

Communicating with Students

- Be aware of your own tendencies. If you are a task-oriented person who tends to prioritize tasks over people, make sure that in your zeal to do all the things necessary to give your students a quality education you aren't missing their hearts
- Practical ways to relate to students:
 - Greet your students at the door in the morning—look each student in the eye and greet them by name as they enter the classroom
 - Allow time for students to tell their stories—let your students talk about the things that are important to them (while still having limits to ensure you aren't wasting a lot of class time)
 - Write notes to your students—praise a student for something positive you noticed or encourage a way you've seen them working hard recently
 - Be interested in the things that interest your students—put effort into learning about their hobbies and interests
- Pay attention to your students' moods and emotions. Pause if a "fine" response feels off and be willing to listen to what's going on in your students' lives.

Sources

- Relational Practices for Task-Oriented Teachers by Rosalie Beiler [Relational Practices for Task-Oriented Teachers - The Dock for Learning](#)
- Relating to Students 2.0 by Jeff Swanson [Relating to Students 2.0 - The Dock for Learning](#)