Our Class Day Board

Visual schedule for classroom, ages 6 to 9 · Nine blocks from morning meeting to dismissal, with times and a marker

Our class is called: _____ Today is: _____

	Our class day	What time?	We are here
	**Morning meeting**	_____	☐
	**Reading**	_____	☐
	**Writing**	_____	☐
	**Math**	_____	☐
	**Lunch**	_____	☐
	**Recess**	_____	☐
	**Science**	_____	☐
	**Centers**	_____	☐
	**Dismissal**	_____	☐

HOW THE ARROW SHOWS WHERE WE ARE

Snip the large arrow from the cards page. Place it next to the block the class is on at this moment. As the class shifts to the next block, slide the arrow down one step and name the next block out loud.

TRY IT TODAY: READ THE DAY ALOUD

Morning meeting, then reading, then writing. Three blocks, read out loud, arrow on the first.

Cut Out the Subject Cards

Visual schedule for classroom, ages 6 to 9 · Cut the cards out, then build your class day from them

 Morning meeting	 Reading	 Writing	 Math
 Science	 Social studies	 Art	 Music
 PE	 Library	 Computers	 Lunch
 Recess	 Centers	 Spelling	 Dismissal
Draw your own	Draw your own	Draw your own	Draw your own

HOW TO USE THE CARDS

Cut the cards out and keep them in a pocket chart beside the board. Each morning, lay the cards in order for today. At every change, move the arrow down one step.

Four blank cards wait for the subjects your room uses most, like drama, coding, or gardening.

Specials, Tomorrow, and the Substitute Sheet

Visual schedule for classroom, ages 6 to 9 · The three pages that keep the week running

Our specials this week

Day	Today's special	Time
Monday	_____	_____
Tuesday	_____	_____
Wednesday	_____	_____
Thursday	_____	_____
Friday	_____	_____

TOMORROW PREVIEW

Tomorrow we will:

_____

The special tomorrow is: _____ One thing to remember: _____.

DAY SHEET FOR THE SUBSTITUTE TEACHER

Today's specials:

_____

What changed today:

_____

One thing only I would know:

_____

If the class gets stuck:

_____

Fill the specials chart on Monday morning, every week. Fill the substitute sheet the night before any absence.

Teacher Guide: Transitions Without Battles

Visual schedule for classroom, ages 6 to 9 · A guide for the teacher

Why the whole class day beats reminding

Five reminders can vanish before the first block is done. Reminders live in memory, and memory slips when a room is tired, excited, or upset. A day board lives on the wall, in view, with every block in order. The class checks the board instead of asking you, and the board holds the line so you never have to argue it.

Hand the arrow to a student

Pick one student a week to be the arrow monitor. Their job is small and real: move the arrow at every transition and read the next block out loud. A board a student moves is a board the class watches. Rotate the job every Monday so every child gets a turn.

Specials, substitutes, and changed days

Fill the specials chart on Monday morning, and point at it when the class asks. A chart that changes weekly is still a chart the class trusts, as long as it changes before morning, never during the day. Leave the substitute sheet filled in the night before any absence: today's specials, what changed, and one note only you would know. A supply teacher who follows the board can carry the whole day alone.

Four mistakes to avoid

1. A board that shows a different day from the real one. A cancelled lesson must change the board before morning.
2. An arrow that never moves. If the arrow sits still, the class stops looking.
3. Too many blocks. Nine blocks is a school day; fifteen is a list.
4. Hiding tomorrow. Fill in the preview before dismissal, every day, or the class starts each morning anxious.

Print the board on card stock, laminate the cards, and keep the arrow on a magnet or a clip so it moves in one second.