

FIGURE 5.2

RULES, CONSEQUENCES, AND REWARDS

Rules

1. Remain in your assigned area.
2. Keep hands, feet, and other objects to yourself.
3. Complete tasks on time.
4. Use materials appropriately.
5. Raise your hand and wait to be recognized before talking.

Hierarchy of Consequences

1. Verbal warning.
2. Nonverbal reminder.
3. Zero earned on the point card.
4. Cool off.
5. In-class suspension.
6. In-class suspension with a Think Sheet.
7. Exclusion from class activities in a time out area followed by in-class suspension.
8. Exclusion from school.

Hierarchy of Rewards

1. Verbal praise.
2. Points earned on the point card.
3. Bonus points earned.
4. Tangible items earned.
5. Certificates.
6. Student of the Week or Turnaround Student of the Week.
7. Recognition in the school newsletter, on announcements, or on the affective bulletin board.
8. Activity period.
9. Special activity periods.
10. Visiting another class or staff member.
11. Classroom jobs.
12. Permission to run errands or have an on-site job in the cafeteria, media center, or office.
13. Peer tutoring in other classrooms with younger students.
14. Access to art materials, musical instruments, or computers.
15. Field trips and other community-based experiences.

Please note that the opportunities to be rewarded outnumber items in the list of consequences. It is important to stress this point with students. Attaching chart paper to the wall from the ceiling to the floor with a class-generated list of possible rewards is an enjoyable and useful exercise at the beginning of the term. Students need to see that while the teacher is prepared to deal with inappropriate behaviors, the emphasis for the year will be on learning and celebrating individual and group successes. Do not be afraid to be creative and resourceful in helping students compile a list of favored rewards. When our school acquired an ice machine, ice in a 2 gallon jug of water became a much appreciated reward for walking back to class in an orderly fashion. Those who did not want to comply with group rules still received water. Theirs came from the tap. Little things may not be of importance to adults. Let the students help guide assigning items to the list and ordering them.