Websites

- A Successful Kindergarten Transition. (2016, November 14).
  http://parents.nea.org/providing-emotional-support/a-successful-kindergarten-transition/

  This webpage for families, from the National Education Association, provides a brief description of the kindergarten transition and tips for supporting their child through this process.

- Transitioning to Kindergarten. (2019).
  https://www.naeyc.org/our-work/families/transitioning-to-kindergarten

  This webpage offers a concise list of practical tips for families to prepare their child and themselves before, during, and after their child begins attending kindergarten.

Articles

- Fenlon, A. (2005). Collaborative Steps: Paving the way to kindergarten for young children with disabilities. *Young Children*. *60*(2), 32-67.
  https://www.researchgate.net/publication/242562544_COLLABORATIVE_STEPS_Paving_the_Way_to_Kindergarten_for_Young_Children_with_Disabilities

  This article, written from the perspective of a parent and district administrator, offers both commentary and a case study approach to the preschool-to-kindergarten transition. The author emphasizes the importance of a collaborative, coordinated approach in this process. While the article addresses the best practices for helping children with disabilities transition to kindergarten, many of the tips and steps in the author's 10-step approach are also applicable to parents and educators of typically developing children. Please note that access must be requested before viewing this article.

Practical Guides and Activities

- Good Beginnings Alliance. (n.d.). Tips for parents on kindergarten transitions.
  https://www.milforded.org/uploaded/MPSOurSchools/John_F_Kennedy/Kindergarten_Information/Transitions_Brochure.pdf

  Hawaii's Good Beginnings Alliance (GBA) is a nonprofit organization working to build an effective early childhood system in Hawaii. To do so, it offers information on research, data, and successful programs to parents, educators, and community leaders. In this guide, GBA uses material obtained from surveys of statewide transition activities and research-based best practices to offer parents a list of bulleted to-dos as they help their children prepare for kindergarten. Written from the voice of a child, the to-dos include items, such as, "Put me to bed and get me up at the new times for two weeks before school starts" (p. 2) and "Show me ways to make new friends by having some of my classmates over to play" (p. 3). The guide concludes with a list of required documents needed for entry into

Hawaii's public schools. This list could be easily tailored for any state.

- Tip Sheets: Getting Ready for Kindergarten. (n.d.) *http://illinoisearlylearning.org/tipsheets/readykindergarten.htm*

  This online resource from the Illinois Early Learning Project answers questions that parents might have when their children are preparing to enter kindergarten, such as, "What will the teacher expect my child to be able to do?" and "What kinds of knowledge and experience help prepare my child?" The website contains links to other resources, including books to share with children who are getting ready for kindergarten.

- Joseph, G. E. (2011).*"Introducing me!" family connection booklet*. Olympia, WA: The Washington Kindergarten Inventory of Developing *https://www.k12.wa.us/student-success/testing/state-testing-overview/washington-kindergarten-inventory-developing-skills-wakids/wakids-family-connection/%E2%80%9Cintroducing-me%E2%80%9D-family-connection-booklet*

  "Introducing Me!" is a booklet teachers can use to obtain information from parents about their child who is entering kindergarten. Available in English and Spanish, the booklet includes sections on the child's favorite toy, parents' names, and things that the child does and does not like to do.

- Michigan Department of Education. (2020). *Transition to kindergarten parent guides*. Lansing, MI: MDE. *https://www.michigan.gov/mde/0,4615,7-140-6530_6809-152726--,00.html*

  This online resource from the Michigan Department of Education provides a series of tip sheets that highlight a variety of questions that parents may have when their children are entering kindergarten, such as "How do I know if my child is ready for kindergarten?" "How can I help ease those first day jitters?" "What will my child do in kindergarten?" and "How can I be involved with my child's education?"

- University of Pittsburgh Office of Child Development. (2012-2019). *Ready freddy: Pathways to kindergarten success.* Pittsburgh, PA: The Ready Freddy Program. *http://www.readyfreddy.org*

  This University of Pittsburgh Office of Child Development website provides a wealth of free resources for both families and practitioners, including an online interactive book for children, a learning activity calendar, and a video on getting your child ready for kindergarten. The video includes parent interviews about the experience of sending their child to school. This comprehensive and very accessible website also offers articles that address kindergarten transition issues such as transition team building, ways to bring parents and schools together for transition planning, the importance of school attendance, and more.

Video

- Health Science Channel. (2010, August 20). *Preparing your child for kindergarten*. [Video file]. *https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=EqdY_ak7Pc8*

  This video from the Health Science Channel provides parents with a list of what children should be able to do before entering kindergarten, steps to take (such as getting physicals for their children), and strategies to use for preparing their children for the transition.

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