

The Responsive Classroom/DESSA Crosswalk

Created by Christopher Hughes, PPT 2008-2009

Level of Implementation	Elements/Concepts of Responsive Classroom Curriculum	Items on the DESSA	PR	OT	GB	SO	DM	RS	SA	SM
School-level Implementation	Aligning policies and procedures with Responsive Classroom Philosophy- Making sure everything from the lunch routine to the discipline policy enhances self-management skills that children are learning through the responsive classroom approach.	23. do routine tasks or chores without being reminded? 35. follow rules? 48. act comfortable in a new situation? 67. adjust well to changes in plans? 72. adjust well when going from one setting to another?	✓			✓				✓ ✓ ✓
	Allocating resources to support Responsive Classroom implementation: Using time, money, space, and personnel to support staff in learning and using the Responsive Classroom approach.									
	Planning all-school activities to build a sense of community: Giving all of the school's children and staff opportunities to learn about and from each other through activities such as all-school meetings, cross-age recess or lunch, buddy classrooms, and cross-age book clubs.	24. act as a leader in a peer group? 31. cooperate with peers or siblings? 49. teach another person to do something?	✓			✓			✓	
	Welcoming families and the community as partners: Involving family and community members in the children's education by maintaining two-way communication, inviting parents and others to visit and volunteer, and offering family activities.									
	Organizing the physical environment to set a tone of learning: Making sure, for example, that school wide rules are posted prominently, displays emphasize student work, and all school spaces are welcoming, clean, and orderly.									

DESSA Scale Key:

PR-Personal Responsibility OT-Optimistic Thinking GB-Goal-Directed Behavior SO-Social Awareness
DM-Decision Making RS-Relationship Skills SA-Self-Awareness SM-Self-Management

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58 items from the DESSA align with the Responsive Classroom Curriculum.

14 items from the DESSA do not align with the Responsive Classroom Curriculum.

PR-Personal Responsibility

- 2. carry herself/himself with confidence?
- 6. serve an important role at home or school?

GB-Goal-Directed Behavior

- 12. try to do her/his best?
- 33. work hard on projects?

RS-Relationship Skills

- 40. do something nice for somebody?
- 50. attract positive attention from peers?
- 55. express concern for another person?
- 70. offer to help somebody?
- 71. respond to another person's feelings?

Self Awareness

- 59. ask somebody for feedback?
- 62. describe how he/she was feeling?
- 63. give an opinion when asked?

SM-Self Management

- 43. pay attention?
- 54. pass up something he/she wanted, or do something he/she did not like, to get something better in the future?

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