

**Topic: Education**  
**(US CO Workshop Participants in Philadelphia, PA, February 2009)**

**Activity: Helping Children (Grades 6-12) Adjust to Classroom and School Rules**

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**Objective** Students will be able to follow basic classroom protocol, including adjusting to class schedules and understanding rules.

**Lesson Time** Four hours: two two-hour sessions

**Materials**

- Interpreter
- Clock
- Bell
- School schedule
- Copies of several different “class schedules”
- Signs for “classrooms”
- Hall pass
- Paper
- Pens
- Flashcards

**Discussion Questions**

- When do you raise your hand?
- How do you ask for help in class?
- What happens if you break classroom rules?
- How do you find your classroom?

**Practice**

Session One: Asking for permission to use the bathroom or visit the school nurse

1. Explain basic classroom and school rules (raising your hand, asking the teacher for permission, holding the hall pass, etc.)
2. Introduce appropriate vocabulary and phrases (e.g. “May I go to...”)
3. Prepare and conduct role-plays with the students.

Session Two: Dealing with switching classrooms

1. Explain practice of switching classrooms for each class of the day and the numbering of classrooms.
2. Introduce appropriate vocabulary and phrases (e.g. “Can you help me? I’m trying to find...”)
3. Prepare and conduct a simulation.
  - a. (Before session) Label different areas of the room with different “classroom” signs.
  - b. Give each student a “class schedule.”
  - c. Use the clock and bell to indicate when a class is over and the students must switch to their next classroom.

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**Cultural  
Notes**

Some students may come from systems where it is unacceptable to interrupt a teacher or class to ask permission to leave the room. Reassure students that it is acceptable and customary to do so. "It's OK to ask!"

**Evaluation**

Student participation and increased comfort with the exercises; feedback from school teachers.

**Variations**

1. Use a storyboard.