

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_



# Rules & Laws

Rules and laws, rules and laws, rules and laws:

They tell us how to act. They must be followed by us all.

Rules and laws, rules and laws, rules and laws:

They protect us all and help us get along.

As I take my morning walk to school, my mind wanders.

Why are there so many rules at school that I follow?

Raise your hand, walk in the halls, listen, and share.

Adults say these rules keep us safe and help us prepare

For the world that we're learning about,

But I think we'd be fine with no rules to announce.

Whoa! To my surprise,

There's a banner hanging on the door—a giant sign.

It says "No-Rule School." I look up with eyes wide.

I race into my classroom. I crash into Liam. Backpacks burst;

There's papers everywhere. "Sorry about your homework."

There's kids shouting everywhere, dancing on their desks, and

No one hears Ms. Peace try to teach a government lesson.

When it gets to snack time, Liam steals my bag of chips.

He yells out, "No rules," crumbs flying from his lips.

My head hurts from the noise. I'm hungry and confused.

I turn to see Shana. She's ripping up a book.

That's my book. I finally come to terms with the truth.

I yell out loud as can be, "We need rules!"

In that moment, I wake up in my bed mid-scream.

Whew! That was one mixed-up dream.

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I tell my friends about my dream at school.

"Now I understand why we need to have rules,"

I say. "If we don't, things would get frightening."

Liam says, "People could get hurt or start fighting."

Shana adds, "Things could even get destroyed."

There are lots of dangers that rules can help us avoid!

In class, Ms. Peace begins her government lesson,

But unlike my dream, we all quietly listen.

We learn that government creates rules called laws.

These are types of rules that must be followed by us all.

And if someone breaks them, they might have to pay a fine

Or even get arrested if it is a bigger crime.

One law is that drivers must stop at stop signs.

This keeps drivers safe, as well people walking by.

Another useful law is public bathrooms and their size:

To have the space for wheelchair-users to get inside.

Ms. Peace says, "Even recess is a law in some states."

We all laugh as the bell rings. It's kickball day!

As we all leave class to go play outside of the school,

I'm ready to play kickball. Luckily, I know the rules.

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