Smart Storage Ideas To Organize Your Classroom

Make It Crystal Clear

Use only clear storage containers—this allows you to quickly see what is in each one. This makes sorting and clean-up easier!

Be Gentle With Yourself

If you're having trouble letting some things go, it's okay to keep a few boxes of random storage, but put a "To Be Donated" date on the box. Any date is better than no date—even if it has to be 3 years out! If you haven't used the items by the time the date arrives, feel confident in your choice to remove this unnecessary clutter.

Labels Matter!

Sometimes, the "art" or creativity involved in labeling storage containers is what motivates us to do it. Don't underestimate the power of a great label maker or some decorative bin labels as you work to organize your materials. First Ask Yourself: Is It Presently or Regularly Useful?

Does It Clearly Impact Teaching and Learning?

Is It Worth My Time and Energy To Store It? (or would it be easier to replace it later instead?)

If you answer yes, then use a smart storage plan!

Lids Are Your Friends!

Only buy containers that have lids and can be stacked. You might think you'll never need a lid for your pencil or crayon buckets, and then suddenly you have to move rooms or clear the space for cleaning. Having the ability to snap a lid on and store an item quickly will save you time in the future.

Go Square!

Avoid round containers: inch for inch, square containers take up less room because they fit together better in drawers and on shelves. Yes, this might mean skipping the Pinterest-worthy mason jars and beach buckets, but you'll save space!

Buy In Sets of 10

Buy more containers than you think you will need (especially if you love to pick up things at dollar stores or during sale events). That way, if one breaks or goes missing, you have an exact replacement. Over time, this keeps your space more organized because you don't end up with a hodge-podge of various containers.

