

Helpful Hints

Jill Taplin

Here are a couple of ideas that I have used when the mood of the class has needed some extra help. The first is a little kindergarten teacher's hum that I wander about singing to myself if playtime is getting a little fractious:

*I am the politeness elf, Peter Please I call myself,
When the children come to play, I am there to help them say,
"May I help you? Do you mind? Thank you so much, you're so kind."
Now children remember please, do not shout and do not tease.
When the children speak this way, all may have a happy day.*

When we had a rather inharmonious time in kindergarten recently, we made a fleece angel for everyone. These we hung around the children's necks so that they hung over their hearts, and the kindness angels could remind them how we are all kind to each other (some of the children preferred to have their angel inside their clothes). We kept the angels at school, and, for a few days the children put them on every morning when they arrived. When the class seemed more peaceful again, the little fleece angels could go home with the children.

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