5 Things to Do Before the School Year Ends

Back-to-school means time is short and distractions abound. Preparing your space ahead of time gives you a chance to observe, reflect, and optimize your design to help students excel.

1 Account for the things you haven't used

As curriculum changes, your teaching style shifts, or you acquire new tools and resources, some items become obsolete. Take inventory and let go of what you haven't used this year.
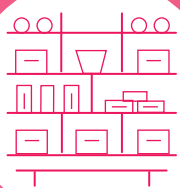
2 Take things home and wait

Make it easier to identify unused items by taking a box of "maybes" out of the learning space for a few weeks. If you don't end up needing an item after a while, get rid of it.

3 Tackle clutter one area at a time

Which areas are most important to keep clutter-free? Identify the drawers, shelves, or surfaces that most need your attention, and declutter one each week until the end of the year.

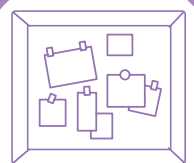## 4 Make space for next year's stuff

New supplies and learning materials arrive every year. When working through the tips above, aim to remove at least 10–15% of the items currently in storage to avoid overcrowding.

5 Design back-to-school bulletin boards

Instead of hastily creating back-to-school displays during the hectic first week back, design and post them now. Cover them with butcher paper until the big reveal in the fall.

Ready to get started?
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