

Transition Tips

Use some or all of the following ideas for smoother transitions between activities.

- Be sure to connect the activity just completed with the next planned activity. See the teacher guide for transition statements you can use. Helping kids understand why they're doing something will help make for smoother transitions.
- Use a signal to tell kids it's time to clean up and get ready for the next activity. Expect and encourage all children to help with cleanup. You can do a special clap, ring a bell, flick the lights, or make up a rhyme. Then give children specific, clear directions about what they are to do next.
- Plan for movement between activities. Kids need to move.
- Plan for the children to sit in a different place to explore God's Word. If children sit in chairs at tables for Focus In, you may want to let them sit on a rug or blanket on the floor for Explore His Word. Or they could sit on chairs in a circle.
- Provide a place for each child to put papers and crafts. Some ideas include a divided shoe organizer, wooden cubbies, a hanging shoe organizer, paper lunch bags, shoe boxes, and so forth. This will allow for smoother transitions and will help children take home all their belongings.
- Move immediately to the next planned activity. If you don't, kids will find something else to do!