



Island Time 

Time To Visit  
the Island



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## 1. Island Time

2. Here are some ideas for creating an island in your classroom.
3. Place a study carrel in a quiet corner of the room. Make sure it is out of the normal traffic flow and away from the door, pencil sharpener, and other busy places. Outline the island by placing tape on the floor
4. Remove distracting pictures, posters, or signs.
5. Stock the island with a set of noise masking headphones or a CD player and CD with soothing music.
6. Place a tub of supplies by the side of the carrel. Include pencils and pens, paper, rulers, erasers, markers, and anything else the student might need. This will ensure that he or she can settle down immediately.
7. Make cross-shaped slices in tennis balls and fit them onto the feet of the student's chair to cut down on noise. String small bungee cords diagonally from the student's right front desk leg to the back left leg, and from the left front leg to the back right. The cords give the student a place to jiggle his or her feet rather than tapping them noisily on the floor.
8. Place a visual timer (like a Time Timer) on the desk corner or a shelf. Set it to let the student know how much time he or she will be staying at the island. This timer doesn't have the annoying tick-tick sound of a kitchen timer and will be less distracting.
9. Use the Island Time cards to communicate. When you show a student your card, he or she will know that it's time to spend time at the island. When a student shows you their card, he or she is requesting a change of scene.
10. Copy the student and teacher cards on different colors of paper ahead of time and make sure the student understands this communication system.