



March 2017 Teacher Newsletter

www.arkansased.gov/divisions/communications/my-childmy-student

Setting Goals

Teachers have the opportunity to teach students perseverance, hard work and the importance of setting goals. With guidance, support and opportunities for celebration, teachers can help instill this life skill within each student.

Start by helping students set attainable short-term goals. Read tips for goal setting from *Edutopia* at <https://www.edutopia.org/blog/smart-goal-setting-with-students-maurice-elias>. Provide support and time for students to work on achieving these goals, and meet frequently to discuss progress. Be sure to model what students should do when they are not able to reach a goal and how to refocus for the next goal.

Don't forget to collaborate with parents on setting goals that will help their child meet grade-level expectations. To review the Arkansas Academic Standards, visit <http://www.arkansased.gov/divisions/learning-services/curriculum-and-instruction>.

Consider asking yourself the following questions about setting goals for students.

- What can I teach my students about setting short-term and long-term goals?
- What resources can I share with my students to help them attain their goals?
- What information about grade-level expectations can I share with my students' parents?

Severe Weather Preparedness

Having a severe weather plan, practicing it and reflecting afterward helps students remain calm during severe weather. Reflecting as a class after a drill is important, as it helps everyone be better prepared in the future.

Be sure to share with parents information about school procedures regarding communication and student pickup during severe weather. Be prepared to answer questions parents may have about the procedures.

Share resources with your students' families so they can create their own severe weather plan. The following are helpful links: <https://www.fema.gov/media-library/assets/documents/34330> and <https://www.safeelectricity.org/docs/word/News%20Releases/Storm%20Preparedness%20Kit%20Check%20List.pdf>.

Consider the following questions.

- What do my students need to do if severe weather occurs while they are at school?
- How can I help my students remain calm during severe weather?
- What severe weather resources can I share with parents?

- How do I communicate with parents if severe weather occurs?