign discipline essays which ask them to examine their behavior and plan how they should act differently in the future.

## **Call parents.**

For certain families, a phone call home makes all the difference.

## **Keep the class after for one minute.**

If the class wastes a minute of class time, hold them after class for one minute. (Consider first if this will cause problems for their next teacher.)

## **Hold your own lunch detention.**

Require students to eat lunch in your room. Depending on the situation, you may ask them to eat quietly, complete missing work, write a discipline essay, or help you in some way.

## **Move seats.**

Moving a student's seat is a logical consequence when they are disrupting those around them.

## **Only let them join a fun activity if they earn it.**

Make fun activities something students must earn. Students who misbehave or do not have their work completed may miss out. You could require them to complete missing work during this time. Or pair this with the "Practice Academy" idea below.

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## Take away phones or have a “phone jail”

If students are using cell phones inappropriately, take them away or put them in a designated “phone jail.”

## Hold “Practice Academy”

Students spend part of their lunch, after school, or other free time, practicing and perfecting the correct behavior. For example, if they throw something across the room, they practice crumpling a Kleenex, raising their hand for permission, and walking the trash to the trash can.

## Make the student sit alone.

Require a misbehaving student to sit alone at lunch or in the back of the room during class.

## Have students write an action plan.

Give students seven minutes to answer questions like:

1. What is the reason you are filling out this action plan?
2. What happened prior to the behavior? (background info)
3. What goal could you make to help with this behavior in the future?
4. Is there anything I can do as your teacher to help with the goal?

Students sign it and you sign it. Add comments as needed; then mail a copy home and keep one on file for the student.

## Plan a make-up work time.

Have a designated time for students to make up missing work. Those who are caught up have free time or do a fun activity.

## Have students take a time-out.

The goal of a time-out is not to be a punishment in itself but to give students (especially younger students) a few minutes to calm down, regain control, and think about what needs to happen next. You will need to model and teach what should happen during a time-out.

## Use “you break it, you fix it.”

Look for a logical consequence, a way for the student to fix what s/he’s broken. Whether they’ve made a mess, broken something, or hurt someone’s feelings, require them to take responsibility for fixing it.

## Withhold access to class materials.

If students aren’t using class materials appropriately, they lose the privilege of using them for awhile.

Consequences are only one small part of a strong classroom management plan.  
Learn how to put it all together & regain control of your classroom  
in our free classroom management minicourse:

[www.teach4theheart.com/minicourse](http://www.teach4theheart.com/minicourse)