

Cooping Suggestions When You Don't Know What To Do

- We all want to be the best cooper we can be in order to support our children, our devoted teachers and each other. Sometimes we're not sure what to do during our cooping time. Here are some suggestions and requests from our teachers.

Circle Time

- Help kids get to circle on time.
- Guide kids to help each other be on time.
- Please sit in circle with the class.
- Sit next to or between children having difficulty following directions.
- Model appropriate circle behavior.

Small Group Activity Time

- State your expectations for your group each time you meet (at the beginning of small group), for both academic and behavioral expectations.
- Expect that you will see your expectations and verbally praise for doing so.
- Give only one reminder, stating clearly what you need.
- Excuse the child to see the teacher if directions need to be reiterated.

Some Common Group Expectations

- Use a #1 or #2 voice.
- Be an attentive listener (no interrupting).
- Listen to and follow directions.
- Stay with the group until you are excused.

During Free Choice Time

If you see a disruptive child interfering with the learning of others...

- Ask, "What are you doing?"
- Ask, "What could you be doing?"
- Ask, "Where could you look to find out?" (Examples: check your planner, look at the board)

When you are not actively engaged with a child, please give your teacher a gift

- Straighten up the room as if it were your own.
- Clean, organize, wipe the counter. Do the dishes. Clean the sink.
- Pick up items off the floor (not during a messy art/craft session).
- Dust, straighten any surface, plant or corner that you see needs it.
- Keep the hallway looking nice – hang up, throw away things.
- Please do not side-talk. It is distracting and what are you role-modeling for the kids?

Think of These Incentives

- Our teachers will have more energy to devote to loving and teaching our children.
- You will be an excellent role model for our children.
- Our classroom will look and feel more organized and inviting to us, our kids and guests.
- You will feel good knowing you are giving your best contribution.

Compiled by Barbara Boehme More, 2003