MY CLEAN CLASSROOM

In the month prior to the reopening of the new school year in January 2001, the metamorphosis of classrooms took place throughout the nation. In every state in the country, It became a focused effort by all dedicated key personalia involved in the Transition Programme: the state education departments, the school administration, the teachers, the community and parents and the children themselves.

Seberang Jaya Primary School, Persiaran Siakap, Penang, Malaysia



"The physical environment has become so stimulating for the children that throughout the country, all feedback reports indicated that the children who entered Year One in January 2001 were generally happier, livelier and were not so traumatized to start school compared to previous years." Summary of reports from all state education departments in April 2001, after 3 months of the Transition Programme.

ACHIEVING AN AMBITIOUS TARGET COLLABORATIVELY

On the second week of school, after the first week of getting to know each other, the Year One children are encouraged to work collaboratively, setting a common goal to achieve. The Ambitious Target tool was used for the children in their second week of school to set a goal collectively on "A CLEAN AND HAPPY CLASSROOM" and work together to achieve it. It created a responsible attitude and helped build team spirit as well as motivation and beginning skills in systematic planning.

All primary schools throughout the country were encouraged to use the module with their Year One children. Here are some examples of children working on their Ambitious Target of "A CLEAN AND HAPPY CLASSROOM" as they looked around their classroom to turn it into a clean and happy one.



Goal : "A CLEAN AND HAPPY CLASSROOM"

Year One class doing Ambitious Targets for their classroom in Sungai Bakau Primary School, Nibong Tebal, Penang Island, off the north-east coast of Malaysia.

ACHIEVING AN AMBITIOUS TARGET COLLABORATIVELY

Some teachers 'helped' their children along by preparing picture cards on anticipated obstacles. Children could write, draw or use symbols to describe what they saw around them which looked like obstacles in the way of achieving a clean and happy classroom.

Teachers and students prioritized their intermediate objectives after listing them. Teachers helped their students to set tasks to overcome the obstacles where possible.

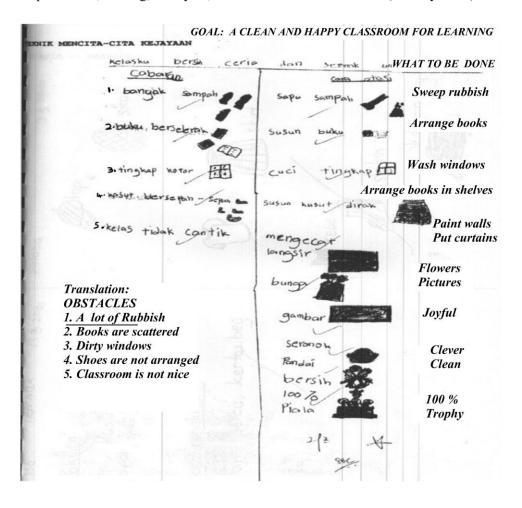
Here are some examples of children's plans:

Ambitious Target for his classroom by Shahuddin (aged 7 years), Sungai Bakau Primary School, Penang Island, Malaysia

My clean classroom	
My clean	ciassroom
Banyak sampah	Sapu sampah
A lot of rubbish	Sweep rubbish
Tingkap kotor	lapting Kap
Dirty windows	Wipe windows
Bukn bersepan	Kemas buku
Books scattered all over	Put books together neatly
Meja guru bersepe	h tolongi kesmas
Teacher's table is untidy	Help teacher tidy her table
carta jatuh	letak Semula
Charts have fallen	Put them up again
Kerusi Meja	

ACHIEVING AN AMBITIOUS TARGET COLLABORATIVELY

Ambitious Target set by Year One class from Permatang Bertam Primary School, Kepala Batas, Penang, Malaysia, in the second week of school (January 2001)



Children learn to be responsible for their classrooms because they have set an Ambitious Target for "A CLEAN AND HAPPY CLASSROOM".