

Summary

What is a Transition Strategy, anyway?

- A transition strategy is an activity or process that supports children to engage in the transition in a play-based and developmentally appropriate way.

What's the Point?

- Helps children know what to expect during transitions
- Keeps transitions engaging and fun
- Provides equitable opportunities to understand and participate in transitions
- Encourages child independence during transitions

How Do I Do This?

- Consider the transitions children experience throughout the day
- Brainstorm strategies that would engage children in each transition (e.g., a clean-up song at clean-up time; a comfort item in each child's cubby for drop-off)
- Consider strategies for individual children as needed (e.g., individualized visuals)
- Gather and prepare materials to be used as transition strategies
- Use transition strategies during the transition(s)

How Will the Children Participate in This Practice?

- Children contribute to the transition strategies used (e.g., choosing a clean-up song)
- Children attend to the transition strategy when it is provided
- Children demonstrate increased confidence and independence in engaging in the transition.

Checklist

Task	Complete?
Educator and team list all the transitions children experience during the day and decide which ones are necessary.	
Educator and team brainstorm different transition strategy ideas.	
Educator and team determine which strategies to use and when.	
Educator gathers and prepares materials needed (e.g., visuals, music, etc.).	
Educator introduces strategies to children in a meaningful way.	
Educator uses transition strategies consistently during transition.	
Educators provide individualized strategies to specific children as needed.	
Educators document child(ren)'s positive engagement in transitions and share with families.	

As an educator, when you work with children and families to thoughtfully plan ahead for change, you contribute to children's learning and well-being.

Makovichuk, Hewes, Lirette & Thomas, 2014, p. 73

Flight: Alberta's early learning and care framework.

Retrieved from www.flightframework.ca

