



Quick Reference

(checklist for transition to kindergarten)

For the Child

- Identify birth dates to determine who will go to kindergarten
- Continue planning lessons to include activities to develop emerging skills
- Provide activities to expose children to skills on the kindergarten readiness checklist through units, key experiences and lesson plans
- Plan a visit to a kindergarten classroom where children

participate in a small group activity, snack, and/or tour

- Discuss similarities and differences between preschool and kindergarten
- Read books, use videos, etc. to talk about starting school
- Set up staffing to update the IEP for children w/disabilities

For the Parents

- Encourage parents to attend special transition meetings

- On 1st home visit or teacher conference, discuss what parents can do at home to help each child be ready for kindergarten
- On subsequent home visit or teacher conference, explain and give parents a copy of “Me” book and “A Look Inside Kindergarten”
- Invite school personnel or PTA representative to talk with parents
- Communicate with parents and LEA (local education agency) to discuss special needs of children with disabilities
- Create & distribute a “Buddy” list of children who will attend the same school

For the Staff

- Distribute flyers, newsletters, reminders, parent information packets, etc., related to transition issues.
- Participate in cross-program visits, classroom observations, and/or in service trainings
- Consider periodically shortening rest periods for older children during last few months of center opening
- Occasionally set up cafeteria style meals for older children
- Adopt-a-class or become “pen-pals” with a kindergarten class
- Communicate with all concerned parties. Remember, transition is “everybody’s job”

For more information contact:



The Center for Parent Involvement (FCPI) was funded by the U.S. Department of Education; Goals 2000, Educate America Act from 1994-1999. Guided by an advisory board of parents and professionals, the FCPI's goal was to tap the power of parents.

The FCPI gathered information on parent needs, coordinated the information, and created a series of resources organized by theme, including fact sheets for parents and professionals, "Beyond the Basics" resources, and resource identification lists. Many of the resources have been translated into Spanish language versions, and every effort has been made to preserve the meaning and flavor of the original English documents. This series of materials provides a wealth of current information for both parents and providers; the complete set of resources can be obtained in PDF format on the Department of Child and Family Studies Website at www.fmhi.usf.edu/cfs/dares/fcpi. The staff of the FCPI are hopeful that their work will continue to help children get ready to learn for many years to come.

The series' themes include:

- Family Empowerment
- Parent Involvement
- Parenting Support
- School Readiness
- Violence in the Lives of Children
- Transition to Kindergarten

The Center was one component of a project led by Hillsborough County Center of Excellence in collaboration with the Department of Child & Family Studies at USF's de la Parte Institute and the Florida Children's Forum. Other project partners include HIPPIY (Home Instruction Program for Preschool Youngsters), Hillsborough County Head Start and Hillsborough County Even Start. For more information about these projects, call 813.974.4612.

Transition, Provider Tip Sheets, #2: Quick Reference

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