NONVERBAL INTERVENTIONS
Reinforcing Classroom Expectations

Nonverbal cues are a great way to reinforce expectations, manage classroom transitions, and keep group discussions productive.

Using Nonverbal Interventions To...

TEACH

THE CHALLENGE:
With a classmate already speaking, two of Jamila’s students still have their hands raised, eagerly vying to participate.

WHAT JAMILA DOES:
✓ Jamila assumes that her students have the best intentions.
✓ Jamila smiles while gesturing to her students to keep their hands down, silently reassuring that they too will have a turn.

TRANSITION

THE CHALLENGE:
When Jamila says “stand” her students know exactly what to do. But Jamila sees that one student has forgotten to put her pencil down during the transition.

WHAT JAMILA DOES:
✓ Jamila has been reinforcing the same transition since the year started, so all students know what to do.
✓ Jamila makes eye contact with the student and points down. Without interrupting the transition her student immediately remembers where the pencil is meant to be and makes the fix.

DISCUSS

THE CHALLENGE:
Jamila’s class is expected to track whoever is speaking to show that they are respectfully listening. But Jamila sees that some students may have wandered off track.

WHAT JAMILA DOES:
✓ Jamila is so diligent about scanning her class for behavior that she catches the problem early.
✓ Jamila discreetly redirected the students’ attention by pointing to the speaker and the students fix their attention right away.

A FEW TIPS

Deliver with a smile.
Use Radar.
Keep it simple!

Teach Like a CHAMPION