

Write Precise Directions on Sticky Notes

Giving precise directions consistently allows students to know exactly what to do and how to do it. However, it takes concerted effort and practice to make your directions precise, strong, and effective.

Scripting precise directions for common procedures, jotting them on sticky notes, and keeping them handy for reference throughout the day is a dynamic way to start building efficacy in your directions.

Try scripting precise directions on sticky notes. Challenge yourself to write at least six different sets of directions. A great way to check that your directions are precise and concise is to ensure each direction can fit on a three-inch × three-inch sticky note. You can assume directions are too long if you find yourself struggling to get it on all one small note!

The following is an example of a sticky note.



Once you have your sticky notes, practice saying these directions in front of the mirror in a strong yet natural teacher voice. The previous sticky note example might sound like the following: “Students, nice work with the guided practice. We are now going to work with our table partners in a whisper voice on problems one through four in your check for understanding. You have ten minutes, and you are to stay in your seats. Begin.”