

Education for Community Life

Classroom Rules

MAIN POINT

Every community (or group of people) has rules that help us stay safe, get along, and take care of one another.

MATERIALS NEEDED

- one sheet of poster board
- pictures that have been cut out of magazines or catalogs
- glue
- marker

PREPARATION

Make a simple list of basic classroom rules, and write these rules on the poster board. They should be phrased positively, telling the kids what we **want** them to do, instead of what we **don't** want (for example, "Use your words to solve problems" instead of "No hitting"). Because many young children cannot read well, each rule should be accompanied by a picture, which may be drawn by the catechist or cut out of a magazine or catalog and glued to the poster board. (Tip: Educational supply catalogs are a great source for pictures of young children in various classroom-type situations. You may wish to ask your DRE or the director of your child development center if you can use one of these.) The list of rules should be kept short. For example:

1. Take turns talking. (Raise your hand.)
2. Use inside voices.
3. Use your words to solve problems.
4. Follow the teacher's directions.

INSTRUCTIONS

Talk with the children about how every group of people has rules to help them get along and help keep them safe. Ask the children to provide some examples of rules at home and school. Next, take out the rules poster and talk about the rules in the classroom. Ask the children to demonstrate each rule as you go through the list.

Song: I Can Choose to Help My Neighbor

MAIN POINT

“Helping my neighbor” means finding ways to help my friends, family, and those who are poor or needy.

MATERIALS NEEDED

- Reproducible: “I Can Choose to Help My Neighbor” lyrics for each adult helper

PREPARATION

None

INSTRUCTIONS

Explain that Jesus asked us to help those around us when we see they need help. This is what it means to “love your neighbor.”