

Grace and Courtesy in the Classroom

Many grace and courtesy lessons appear at the start of the school year. They are reinforced throughout the year in order to hold standards high. Some lessons are better suited to happening later in the year after the community is well established and students are more comfortable with each other.

Lessons Done at the Beginning of the Year:

- shaking hands
- apologizing/excusing oneself
- watching and observing others
- waiting patiently
- using a quiet voice to speak
- inviting and refusing a partner or playmate
- walking around the work (mats) of others
- caring for works, books, and the environment
- rolling a rug
- carrying work from a shelf to a table or mat
- practicing silence

Presentations Regularly Reinforced:

- chair tucking
- putting placemats and rugs away neatly
- washing hands before eating
- saying please and thank you
- coughing or sneezing into an elbow
- using a Kleenex to blow nose
- interrupting
- taking turns
- respecting the personal space of others

Lessons Done Recently:

- greeting a visitor to the classroom
- introducing yourself to someone new
- how to offer food when sharing a snack