WHAT TIME DOES THE...?

NOTES for the Simple Present Tense Lesson: This is a Beginner level session; however it does assume that the students have had previous lessons on days of the week and saying/reading time expressions.

There are four activities here:

1. The Motivation activity
2. The two dialogues (one with the singular form of the present tense and the other with the plural form), which you want to exploit very fully
3. The explanation sheet
4. The practice activity. For the practice activity you want to make enough copies of the picture pages so that class groups can have a set of each. You cut out the squares on the activity pages. You mix up the squares and then ask students to make well-formed sentences based on the dialogues. Probably you want to do the squares for each sheet separately. Obviously groups can form different sentences by reusing some of the square so that you could make the activity a competition where the group with the most sentences (that are well constructed of course) wins.

If you feel your students are ready for a more communicative activity to close you could have them make dialogues (based on the model of those in the lesson about school or about businesses or governmental institutions (e.g., the dispensary) in their town/village.

MOTIVATION

Tell students, “I usually get up at _____ a.m. What does “get up mean?” (students provide correct answer). Teacher praise correct answer then asks individual students, What time do you get up? The teacher then scaffolds several students to answer.

Then the teacher asks students, “What time does school start?” Again the teacher scaffolds correct answers. The teacher follows this by asking, “When does school end?” Once the teacher has scaffolded correct answers, she writes “What time...?” on the board and underneath it “When...?” and explains that mean the same thing.

The teacher then asks, “What time is it?” When a student correctly answers, the teacher say, “Oh! It’s time to begin the lesson!” and starts.
Simple Present: “Excuse Me, What Time Does...?—Beginning Learners

Dialogue 1

Man: Excuse me, what time does the supermarket open?

Mark: It opens at 8:00 a.m.

Stranger: Thank you. Does it close at 5:30 p.m.?

Mark: No, it doesn’t close at 5:30; it closes at 8:00.

Stranger: Thank you again.

Mark: My pleasure.
Dialogue 2: Excuse me, what time does.......?

Stranger: Excuse me, what time do the stores open?

Christine: They open at 9:00 a.m.

Stranger: Thank you. Do they close at noon?

Mark: No, they don’t. They close at 12:30 & open again at 3:30.

Stranger: What time do they close again?

Mark: They close at 8:00.

Stranger: Thank you again.

Mark: My pleasure.
Simple Present Tense—Explanation

Examples:

- Water freezes at 0° degrees Celsius.
- I always try to do my best.
- Sometimes my mother gets tired.

Uses:

- Things that are always, often, sometimes, rarely true

Key Words:

- Usually, often, never, sometimes, rarely

Formation

[I/We/They] eat fish.

Do [I/we/they] eat fish? Yes, [I/we/they] do—No, [I/we/they] don’t.

[He/she/it] eats fish.

Does [he/she/it] eat fish? Yes, [he/she/it] does—No, [he/she/it] doesn’t.

Exceptions:

[I am/you are/he is/we are/they are] happy. —> Is he happy? No, he isn’t.
Practice 1:
Complete the sentences using the pictures.
With your partner take turns playing both roles.

Stranger: Excuse me, ?

Mark: It at a.m.

Stranger: Thank you. at p.m.?

Mark: No, it at ; it at .

Stranger: Thank again.

Mark: My.
CONTROLLED PRACTICE 2: SIMPLE PRESENT--Beginners

Stranger: Excuse me, _____?

Christine: They open at 7 a.m.

Stranger: Thank _____. _____ they ___ at ___? 

Mark: No, they ___. They close at 6 & open again at 8.

Stranger: ___ they close again?

Mark: They close at 6.

Stranger: ______ you again.
Practice Activity for Dialogue 1—Beginning Learners

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<td><img src="image3.png" alt="Open Sign" /></td>
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