



Engaging Students with Poverty in Mind

Engage to Build Cognitive Capacity

#5 Foster Self-Control

Children raised in poverty in particular tend to have greater impulsivity, which leads to behavioral issues. Students cannot exert self-control unless they can also exercise the skills prioritization, prediction, and inhibition.

All humans are born with only rudimentary cognitive skills. If you students are lagging, teach them and help them hone these core skills, and they will be much more likely to succeed in school and in life.

Average teachers teach a skill until students get it right; highly effective teachers work with students until they can't get it wrong.

["Short Term" Solutions you can use \(p. 68\):](#)

1. Use "calendar days" for classroom question and answer time
2. Teacher self-control
3. Use reverse active cues
4. Teach the power of micro-goals.