



WHAT IS YOUR JOB?

In Family or Dependency Court

**You're probably meeting lots
of different grown-ups now.**

**This book will show you who
some of them are and what
their jobs are.**

**It will tell you what your job
is, too!**

CHILD PROTECTIVE SERVICES (CPS)

The job of the grown-ups at CPS is to help make sure kids are safe.

They might ask you questions to help them learn about what happened.

They have lawyers who will talk in court about what they learned.



POLICE

A police officer's job is to help keep people safe.

They might ask you questions to help them learn about what happened.

Some police officers wear a uniform, but others wear regular clothes.





There are grown-ups whose job is to help you in court. They might have different names depending on where you live:

ATTORNEY FOR CHILD (AFC)

GUARDIAN AD LITEM (GAL)

**COURT-APPOINTED SPECIAL
ADVOCATE (CASA)**

FAMILY/VICTIM ADVOCATE

RESPONDENT

When CPS brings someone to Family or Dependency Court because they think the person is hurting or not taking care of a child, that person is called "the respondent."

**WHO IS THE
RESPONDENT IN
YOUR CASE?**



SOCIAL WORKER

Social workers are there to help you and your family. They listen to what you tell them. They may ask you questions. They try to make sure you are cared for and safe.

JUDGE

The judge's job is to listen to everyone and then make decisions in the court. They may ask you questions.





ATTORNEY OR COUNSEL

This person helps people tell their side of what happened and ask the judge for what they want.

JUDGE'S HELPERS

The court attorney and the court clerk (or assistant) help the judge.





