

## HPBC Children's Ministry Classroom Management

1. **Structure**— The key to a well managed classroom is **STRUCTURE!** Children desire structure and thrive so much more when they know what to expect. You can create that environment for them!

### 2. Sample Schedule

- Play time/clean up toys
- Bathroom break
- Snack time
- Walk outside/play in grass
- Water break
- Songs
- Bible Lesson
- Coloring/Craft
- Book or game (if needed)

### 3. Management Ideas

- Have **high expectations!** Children will do as much as you expect. Make them throw their own trash away, push in their own chairs, line up without talking, raise their hand during the lesson, etc.
- Choose a boy/girl leader for bathroom time or the walk outside who has followed directions.
- Remind them of rules (quiet mouths, quiet feet, hands to yourself) before you ever walk out of the classroom.
- Don't be afraid to have a child try something again the right way. You're in charge!
- Pick a spot in the hallway to have the leader walk to and then wait. Show them where you want them to sit for snack, story, etc.
- Decide if chairs or the floor is best for the songs/lesson time. Ask your helpers to attend to children who aren't listening or are being disruptive so that you can keep teaching.
- Don't start teaching until everyone is quiet and ready to listen. It's ok to stop in the middle of your lesson if needed! They might need a quick stretch or just a reminder of where their hands and eyes should be.
- A stuffed animal that is watching them during the lesson can encourage good listening. The one doing the best job can have the stuffed animal sit at their table during the coloring/craft time.
- Choose a quiet activity for the class to be doing when parents arrive.

## Classroom Management

PLAN and PRAY: This applies to every age that you teach and every situation.

I Corinthians 2:12, 13—“we impart (the things given to us by God) and interpret spiritual truths to those who are spiritual.”

1. Communicate your expectations—quickly let them know your classroom rules. Then stick to them.
2. Be organized and keep your classroom area as organized as possible.
3. Establish a clear and quick intervention plan...try not to make your classroom all about behavior and discipline.
4. Keep your voice soft/pleasant through every part of the time you are with the children.
5. Don't be discouraged if you mess up!! Apologize (if necessary) and go right on with your plans.  
Ps. 141:3 (ask God to set guard over your mouth and your actions)