

Create a Classroom that Works!
Practical Management Strategies for Elementary Art
Transitions and Clean-Up



Transitions:

Undesirable Behavior/Problem	Options Consequence/Strategy
How to handle children who forget your directions. What you could say. . .	<p>“I gave that direction, go find out.”</p> <hr/> <p>“Where do you think it should go?” (Follow up if incorrect answer given)</p> <hr/> <p>“Go ask 3 (students), then ask me.”</p>
What should I do when students have trouble moving from one location to another?	<p>“Sit (at gathering area), Stick (where they sit), and Stay” (no moving to sit closer to friends).</p> <hr/> <p>Move children in small groups by table or by assigned number.</p>
Student(s) won't stop working/won't transition to next activity.	<p>You have 10 seconds to (name your desired activity). “In 10, 9, 8, (repeat activity if necessary), 7, 6 . . .” etc. Older students lose recess (student sits in your room for you to monitor, not homeroom teacher).</p>
Clean up transition difficulty	<p>Have child flip all chairs (end of day) or organize something in the room</p>

Managing Clean Up:

Undesirable Behavior/Problem	Options Consequence/Strategy
<p>Students have difficulty knowing exactly what is required for clean up.</p>	<p>“Clean Up Map” - Create a large map (like a treasure map) with a line leading to “X” marks the spot. Photo and laminate examples of clean up tasks. (Photo children sitting at a clean table, washing hands, turning in artwork to drying rack, etc.) Add Velcro to back side of picture and tabs along the clean up map route. Add additional Velcro to front side of clean up tasks to add numbers for sequence. Attach and go over so that children know the routine for the day. Use giant laminated “X” to hand to one student (or assign student to retrieve) when all students have completed task. Let ready tables get in line as reward.</p> <hr/> <p>Have students join in repeating steps out-loud for a direction (a.k.a. “Dora the Explorer” technique) Ex: “Wash hands . . . Smock in bin . . . sit in line”</p> <hr/> <p>Photograph tasks necessary for room organization. Write direction on photo and laminate. (Organize supply table, pick up scraps off the floor, wipe down sink, etc) Put a different task at each table so that students know what their table jobs are.</p>
<p>Students take too long washing brushes at sink</p>	<p>Make a bucket of water where brushes should be placed for easy teacher clean up later.</p>
<p>Children are always forgetting to squeeze sponge at sink and water gets everywhere.</p>	<p>Tell students that when they are sitting, they will get a sponge from you (rung out) and not until they are sitting.</p> <hr/> <p>Spray table with water and give rags to students to wipe tables down.</p>