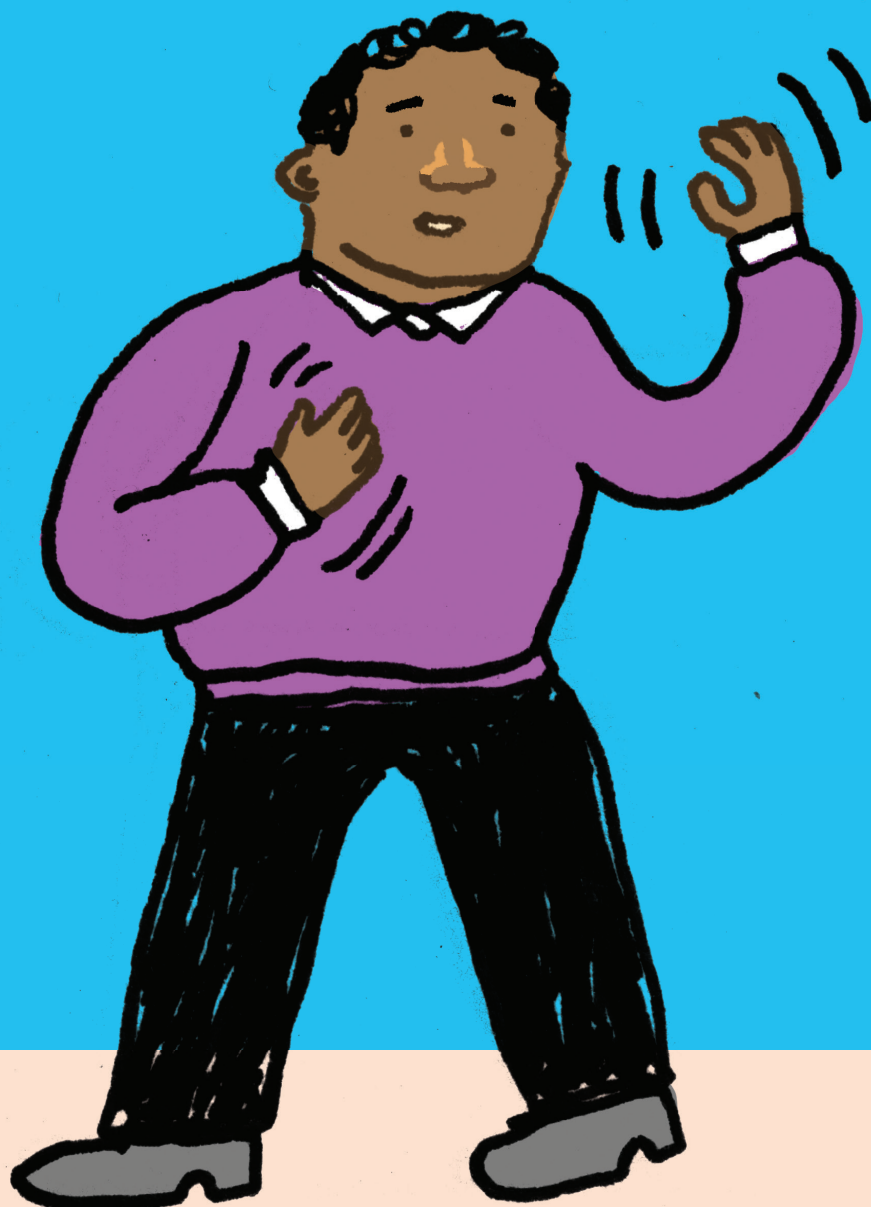
COURT OFFICER

**The court officer tries to make
sure everyone in the court is safe.**

COURT REPORTER

The court reporter's job is to write down everything people say in the courtroom.



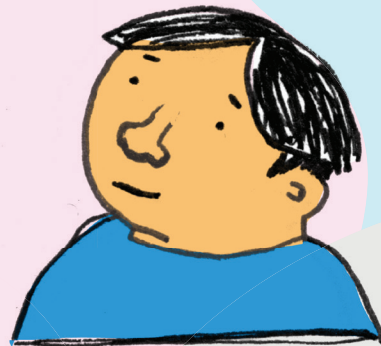


INTERPRETER

The interpreter's job is to help anyone who doesn't speak English very well or who is deaf or hard of hearing understand what other people in court are saying.

YOU

**Your job is to answer
questions and tell the
grown-ups what you know.**



For kids:

DID YOU KNOW...

...that when you go to court the grown-ups have to make sure certain things happen for you?

You are allowed to ask as many questions as you want! If you don't know what's going on, ask!

You should always feel safe. If you feel scared, tell one of the grown-ups right away.

Ask the person who takes care of you or another grown-up to help you understand the other things that should happen.

THE PEOPLE I KNOW

You can use this page to write down the names and contact information of the people you meet.

CHILD PROTECTIVE SERVICES (CPS) WORKERS

Name:

Information:

CHILD PROTECTIVE SERVICES (CPS) WORKERS

Name:

Information:

ATTORNEY FOR CHILD/GAL/CASA

Name:

Information:

FAMILY/VICTIM ADVOCATE

Name:

Information:

JUDGE

Name:

Information:

