

# Classroom Zoning

## WHAT is zoning?

- Staff organizational tool that tells the teacher and staff the student's daily schedule, staff work location and skill(s) to teach.
- Staff are responsible for an area (or zone) rather than a single student or one-to-one.
- Students rotate to areas of the classroom (rather than staff rotating).

## HOW to zone.

1. Create an overall classroom schedule. Include students and staff on the schedule.
2. Fill in activities that are non-negotiable (Speech, specials, lunch, etc.)
3. Fill in zones to which the students will rotate (Direct Instruction, Independent, Groups, etc.)
4. Within the zones, identify which staff will work that area & what the target is for that time (reading, math, assessment, Intensive Teaching, Data Probes, etc.)
5. Don't forget to schedule staff breaks and lunch!

You might also include a visual for the staff indicating duties for the zoned area. Duties might include: Working with the student, resetting the area, embedding communication

### CONSIDERATIONS

- Accept that the schedule will change! Do not laminate it...yet!
- How might you make the schedule interactive or moveable to accommodate changes?
- Train your staff on how the schedule works.

[Template - 20 min rotations staff at the top](#)

[Template - 20 min rotations students at the top](#)

Shared by Carmen LaBarge, Retired Special Education Teacher  
[Overall Zoning Schedule](#) [Staff Assignments](#)

Shared by Kelsey Easterday, Special Education Teacher, Newton  
[Overall Zoning Schedule](#) [Student Daily Zoning Schedule](#)  
[Man Down](#)

### EXAMPLES

### ADVANTAGES

- Zoning schedule decreases constant staff instructions
- Zoning increases student engagement
- It assures every job gets done

- It ensures staff get breaks and lunch
- Staff management tool
- When reviewing data collection, it can help the teacher identify re-training needs.

- Easy to create a second, alternate schedule for those "one-man down" days.
- A great guide when a substitute is needed.
- Provides staff with a routine so there is more work and less talk.

### RESOURCES

Reeve, Christine. "Where Research Meets the Classroom." *Autism Classroom Resources*, Christine Reeve, 10 Aug. 2018, [www.autismclassroomresources.com/](http://www.autismclassroomresources.com/).

[Successfully Working with Paraprofessionals Using Zoning Plan](#)

[Top 5 Reasons to Zone Staff: Back to School-Staff Zoning Staff-High School General Ed](#)

[Top 10 Things to Remember When Zoning Staff: Back to School-Setting Up Classrooms for Students with Autism](#)

[Staff Zoning Plans: Answers to 7 Frequently Asked Questions](#)

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