

## Example Class Meeting Format

The following format may be used when conducting a class meeting:

1. Compliments and appreciations
2. Follow up on prior solutions
3. Agenda items
  - a. Share feelings while others listen
  - b. Discuss without fixing
  - c. Ask for problem-solving help
4. Future plans (field trips, parties, projects)

## Example of a Class Meeting Agenda



### Class Meeting Agenda

- Announcements
- What's going home?
- Big News
- Spotlight
- Top 10 List
- Compliments and Concerns
- CHIP necklaces
- CHIP trophy
- FUN FRIDAY!

# Class Meeting



*Experience the Difference...*

## What is Class Meetings?

Class meeting is an excellent multipurpose tool for the classroom. This simple strategy of setting aside time for students to discuss classroom issues as a group can yield far-reaching benefits.

Class meetings get students involved in constructive decision-making in their classrooms and schools. They build a climate of trust and respect between teacher and students, as well as among students and help students take ownership and responsibility for their classroom.

## Why Class Meetings?



Students engaged in class meeting

Class meetings provide an opportunity for students to develop valuable social and life long skills. Such as:

1. Listening, brainstorming and problem solving skills.
2. Mutual respect for each other.
3. The value of cooling off before solving a problem.

4. Boost students self-esteem as they make decisions that impact their world in important ways.

## Eight Building Blocks for Effective Class Meeting



Building block # 1 for class meeting: forming a circle.

- Forming a circle.
- Practicing compliments and appreciations.
- Respecting differences.
- Using respectful communication skills.
- Focusing on solutions.
- Role-playing and brainstorming.
- Using the agenda and class meeting format.
- Understanding and

using the mistaken goals.

## Benefits of Class Meetings

The following benefits can be derived from regular class meetings:

- Just as families can use family meetings as times to connect and reflect on their goals and/or problems as a family, class meetings can achieve similar results.
- Class meetings provide children with op-

portunities for assuming responsibilities.

- Class meetings may help children to take ownership for their actions by involving them in the process of understanding and questioning rules, guidelines, limits, and consequences.
- Children are able to reason/reflect on their actions, think about the consequences of their behavior, and comprehend the impact they have on others.

## Road Blocks of Class Meetings

Even though its an excellent strategy if its not implemented and carried out properly it will result in chaos. Possible reasons why class meetings fail:

1. Not forming a circle.
2. Not having them regularly (at least 3 times per week at the primary level) to give students a chance to absorb and practice the skills.
3. Not allowing time for students to learn the eight skills for class meetings.
4. Not allowing a student to choose the solution he/she thinks would be the most helpful.
5. Control and expediency are seen as more important than teaching children life skills.