OTHER

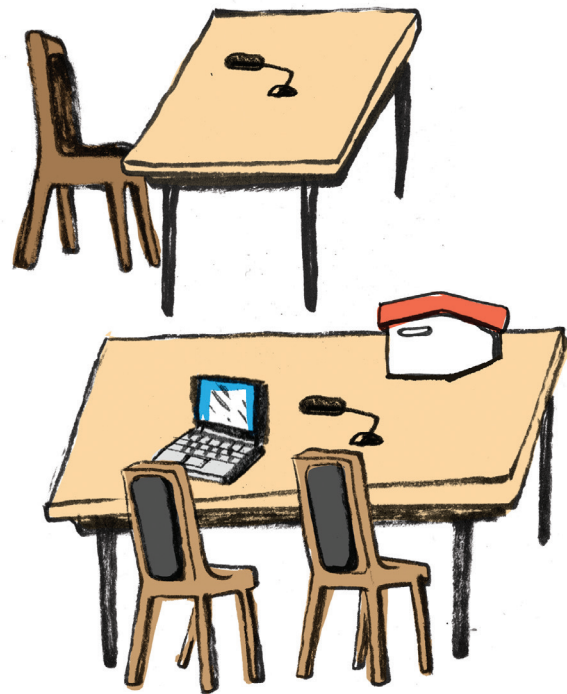
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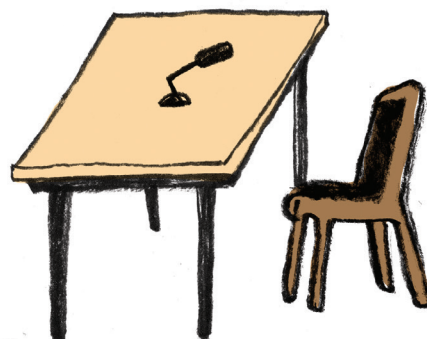
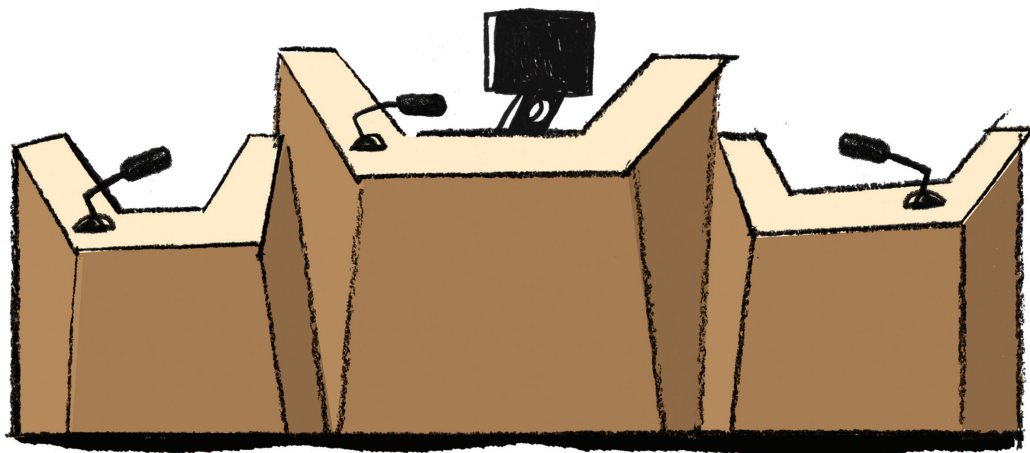
Information:

THIS IS THE COURTROOM.

Many people work in the court.

Here is the courtroom. Where do all the people go?





The Center for Court Innovation's Child Witness Materials Project is a collaborative effort between the Center for Court Innovation and the Center for Urban Pedagogy, and is supported by cooperative agreement #2016-VF-GX-K011, awarded by the U.S. Department of Justice, Office of Justice Programs, Office for Victims of Crime. The opinions, findings, and conclusions or recommendations expressed in this document are those of the contributors and do not necessarily represent the official position or policies of the U.S. Department of Justice.

The Center for Court Innovation works to create a more effective and humane justice system by performing original research and helping launch reforms around the world.

www.courtinnovation.org

The Center for Urban Pedagogy is a nonprofit organization that uses the power of design and art to increase meaningful civic engagement, in partnership with historically marginalized communities.

www.welcometoCUP.org

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The Center for Court Innovation is grateful to the project partners and stakeholders; and the children, caregivers, and justice system practitioners all over the country who contributed to the development of this product.

NCJ 300643

The Office for Victims of Crime is committed to enhancing the Nation's capacity to assist crime victims and to providing leadership in changing attitudes, policies, and practices to promote justice and healing for all victims of crime.

www.ovc.ojp.gov

The Office of Justice Programs is a federal agency that provides federal leadership, grants, training, technical assistance, and other resources to improve the Nation's capacity to prevent and reduce crime, assist victims, and enhance the rule of law by strengthening the criminal and juvenile justice systems. Its six program offices—the Bureau of Justice Assistance, the Bureau of Justice Statistics, the National Institute of Justice, the Office for Victims of Crime, the Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention, and the Office of Sex Offender Sentencing, Monitoring, Apprehending, Registering, and Tracking—support state and local crime-fighting efforts, fund thousands of victim service programs, help communities manage sex offenders, address the needs of youth in the system and children in danger, and provide vital research and data.



Office for Victims of Crime
OVC

