

## Ideas about Classroom Management by Ellen Berg

<http://www.middleweb.com/msdiaries01/EBClassMgt.html#anchor10241852>

**\*\*You cannot make *anyone do anything* unless they choose to cooperate.**

- \* Children allow us to do what we do in our classrooms.
- \* We can manage the situation by what we choose to do and say in response to a given situation.

### Implications for the Classroom

- \* Admit to students you cannot "make" them do anything, but that they may not like what you choose to do in response.

*Use student choice statements when addressing students about their inappropriate behavior:*

Ex: "You can choose to get on task and work with your group, or you can choose to sit over here by yourself, fill out a reflection sheet, and take an F on the assignment for the day. Of course, I will have to inform your parent if you choose the latter, but it's still your choice. You know what is best for you."

**\*\*If students are engaged, they are not causing trouble.**

- \* How can students misbehave if their attention is focused on something productive?
- \* Students do not interfere with what they value.
- \* Engaging, high-interest, relevant lessons are the positive to acting out.

Question...

*If they KNOW their students are unable to perform a task, why do so many people continue to assign work students can't do?*

### Implications for the Classroom

- \* Use inquiry-based, investigative learning, constructivist based lessons.
- \* Relate the content you MUST teach to the LIVES and INTERESTS of your students so they WANT to learn.
- \* Gear your instruction to the level students are on, and provide support to those who need it.

