

# Hands Across the Sea

## Interactive Student Librarian Training

### Ask the Children to Give Their Opinions...

1. What kind of books do you like to read?
2. What is the school library for and why do you think it's important to have one?
3. Who is the school library for and who should look after it?
4. Why do you think your school should have Student Librarians?
5. Why do you want to be a Student Librarian?
6. What do you think a Student Librarian does?
7. What kind of students do you think make good Student Librarians? (Listen to their answers, and suggest character and behaviour traits below if not brought up by children.)
  - Honest and Reliable
  - On Time
  - Neat, Tidy, and Careful
  - Friendly to Everyone
  - Enjoys Books and Reading
  - Able to Follow Rules
  - Hard-working
  - Positive Role Model
  - Do Your Best
  - Like Helping People
  - Good Listener and Communicator
  - Good at writing
7. Why do you think you would make a good Student Librarian?
8. How do you think children should behave in the library?  
(See Library Rules section, page 22, of the *Hands Library Manual for Primary Schools*)

What would you do if...

  - Someone takes a book without logging it
  - Someone is being too noisy or misbehaving in the library
  - You ask a student to do something and they don't want to listen to you
  - If someone has not brought back their book or has damaged a book

### Take a Library Tour

Do you know how your library is organized? Explain each section...  
Why is it important that the library is organized?

## Try the Checkout System

- Model whatever checkout system used by the school
- Help a student find a book they want to read
- Ask a student returning a book what the book was about and whether they enjoyed it

## Try Shelving and Arranging Books in the Library

1. Each student gets three books. They have to re-shelve the books in the proper place.
2. What looks tidy, what looks out of place in the library and on the shelves?
3. How shall we make the library look more attractive (what types of books to have front-facing) and make it easier for students to find books?

## What Are the Other Responsibilities of a Student Librarian?

- Open and close the library
- Sweep and dust the library and books
- Repair damaged books
- Read to students
- Ask students about the books they read
- Give out book review sheets to students and show them how to write one
- Deal with overdue or damaged books
- Give library tours to school visitors
- Promote books to fellow students
- Create a special display of books (books for boys, mystery/thriller, fact books)
- Show students how to use reference books

## What are the Rewards and Incentives for Student Librarians?

- Awards/Certificate
- Recognition in assembly
- Student Librarian badge
- Small prizes
- First choice to check out the new books

## ~~~~~ Notes for Educators ~~~~~

About Recognition and Being a Role Model: It's important that the Principal introduces the Student Librarians during assembly and insists that other students respect their authority.

It's important that in the role play we model the way we want the students to speak to each other—quietly, respectfully, and in a helpful tone of voice.