

Run sheet, I Can Ask

Goal. Every girl asks out loud for something she needs, and hears her own voice do it.

Before you start

- At each place: Sheets A and B, a pencil or one between two. One thing per pair to pass.
- Learn the four asks by heart. Decide what each girl may really ask you for at the end: to stand by the door, to hand out sheets, to choose how you say goodbye.
- **Every situation is a game you supply. Nobody tells the group about home.**

The clock, 30 minutes

- 0 to 4 min: the quiet voice and the asking voice
- 4 to 18 min: can I have a turn, can you help me, can I play too
- 18 to 24 min: I am not finished yet
- 24 to 30 min: one real ask each, and close

Run 30, or 45 with mostly four-year-olds. In 45: 0 to 6, 6 to 27, 27 to 35, 35 to 45. In 60: 0 to 8, 8 to 35, 35 to 45, 45 to 60. Longer clocks add turns, not asks. The close always happens.

What you do

1. Ask for something in a voice nobody can hear, then in one that reaches the back wall. Ask: "Which did you hear?" Say: "An asking voice is a voice I can hear from over here."
2. Say the rule: "Everything today is a game. We are playing."
3. Put the girls in pairs. Give each pair one thing to pass.
4. All together, three times: "Can I have a turn, please?" Then in pairs: one asks, her partner says "Yes" and hands it over. Swap.
5. Put something out of reach: each girl asks her partner "Can you help me reach it?" Then two girls play with the thing and a third asks "Can I play too?" The answer is yes.
6. Say the fourth slowly: "I am not finished yet." The room says it three times.
7. In pairs: one holds the thing, her partner asks for a turn, she says "I am not finished yet." Count to five out loud, then she hands it over. Both were true.
8. Sheet A: each girl marks a box for every ask she has said. Sheet B: she draws one thing she can ask for, and you write her words on her card if she wants them.
9. Go round. Each girl asks you for one small real thing. Say yes to as many as you can.
10. Close: everybody together, once, in one voice: "Can I have a turn, please?"

Watch for

1. Every girl has said one ask out loud, loud enough for you to hear from where you stand.
2. A girl asks for something unprompted: a pencil, a turn, to be next.
3. A girl says words instead of reaching, then waits.

What goes wrong most. A girl reaches instead of asking. Put your hand flat over the thing, wait, and say: "Ask me for it."

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