



## Back to Basics: Decorum and Discipline at School, by Dr. Brad Schwall

How do your children behave at school? Are they respectful? Are they attentive? Are they confident?

Encouraging your children to adhere to some simple principles of behavior can help them learn effectively and help your school have a safe, positive learning environment.

**Clean up after yourself** – pick up trash in the cafeteria, leave the area around you in your classroom neat, push in chairs

**Respect teachers** – listen, raise your hand, only use a respectful tone of voice, follow classroom guidelines, show gratitude

**When at school, behave like you are in school** – use an indoor voice, walk, only play at recess

**Respect your peers** – never spread rumors, do not tease or bully, only talk with respect and act with respect, keep hands and feet to self

**Be confident** – share your ideas and creativity, ask questions, celebrate successes, enjoy learning

From an early age, talk regularly about expectations for behavior at school. Build skills in areas of deficiency. Address other challenges that might lead to behavioral issues.

Focus on helping your child be an engaged learner rather than only meeting the requirements. Go to museums together. Extend what your children learn at school to your home by talking about what they are studying and experiencing enriching activities together.



*School counselors and teachers use the Cool Kids videos, games, activities, and lessons to teach children skills for school success. For free parenting tips and information on Dr. Schwall's Cool Kids resources and talks for parents, students, and educators, go to [www.coolkidschannel.com](http://www.coolkidschannel.com).*

Permission granted for distribution of these tips.

Dr. Brad Schwall, [DrBrad@coolkidschannel.com](mailto:DrBrad@coolkidschannel.com), [www.coolkidschannel.com](http://www.coolkidschannel.com)