

## Classroom Shop

**Level:** A1.1, A1.2, A2.1, A2.2

**Age:** 6-10

**Organization:** pairs, whole class

**Aims:** To ask for and give things to people; to ask and say prices; to take turns; to use *Please and Thank you*.

**Language focus:** In the example: present simple, have got, can (for requests), How much ...? shops, shopping, classroom objects, numbers, colors Alternatives: I 'd like ..., clothes, pets, toys

**Materials:** *Essential:* classroom objects, e.g. rulers, pens, scissors, pencil cases; pieces of paper to display prices (6-8 for each pair or group); paper money (e.g. 10 x 1 euro paper 'coins' for each child) *Optional:* plastic toy money to use Instead of paper money

### Procedure

1. Divide the class into pairs or groups of four.
2. Ask each pair or group to choose six classroom objects from among their possessions to go into their classroom shop.
3. Ask the children to decide the price for each item, write the prices and make a display on their desks. (Make sure the children realize that the shop is only pretend and that they are not really going to sell their possessions!)
4. Elicit and practice language you want the children to use and demonstrate the activity with one pair, e.g. *T: Good morning. P: Good morning T: Have you got any rubbers? P: Yes, we have. Look. T: How much are the rubbers? P: Two euros. T: Can I have this rubber, please? P: Yes, of course. That's two euros, please. T: Here you are. P: Thank you. T: Goodbye. P: Goodbye.*
5. Ask the children individually to write a shopping list of three things they want to buy.
6. Give out paper money (the same amount to each child, e.g. 10 x 1-euro paper 'coins').
7. Divide the class in half and assign the role of 'shoppers' to one half and 'shopkeepers' to the other half.
8. Children visit the shops and buy three things.
9. At the end, ask the children to show and tell what they have got, e.g. *I've got a red pen, a green pencil sharpener and a rubber and how much money they still have left, e.g. I've got two euros.*
10. Children then change roles and repeat the activity.

## Comments and Suggestions

- This activity needs careful management. If you are concerned about having half the class as 'shoppers' at the same time, it is best to ask fewer children to take turns to visit the 'shops'.
- The currency for the classroom shop can either be the currency of the children's country or, e.g. *American dollars, Australian or British pounds*. With younger children, it is usually better to use the currency they are familiar with and, e.g. one and two euro coins only. With older children, it may be appropriate to use dollars or pounds, especially if they are likely to travel to these countries.
- After the activity, older children can compare dollars or pounds with their own currency and/or use the internet to find out current conversion rates.
- This activity can be done in a similar way for a variety of different shops, e.g. clothes shop, pet shop, toy shop, grocers shop. For these, you will need to either prepare or download from the internet pictures of items to sell in the shops or use plastic fruit or real toys, etc.