

NEWCOMER ELL WELCOME & SURVIVAL ENGLISH KIT

Gr K-12

Complete newcomer support toolkit for students arriving mid-year with little or no English.

INCLUDES:

- > 30 Visual Daily Schedule Cards
- > 12 Survival Vocabulary Posters
- > Bilingual Classroom Labels (8 Languages)
 - > Picture Communication Board
 - > School Navigation Buddy Guide
- > Newcomer Family Welcome Letter
 - > Teacher Checklist

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*This resource is designed for Gr K–12. Adapt and modify as needed for your students' level and context.
Languages on classroom labels: English, Spanish, Arabic, Mandarin, Vietnamese, Haitian Creole, Portuguese, Russian, Korean.*

1

Visual Daily Schedule Cards

30 color-coded cards for every part of the school day
Routine • Academic • Specials • Break • Emergency



SECTION 1

Visual Daily Schedule Cards

● Routine ● Academic ● Special ● Break ● Emergency

ROUTINE



Calendar Time

ROUTINE



Announcements

ROUTINE



Pack Up

ROUTINE



Morning Arrival

ROUTINE



Attendance

ROUTINE



Morning Meeting

2

Survival Vocabulary Posters

12 essential vocabulary topics for newcomer students
Clear visuals and essential English words



SECTION 2

Greetings & Introductions



Hello



Goodbye



Thank You



Please



Yes



No



3

Bilingual Classroom Labels

Labels in English + Spanish with 8 additional language fields
Co-create labels with your student for a personalized touch!



SECTION 3

Bilingual Classroom Labels

Write translations together with your student!

Puerta Door

Arabic: Portuguese:

Mandarin: Russian:

Vietnamese: Korean:

Haitian Creole:

Ventana Window

Arabic: Portuguese:

Mandarin: Russian:

Vietnamese: Korean:

Haitian Creole:

Escritorio Desk

Arabic: Portuguese:

Mandarin: Russian:

Vietnamese: Korean:

Haitian Creole:

Silla Chair

Arabic: Portuguese:

Mandarin: Russian:

Vietnamese: Korean:

Haitian Creole:



4

Picture Communication Board

Visual communication tool for beginning English learners
Point to pictures to express needs and feelings



SECTION 4

Picture Communication Board: Needs & Feelings



Hello



Goodbye



Yes



No



Help!



Bathroom



Hungry



Thirsty



Happy



Sad



Hurt



Lost

5

School Navigation Buddy Guide

Step-by-step peer buddy guide for helping newcomers
For Student Mentors and Peers



SECTION 5

Tips for Being a Great Buddy

- **Speak Slowly & Clearly**

Use simple words. Pause after sentences so they can think.

- **Use Gestures & Point**

Act out what you mean. Point to objects, doors, and places.

- **Show, Don't Just Tell**

Walk with them. Physically show them where things are and how things work.

- **Be Patient**

Give them time to respond. It is okay if they are quiet at first.

- **Use the Communication Board**

Point to the pictures in this kit to ask simple questions.

- **Introduce Them to Others**

Help them meet the nurse, counselor, and other friendly students.

- **Learn a Word in Their Language**

Saying 'hello' in their language shows you care and respect them!

Remember: A warm smile is the universal language of welcome!

You are making a huge difference in this student's life just by being kind.

7

Teacher Checklist

Comprehensive first-days checklist for teachers
Ensure a smooth and welcoming transition for your newcomer



SECTION 7

Newcomer Student Checklist

Before the Student Arrives

- ☐ Prepare a desk/group spot with basic supplies (pencils, crayons, paper).
- ☐ Set up the Visual Daily Schedule cards on the board.
- ☐ Place Bilingual Classroom Labels around the room.
- ☐ Assign a welcoming 'Buddy' and brief them using the Buddy Guide.
- ☐ Brief the class on the new student's arrival. Discuss empathy and how to help.
- ☐ Print and prepare the Picture Communication Board for easy access.
- ☐ Notify relevant staff (ESL teacher, counselor, cafeteria, front office).

The First Day

- ☐ Greet the student with a warm smile. Show them their desk.
- ☐ Walk them through the Visual Schedule for the day.
- ☐ Have the Buddy take them on the School Tour (checklist).
- ☐ Show them the Communication Board and how to point to needs.
- ☐ Pair spoken words with heavy gesturing and visual cues.
- ☐ Provide a quiet, low-pressure activity (e.g., coloring).
- ☐ Send the Welcome Letter home with the student.

The First Week

- ☐ Check in emotionally daily (use the feelings vocabulary poster).
- ☐ Monitor lunch and recess to ensure they are not isolated.
- ☐ Introduce 1-2 new Survival Vocabulary words/phrases per day.
- ☐ Meet with the ESL specialist to align support strategies.
- ☐ Attempt to contact the family (with interpreter if needed).
- ☐ Celebrate small wins (e.g., saying 'Hello' or 'Bathroom').



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