



Preschool Prep: Getting Ready for the Big Transition

If you are a parent and your child is starting preschool this fall, you may be approaching this major milestone with conflicting emotions. You're probably excited about all the fun (you hope) your child will have and the new friends he'll make. At the same time, you may feel a little sad that your baby is venturing out into the big world without you. These emotions are normal. Your child is also bound to have a host of feelings about this transition, feeling proud to be a big kid but at the same time worried about being separated from you and starting something unfamiliar.

There's a lot you can do in the weeks before to get ready for the big day. But try to keep your efforts low-key. If you make too big a deal out of this milestone, your child may end up being more worried than excited.

In this resource, you'll find information on:

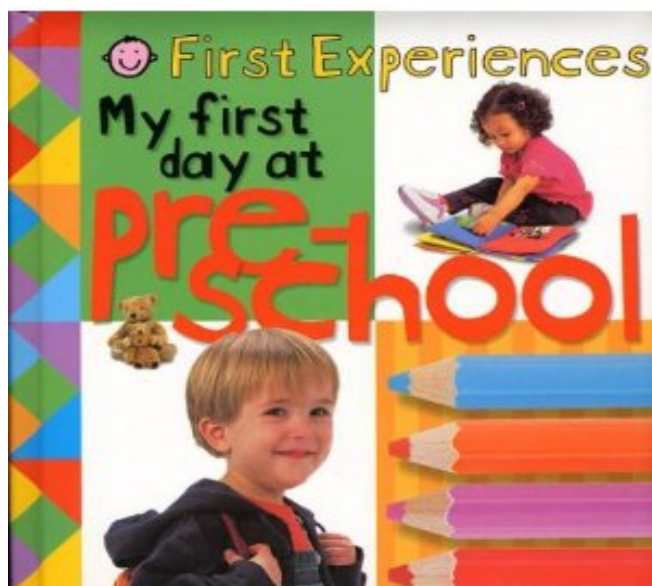
Fun Ways to Get Ready for Preschool

Responding to Your Child's Worries

The Preschool Countdown: What to Do and When

Saying a Good Good-Bye

http://main.zerotothree.org/site/PageServer?pagename=ter_key_childcare_transition&AddInterest=1503



Assessing

Locate information for understanding children's ongoing progress and child outcomes.

<http://eclkc.ohs.acf.hhs.gov/hslc/ecdh/eecd/Assessment>

Transitions in the Daily Schedule

Having a daily schedule that creates routines for young children is an essential part of an early childhood classroom. Evaluating the daily schedule on a regular basis is an integral part of creating a quality program that meets the needs of both the children and adults who 'live' in the classroom each day. Some suggestions are to look (with a critical eye) at your daily schedule once a year to determine whether it works for the group of children currently enrolled in your classroom. One of the most important things to consider when reviewing your schedule is the number of transitions that occur throughout the day.

Transitions tend to be some of the most difficult and stressful moments in an early childhood classroom. At these times teachers often find themselves dealing with more challenging behaviors and feeling more like police officers than nurturing caregivers. If you are feeling uncomfortable or frustrated during transition times that is a sign that your current schedule may need to be revised to better meet the needs and developmental levels of the children in your care.

To read the entire article go to: http://www.childcareexchange.com/resources/view_article.php?article_id=5019448

Our Pledge: The KY T/TA State Office pledges to provide timely, current, and interesting monthly newsletters for the Head Start and Early Head Start communities and others interested in the field. In keeping with our mission to be more "green," we will provide our easy to read newsletter via email. We would like to hear from you and encourage your suggestions for newsletter content. Contact the editor: **Joyce Roach**

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