

Building connections with students

Kids can have trust issues; they often feel abandoned by adults in their lives. One more adult in the class is one more who can disappoint them. **Be the adult who they can count on for the little things and the big ones.** Some suggestions from *Connecting with Students* are below. Rate yourself on a scale of 1-10 on how consistently you utilize the best practices. Can you do better?

Best Practices	Rating 1-10	How can you do better?
Stay optimistic and be persistent		
Build on strengths instead of trying to fix deficits		
Ask an opinion of a student who rarely offers anything		
Think aloud		
Offer notes of appreciation		
Establish predictable expectations and routines		
Apologize when you blow it		
Show up on time		
Follow through with commitments		
Know their names		
Remember things they tell you		