

BEFORE &amp; AFTER SCHOOL · GRADES K–3

# Settling-In First Week

Five days of getting-to-know-you

## Five-day plan

Day	Theme	Main activity
Monday	Names	Name games + name labels for desks/coat pegs
Tuesday	Friends	All About Me booklets — sharing in pairs
Wednesday	Our classroom	Class rules, drawn together
Thursday	Our school	School scavenger hunt — find the office, hall, library
Friday	Looking ahead	Hopes and dreams collage for the new year

## Day 1 — Name games (45 min)

ACTIVITY 1: Name + adjective. 'Hello, I'm Adventurous Alice.' Each child says theirs in a circle, then the next child must repeat all the names that came before. ACTIVITY 2: Name labels. Children make a colourful label for their desk and coat peg. Big lettering, decoration around the edges. Photocopy a small version onto a class list to send home. ACTIVITY 3: 'Whose name?' Whisper a child's name to the class. Take turns guessing who it is by features without naming them: 'They have curly hair', 'They like football', etc.

## Day 2 — All About Me booklets (60 min)

Children fold an A4 sheet into 8 panels. They fill each panel with one fact: 1. My name and age 2. Where I live (just a road or area, not address) 3. My family (numbers and names) 4. My



favourite food 5. Something I'm good at 6. Something I find hard 7. My hopes for the year 8. A self-portrait In pairs, children swap booklets and share. Then back to a circle: each child introduces their PARTNER from the booklet — not themselves.

### Day 3 — Class rules (45 min)

Don't dictate rules — co-create them. Ask: 'What kind of class do we want to be?' Discuss and write up: • How will we treat each other? • How will we treat our things? • How will we treat our space? Keep it to 5 rules MAX. Frame positively ('We listen' not 'No talking'). Each child signs the final poster, which goes on the wall. They've now agreed to it.

### Day 4 — School scavenger hunt (45 min)

Print a hunt list with 10 places to find: the office, the head's room, the hall, the library, the staff room (find the door — don't go in!), the medical room, the dinner hall, the playground entrance, the bike rack, your favourite display. In pairs (older with younger if mixed-age), children find each, write down the room number or one thing they noticed. End with prizes for everyone — knowing the school is the prize.

### Day 5 — Hopes and dreams (60 min)

On a long strip of paper, children write/draw three hopes for the year: • Something they want to LEARN • Something they want to GET BETTER AT • Something they want to ACHIEVE Decorate with their name. Display all together as a class banner. Refer back to it each term — 'Are we still working on these?'

