

Tokkatsu Manual 3

How to Conduct “Come and Join Us” Style Club Activities

This manual explains how to conduct club activities. Please adapt it flexibly according to the situation of your school.

What Are “Come and Join Us” Style Club Activities?

1. Purpose

1. Club activities make school life enjoyable and rich by enabling children to carry out the leisure activities they want to do.
2. Through this activity, children can develop initiative, the ability to plan and carry out activities with foresight, the ability to participate in society, cooperation with friends, problem-solving skills, and related qualities.

2. Flow of Club Activities

(1) Create clubs.

- In the first year, children can create the clubs they want to do. From the second year onward, children join existing clubs. If there is no club they want to join, they may create a new one.
- Rules for creating a club: members must include at least one child from each of Grades 4, 5, and 6; there must be an activity place; there must be an adviser teacher.
- The adviser should preferably be a non-specialist, because a specialist may want to teach too much.
- As a rule, children belong to the same club for three years from Grade 4. Changes are possible only when moving to a newly created club.
- If too many children gather in one club, the children discuss what they want to do and divide into teams, such as Basketball A (for children who want to become strong) and Basketball B (for children who want to enjoy playing).

(2) Club management.

- Grade 6 children serve as leaders and decide what to do each week.
- The adviser does not provide instruction. The adviser serves as a consultant when children have trouble and watches only for safety.

(3) Club activity presentation at the end of the school year.

- Hold a club activity presentation at the end of the school year. This also becomes an opportunity to invite younger children to join.
- Children prepare enthusiastically to make their club popular, through performances by a chorus club, videos by sports clubs, plays, and other presentations.

3. Effects of the “Come and Join Us” Style

- Children can have the clubs they want to do. Teachers do not need to conduct preference surveys or adjust numbers.
- Because membership is fixed for three years in principle, children learn the basic way of running a club by watching upper-grade children.
- Children can manage clubs independently without the teacher taking the lead, and this becomes a source of confidence.

Tokkatsu Manuals - English Version

- Teachers can devote themselves to watching over the children.

Reference 1: Club Activity Board

- At the beginning of the school year, children come to put their name plates on the club they want to join.
- Changes are allowed as many times as needed until the deadline.

Reference 2: When Creating Club Activities

- Club activity name; founding leader; founding members; activity content; activity place; message from the founding team.
- Appeal to others at the club introduction assembly.

Reference 3: Club Plan

- The Grade 6 members in charge create and post the plan before each activity.
- Items include members in charge, aim, activity content, flow, place and things to bring, and other notes.

Acknowledgment

In preparing this manual, materials and valuable advice were provided by Ms. Hiromi Shimizu, former principal of Nibukata Elementary School in Hachioji City. I express my sincere gratitude here.