

Share with colleagues and then commit to making at least three changes in your practice.



What Does it Look Like When Teachers Foster Spirit of Adventure?

- Teachers know how to help students take healthy risks.
- All students strive to be successful.
- Students are not afraid to fail or succeed.
- Teachers model healthy risk-taking behavior.
- Students understand the importance of goal setting.
- Students are eager to take on new challenges.
- Teachers construct lessons with student input.
- Healthy risk taking is acknowledged and celebrated.

Best Classroom Practices Related to Spirit of Adventure

- Teach “stretch” goal-setting skills to all students.
- Support students whether they succeed or fail.
- Teach students to be reflective about their failures and successes.
- Help students develop the courage to explore new opportunities.
- Create a safe atmosphere for students to take risks in front of peers.
- Ensure that all students are challenged at school.
- Understand student fears around healthy risk taking.
- Push students to demand more of themselves.
- Create class goals together.
- Celebrate effort and goal attainment throughout the year.

Leader’s Role in Promoting Spirit of Adventure for Students

- Share your professional goals with students.
- Allow students to know your failures and how you persevere in difficult times.
- Celebrate the effort of students who work to be successful.
- Understand and acknowledge that success comes in many forms.
- Ensure that school is appropriately challenging for all students.
- Expect your students to set high goals.
- Ask students about their goals and how they plan to reach those goals.
- Encourage students who graduate to share their failures and successes with current students.
- Share building and district goals with students.
- Help students strive to be the best they can be.
- Create a climate that supports healthy risk-taking behaviors.
- Truly believe in the potential of all the students in your building.

Developing Strategies and Tactics

To enhance Spirit of Adventure in your classroom, respond to the following prompts, then act.

1. To develop lessons that are challenging to all learners, I will . . .
2. To model learning from failure, I will . . .
3. To help students to better see the value in learning from their mistakes, I will . . .
4. To show that I have high expectations for all my students, I will . . .
5. To encourage students to feel great about their successes, I will . . .
6. To change the assessment rubrics in my department/grade level to promote the idea that failure is an opportunity to learn, I will . . .
7. To encourage students to take co-curricular risks, I will . . .
8. To reveal to students the benefits of healthy risk taking in the wider community, I will . . .

