Lesson  
Coming to Circle Time  

Key Features

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Procedure</th>
<th>Rule</th>
<th>Specific Praise: (Use with the Student’s Name)</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Steps to success:</strong></td>
<td><strong>Student says:</strong></td>
<td><strong>Teacher says:</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>Come to circle when the teacher says it’s your turn</td>
<td><em>Did I wait for the teacher to say it was my turn to come to circle?</em></td>
<td><em>Thank you for responding to my directions promptly.</em></td>
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<tr>
<td>Use walking feet.</td>
<td><em>Am I using walking feet?</em></td>
<td><em>Thank you for using walking feet.</em></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Find your place.</td>
<td><em>Am I keeping my hands and feet to myself?</em></td>
<td><em>Thank you for finding your place so carefully.</em></td>
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<tr>
<td>Sit criss cross applesauce.</td>
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<td><em>Beautiful job of sitting criss-cross applesauce.</em></td>
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<td>Put your hands in your lap.</td>
<td></td>
<td><em>That’s the way to put your hands in your lap!</em></td>
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<tr>
<td>Open your ears.</td>
<td></td>
<td><em>I think your ears are open and ready for listening!</em></td>
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<tr>
<td>Keep your eyes on the teacher.</td>
<td></td>
<td><em>Your eyes are telling me that you are ready to pay attention!</em></td>
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<tr>
<td>Use a silent voice.</td>
<td></td>
<td><em>Thank you for using a silent voice.</em></td>
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Lesson Plan
Coming to Circle Time

Theme: Following Procedures
Focus: Students will learn how to come to Circle Time.
Grade Level: Pre-Kindergarten

Objectives:
1. Students will identify the steps to coming to Circle Time.
2. Students will demonstrate each step of coming to Circle Time.
3. Students will practice each step of coming to Circle Time.
4. Students will help others remember the steps of coming to Circle Time.

Pre-Activities: Prepare a poster with the procedures written and pictured. Prepare props that say on the back, Thank you for coming to Circle Time.

Whole group lessons:
1. Check the background knowledge of your students by asking them, Why is it important to come to Circle Time the first time you are called?
2. Ask your students, What might your parent ask you to come and do right away at home? Discuss the reasons why it’s important to come promptly.
3. Model each step of coming to Circle Time. Point out the poster and review each step again, using the poster as your visual.
4. Ask a few students to go to centers. Have one student be the teacher and say, It’s time for Circle Time or sing a Circle Time song. The students at centers will demonstrate coming to Circle Time. Continue to have students demonstrate in this way.
5. Line students up at the door and have them model coming in from recess. Have all students demonstrate coming to Circle Time together.
6. Tell students that everyone needs to follow the procedures of coming to Circle Time. You will be watching to see how well they can do this.
7. Every day provide specific praise and suns as students arrive on time to the circle.

Make sure you are sitting down in your place with your materials ready when students are making their transition to circle. If you are waiting with your activities and materials ready, you will be able to monitor and give feedback to those students arriving promptly to Circle Time.

Students may have trouble coming to circle time promptly. If there is a student or students who take too much time coming to circle, or refuse to come at all, try this technique. Start Circle Time with an interesting object or pictures to show the children as they arrive. You could also have students that arrive early pick the song or finger play they would like to do while you wait for the others. You can also have songs ready in which you call on students to do specific things. If you have a tape of songs, start it immediately. This will encourage all students to get to Circle Time as quickly as possible.

One great idea for getting students to Circle Time right away is to introduce riddles to them. The first student or students to arrive at Circle Time hear the first clue. As others arrive, clues are given so the early arrivals hear all the clues while others only hear some of the clues. Students can guess the answer at any time as long as they raise their hand without speaking and wait to be called on. For instance, the teacher would say when it’s time to come to circle: I’m thinking of something….When the first few students arrive, the teacher would say: You can eat it. Then, as others arrive: It’s a fruit Then, as more students arrive: It’s green on the outside. Then, as more students arrive: It has seeds on the inside. Then as more students arrive: It begins with the letter W. Then as more students arrive: It’s pink on the inside. Using an object related to the curriculum would be a great idea.

| Time for Circle: (Sung to the tune of Oh, My Darling Clementine)  
Time for circle…..time for circle…..time for circle time today. Let’s sit down and ……let’s be quiet…..wonder what we’ll do today.  

I am Waiting: (Sung to the tune of Frere Jacques)  
I am waiting…..I am waiting…for all my friends…..for all my friends…..to come and join our circle…..to come and join our circle. Sit right down. Sit right down.  

Coming to a Group Time: (Sung to the tune” If You’re Happy and You Know It”)  
Put your legs in a box, in a box. Put your legs in a box, in a box. Put your legs in a box and a bubble in your mouth….. Put your legs in a box, in a box. Put your hands in your lap, in your lap …. Put your hands in your lap, in your lap. Put your hands in your lap and a bubble in your mouth …. Put your hands in your lap, in your lap.  

Circle Time: (Sung to the tune Row, Row, Row Your Boat)  
Hush…. ssh…. quiet please….let’s all gather near. Find a friend and sit right down, Circle Time is here.  

Websites for Rhymes and Fingerplays
http://members.tripod.com/~Patricia_F/learning.html: This website has loads of great fingerplays about animals, people, counting, and seasons.
http://www.preschoolrainbow.org/: The Preschool Rhyme Theme Collection is a curriculum resource with tons of finger plays, action poems, songs and nursery rhymes grouped according to early childhood education themes. Rhymes are found here that enhance early learning about insects and bugs, animals, family, transportation, counting, community helpers and so much more!

Your reading curriculum will offer lots of action poems, activities, nursery rhymes and songs that relate to the theme you are teaching.

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