



ARTICLES

Petersen, D. (2000). Using transitions to promote literacy in preschool and primary classrooms. *Young Children*, 55(4), 24–29.

This article describes how classroom transition times can be used to complement a classroom literacy program. Practices include singing songs for transitions, reading short engaging picture books, and playing games to introduce a new unit of study or to change the classroom pace.

Ratcliff, N. (2001). Use the environment to prevent discipline problems and support learning. *Young Children*, 56(5), 84–87.

This article presents eight points for designing physical and programmatic environments to prevent discipline problems and support learning in early childhood classrooms. Suggestions include designing clearly defined activity areas, providing adequate space, assessing the activity structure throughout the day, following an age-appropriate schedule, and establishing classroom routines. The article also includes a checklist for supporting positive behaviors.

Sainato, D. M. (1990). Classroom transitions: Organizing environments to promote independent performance in preschool children with disabilities. *Education and Treatment of Children*, 13(4), 288–297.

This paper reviews teaching practices that may facilitate independence in preschool children with disabilities. Some of the practices include using environmental arrangements (schedules, staff assignment, room arrangement), prompts, peer-mediated interventions, and feedback.

BOOKS

Evans, B. (2007). *"I know what's next!": Preschool transitions without tears or turmoil*. Ypsilanti, Michigan: High Scope Press.

This book provides guidelines to help understand transitions from the child's point of view. A variety of strategies such as songs and games are included. Ideas for the following transition times are also included: drop off and pickup times; the times before and after each part of the daily routine, including wait times; cleanup time; room-to-room transitions; and the transition to kindergarten.

WEB RESOURCES

Head Start Center for Inclusion

Retrieved from <http://depts.washington.edu/hscenter/teacher-tools#transitions>

This website hosts a variety of free, printable tools for teachers. Included is a section of printable drawings to support transitions in preschool classrooms.

Make and Take Workshop: Thoughtful Transitions Reduce Traffic Jams and Challenges

Retrieved from http://www.challengingbehavior.org/communities/make_n_take/make_n_take_home.html

This three-hour workshop developed by the Technical Assistance Center on Social Emotional Development (TACSEI) provides teachers with tools and strategies for helping children successfully transition between activities and places within the early childhood environment.

