

Classroom Helpers Script

Begin with Teacher 1.

I'm going to paint a picture at the art center!

(Put on smock. Hastily and messily assemble paint, paintbrushes, paper, and smock—slop paint around and knock things over.)

Red is my favorite color!

(Paint an exuberant red masterpiece, getting plenty of paint on your smock and surrounding area.)

That was fun, but now I'm done!

(Carelessly fling paint, paintbrush, and smock anywhere and everywhere.)

I think I'll go ride a tricycle!

(Ride off on a trike, leaving the painting on the easel.) Teacher 2 skips in.

I'm going to paint a picture at the art center! Blue is my fav...

(Stop short as you reach for the smock.)

What happened to this? I can't put this on! It's got paint all over it!

(Go to use the paint.)

What a mess!

(Hold up a paint brush.)

I can't use this! It's got red paint all over it! And look, there's no paper for me!

(Melt into little ball.)

Why did someone ruin all my things?

Teacher 1 returns on the trike, sees friend in distress, and runs over to comfort her.

Are you sad? What happened?

Someone messed up all my things! (Recoils) Your things? They're MY things!

They're not just your things. They belong to both of us!

(Looking thoughtful.) You mean they belong to all of us? So when I am done with something, I am not REALLY done until it's ready for someone else to use?

That's right. These things are here for everyone. Anyone in our class can use them. But because they're not just ours, when our turn is done we have to make sure that we are done all the way—and that everything is ready for the next friend, just like it was ready for us.

That makes sense. I'm sorry I didn't make sure that I was all the way done with my painting. I'll clean up this mess right now.

And I'll help!

The teachers restore order.