The Prereferral Process as Assessment

When a student is seen as having problems, the following steps may be helpful.

Step 1: Based on your work with the student, formulate a description of the student's problem.

Step 2: Have a discussion to get the student's view. You may want to include the family.

Step 3: Try new strategies in the classroom based on your discussion.

Step 4: If the new strategies don't work, talk to others at school to learn about additional approaches they have found helpful.

Step 5: If necessary, use the school's referral processes to ask for additional support services.

Step 6: Work with referral resources to coordinate your efforts with theirs for classroom success.