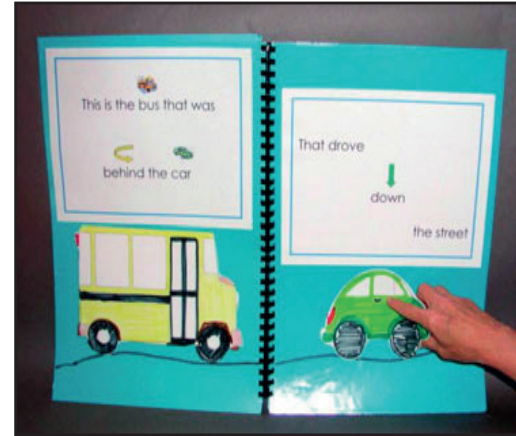


Group experiences often expect students to do much sitting, listening and remaining quiet. Our groups are most effective if the students can more actively participate. The children need to be able to move about and manipulate objects as a routine part of their group participation.

*Student moves from his seat to write the date on the board*



*Student moves from her seat to manipulate pictures in the storybook*

In these ways, we implement procedures that become routines because they are used each day in similar situations. Procedures do not mean that the same activity must be done each day or that the order of the activities must be the same, but the procedures do mean the activities follow certain forms. The child's uncertainty about the novel event is eased because the procedures are well known. Family members, too, can participate in circle group activities because students have learned the procedures well. As a result they are less anxious about why there is an unexpected person at group.

*Santa is a surprise visitor during circle time, but students remember their well-learned routines*



*Mother and daughter at circle time*