

Directions for Educators

The REAL Educators Survey helps you reflect on your teaching in three key areas: **Mutual, Visual,** and **Physical** learning spaces. Each space includes 8 practical strategies called **STAPLEs** (Simple Techniques to Achieve a Positive Learning Environment), grounded in the REAL principles: Relevance, Empathy, Action, and Lifelong Learning.

As you complete this survey, think about how often and how consistently you use these techniques in your own classroom. Your responses will help you gain insight into your strengths and areas for growth, so you can build a learning environment that works for you and your students. Take your time, reflect honestly, and use this as a personal blueprint to guide your next steps in classroom practice.

Teacher Name

School Name | District Name

Grade(s) Taught & Content Area

Teacher Designation (Years of Experience)

Why did you become a teacher?



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A collaborative space where two or more people can continually respect, recognize, and relate to one another.

**Relevance** – How is learning made culturally relevant for all of your students?

**Empathy** – What social-emotional learning opportunities are provided for your students?

**Action** – How are positive relationships developed with your students?

**Lifelong Learning** – How do you involve your students in developing learning expectations academically and behaviorally?



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Aspects of a space balanced with examples, exposures, and experiences to support learning.

**Relevance** – What types of relevant visuals are displayed in your classroom?

**Empathy** – How are different perspectives taught and represented in your classroom?

**Action** – What does student learning “look like” in your classroom?

**Lifelong Learning** – How much modeling is incorporated into your daily learning routine(s)?



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A property or body of a safe, clean, and nurturing space to support a positive learning environment.

**Relevance** – How does your classroom provide a safe, clean, and caring place for learning?

**Empathy** – Does your classroom provide space for students to reflect? Describe its effects.

**Action** – During instructional time, how much time is provided for active brain breaks?

**Lifelong Learning** – How are life skills fostered and taught to your students in taking ownership of school/personal property?

## Simple Techniques to Achieve a Positive Learning Environment

**Directions:** Check the following tools and applications you currently use in your teaching practice. Comments are optional.

Mutual Space STAPLEs			
	Involve Students in Decision-Making		Engage Students in Community Meetings
	Learn About Students Interests		Tell Student About Yourself
	Greet Students at the Door		Make Positive Contact with Parents
	Give 4:1 Postive vs Corrective Feedback		Start Each Day with a Clean Slate
Comments:			

Visual Space STAPLEs			
	Model Expectations		Use Media to Enhance Learning
	Post a Variety of Student Work		Display Different Cultural Perspectives
	Provide Low Light		Use Natural Light
	Display High Quality Exemplars		Display Universal Vocabulary
Comments:			

Physical Space STAPLEs			
	Play Low, Soft Music		Make Learning Mobile
	Provide Flexible Seating Options		Use a Student Reflection Area
	Use Hands-on Activities		Take Active Brain Breaks
	Keep All Areas Cleaned & Organized		Give Students Classroom Jobs
Comments:			