

# Teacher Look Fors

## Confidence

The teacher provides **emotional and psychological protection** by:

- Anticipating potential problems and planning for them accordingly;
- Providing comfort and assistance to students; and
- Showing appropriate affection toward students.

The teacher provides **secure attachment** for students by:

- Being emotionally available for them;
- Attuning to their emotional states; and
- Building trust through fulfilling commitments.

## Heart

The teacher develops and maintains **positive relationships** that are reflected in:

- Social conversations between teacher and students;
- Interactions with students that are relaxed and open; and
- Frequent laughter and nurturing facial expressions.

The teacher develops and maintains **connection rituals**, which can include:

- Greeting students at the door with a smile and handshake;
- Classroom rituals (e.g., walk-and-talks); and
- Using humor (sharing jokes, puns, or comics with students).

## Anticipate

The teacher establishes and consistently practices **routines** that are:

- Clearly structured and explained;
- Visually depicted for easy reference; and
- Reinforced and revisited when correct execution begins to diminish.

The teacher helps students **regulate their emotions** by:

- Teaching a safe place routine;
- Leading/participating in daily breathing exercises; and
- Helping students resolve problems.

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## Reinforce

The teacher **notices** student behavior, as evidenced by:

- Describing actions rather than judging them;
- Maintaining a calm disposition when discussing actions; and
- Listening fully while still upholding behavioral expectations.

The teacher **praises** positive student choices, reinforcing beneficial behavior by:

- Frequently describing specific actions that meet expectations,
- Using an enthusiastic tone of voice; and
- Providing immediate and personal feedback.

## Grow

The teacher supports the **development of grit** by:

- Highlighting the importance of effort over talent;
- Providing unstructured time for students to develop their interests; and
- Designing practice and feedback sessions to grow students' skills.

The teacher encourages a **growth mindset** in students by:

- Modeling a growth mindset himself/herself;
- Normalizing errors and helping students accept the desirable difficulty of tasks; and
- Using feedback statements that encourage effort and the use of strategies over raw talent.

## Engage

The teacher **motivates** students to engage in learning by:

- Offering students choices and opportunities to lead lessons;
- Highlighting real-world connections within the curriculum; and
- Providing timely feedback to build students' competence.

The teacher **designs engaging instruction** that includes:

- Differentiated tasks to meet individual student needs;
- Activities that are fun and light-hearted; and
- Social interactions between the teacher and students and/or between students themselves.