



## Cheat Sheet: Overcome the Challenges of Online Classroom Management

- 1** 77% of teachers are struggling more with virtual classroom management than in-person, increasing teacher stress and wasting academic learning time.
- 2** Teachers cite 3 common challenges with online classroom management: competing demands for teacher's attention, traditional behavior management techniques not translating in the online environment, and the structure students need compromised by pressure to be more flexible.
- 3** Use the following classroom management strategies to ensure students stay engaged and on-task throughout virtual instruction.
- 4** **Strategy 1: Peer Behavior Monitors**  
To recover lost visibility into student needs and behavior, delegate students to help monitor their peers during live class meetings. Three jobs students can easily take over are **Chat Monitor**, **Tech Support Specialist**, and **Group Leader**. Implement these jobs following the steps provided in the [Peer Behavior Monitor Resource](#) toolkit.
- 5** **Strategy 2: Small Tier-1 Rotations**  
Younger students in grades K-3 aren't developmentally ready to take on peer monitoring responsibilities. To ensure large classes of young students are manageable and can receive direct instruction appropriate for their age group, split Tier-1 classes into groups of 6 or less with the teacher rotating amongst them. Follow these three steps for stress-free group rotations:
  - 1. Group students according to lesson objective:** Skills based groups for lessons where there are existing learning gaps, and heterogenous groups for discussion-based lessons.
  - 2. Explicitly model activities and appropriate behavior:** Reuse the same 3-5 activities throughout the year so students can master and complete them independently.
  - 3. Host 3 types of stations:** A teacher-led station to deliver direct instruction and quick assessments, an online station where students practice new skills online or collaborate with peers, and an offline station for hands-on activities.
- 6** **Strategy 3: Ownership-Focused Language Cues**  
Students are 2x more likely to change their own behavior when spoken to in a way that signals ownership rather than compliance. When speaking to students about behavior, following these steps:
  1. Start conversations with "I" statements.
  2. Quickly address logical consequences.
  3. Maintain a positive tone to reduce feelings of defensiveness or denial.
  4. Spend the rest of the conversation discussing solutions for helping the student change their behavior.
- 7** **Strategy 4: Weekly Hyperdocs**  
To increase flexibility without sacrificing structure, proactively provide both using a Hyperdoc. This strategically formatted to-do list offers a balance of both the structure students need and the flexibility required while learning online. Use [EAB's Hyperdoc template](#) for any subject, or access a [list of Hyperdoc templates](#) online and choose a version that works for your classroom and age group.