

During October, I want to look at classroom management. Before we start, however, let’s look at some ways we can empower students to self-manage. Classroom management doesn’t have to be something that a teacher has to handle on his/her own. We can invite students into the process of managing learning in the CTE classroom. Here are some tools that will help students self-manage.

**Team Operating Agreements**: [Agreements or contracts](http://www.bie.org/object/document/project_team_contract) that are created with the students can help them own the project or challenge. You and your school will have rules so this may seem similar to you, but the students will make it personal to themselves and the specific project. If the students create the agreement they are more likely to follow it to completion.

**Task Lists**: Students may need additional organization for their thinking, planning and work targets. [Task list](http://www.bie.org/object/document/project_management_log_team_tasks)s can help them individually or as a team organize sequences of events or who will be responsible for each task. Task lists also make great tools for students to self-assess and collaborate.

**Checklists and** [**Rubrics**](http://www.bie.org/objects/cat/rubrics): I will spend time later in the year looking at rubrics and evaluation. Checklists and rubrics are good self-assessment and management tools, however. These tools are even more powerful when they are co-created with the students. Plan for intentional time for students to use the checklists or rubrics to assess their own work.

**Time Logs**: Many teachers use logs to allow the students to reflect on their work. Logs allow the students to keep track of the time they spend doing all the different tasks in class each day. They may lead some students to be more mindful of their time.

**Flexible Seating and Spaces**: Many CTE teachers have both a classroom and a lab, allowing students to be flexible in seating and working spaces. Some students prefer quiet, while some work better with every one talking and collaborating. Some students prefer to sit, and some prefer to stand.

**Reflection**: Many of the tools are completely ineffective unless they are used with a reflection time. This goes back to our lesson plans in which students make connections with the lesson.

Next week we will look at basic classroom management.

November Basic ctYou.org Classroom Development professional Development will be offered in Stillwater. There are five different dates to choose from. Go to

<https://www.eventbrite.com/e/basic-ctyou-classroom-development-tickets-46154997841> to register.