

UNCLUTTER YOUR WALLS

This resource aligns
with Principle 1:
Cultivate Calm

[Purpose]

Create a space that alleviates stress, enhances focus, and nurtures emotional well-being for students and teachers.

Why Less Is More

Let's be honest—sometimes our classroom walls start to look more like Pinterest® exploded than a space that holds learning. Between the anchor charts, student work, vocabulary lists, and seasonal decor . . . it's a lot.

But here's the thing: More visuals don't mean more learning. Visual clutter can overstimulate, distract, and create anxiety—for students and for you.

Let's make space for calm, clarity, and purpose. Your walls can work *with* you, not against you.



The Gentle Audit

Use these reflection prompts as a starting point to gently observe what’s working for you and your students and what’s just noise. You can take notes in the chart below.

Reflection Prompt	Notes
Do my students still use or refer to this?	
Does this display serve a purpose— or is it here because I felt I “should” put something up?	
Does this space support focus or create stress?	
Is this display accessible to <i>all</i> students?	
What message does this wall send?	
Ask your students: “What’s something on the walls that helps you learn?” (You might be surprised.)	

The Fifteen-Minute Detox Challenge

Short on time? You don't need a full classroom revamp to feel better.

Here's a quick step-by-step:

1

Pick one wall or board.

2

Take down everything.

3

Look at each item and ask: Stay, go, or shift?

4

Put back only what supports your current learners.

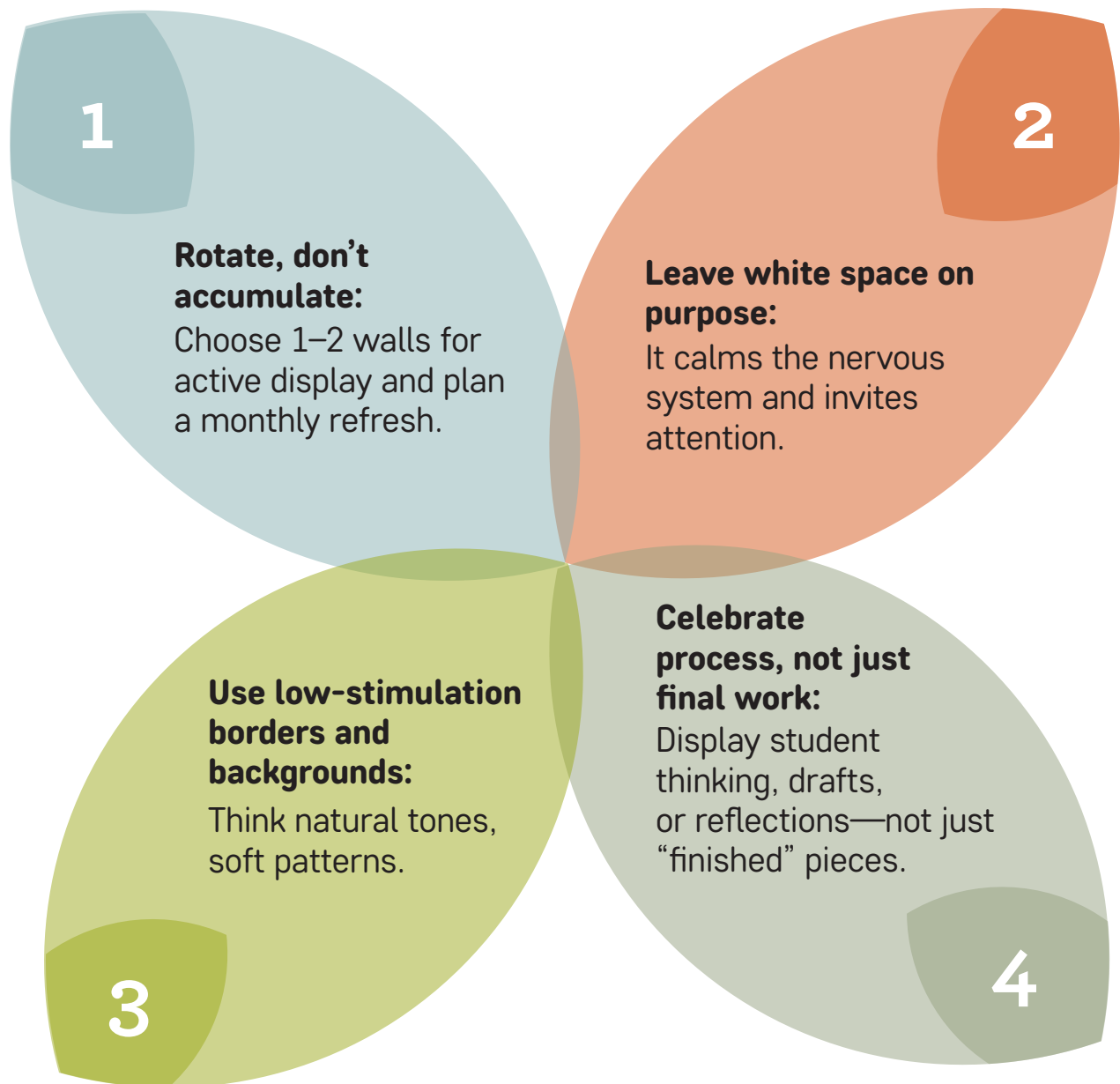
5

Add one “breathing space”—a blank or calm visual area to give the eyes a break.



Sustainable Display Habits

Now that you've cleared the chaos, let's keep it that way (without perfectionism):



FINAL THOUGHT

Your classroom isn't a showroom, it's a place of learning, comfort, and community. Your classroom reflects your values as an educator. You don't need more things on the wall to be a good teacher. You already are.

