“There’s No Room for Bulletin Boards or Displays in the Classroom!”

From time to time, I hear the above statement from some of my student teachers. It is true, some classrooms are small and/or have very little space available for your displays. Sometimes the cooperating teacher is utilizing some of the bulletin boards for permanent displays which he/she does not want disturbed. What are you supposed to do?

I would like to suggest the following to you:

1. Discuss the situation with your cooperating teacher. Are there any temporary displays and when will that space become available? May you use the space when it does become available?
2. Do you have permission to use wall space for a display? Sometimes you can create a “bulletin board” right on a wall by putting up background paper and a border on an actual wall. Note: Be careful what you use on painted walls! You do not want to be pealing paint off the wall when you remove your display!
3. Do you have permission to use chalkboard space for a display? Sometimes there is plenty of chalkboard space in a classroom. Many newer chalkboards are magnetized and you can create a “bulletin board” right on the chalkboard. Note: I caution you once again about what kind of adhesive material you use on a chalkboard! You do not want to damage it in any way!
4. Do you have permission to use any hallway space for a display? Note: Again, make sure you consider how you are going to get the display to adhere to the wall.
5. Is there a hallway showcase available for your display(s)? Perhaps you can receive permission to create your display in a glass showcase?
6. You could purchase a tri-fold display poster that could be placed on a table or desk.
7. Consider windows for displays.
8. Display student work/projects from ceiling lights.
9. Any other creative ideas you may have.

If you find yourself in a situation where display space is limited, you’ll find that I’m very flexible.