



Web transition resources for practitioners

Resource list in progress (9/21/11) – Final list of resources to be available on the web in the near future.

Enhancing the Transition to Kindergarten: Linking Children, Families & Schools

<http://www.cpirc.org/vertical/Sites/%7B95025A21-DD4C-45C2-AE37-D35CA63B7AD9%7D/uploads/%7BB2FC278E-5FC7-47FA-9039-E69743ABAF64%7D.PDF>

This is a National Center for Early Development and Learning publication that outlines ways to plan and implement kindergarten transitions.

Easing the Transition from Pre-k to Kindergarten: What Schools and Families Can do to Address Child Readiness

<http://www.sedl.org/connections/resources/rb/rb6-readiness.pdf>

This is a strategy brief from the National Center for Family and Community Connections with Schools. The 8-page brief gives concrete steps schools can take to involve families in the transition process.

Durham County's Transition to Kindergarten Initiative

<http://www.dpfc.net/TransitiontoKindergartenInitiative.aspx>

This is an example of one school district's efforts to outline their transition plans. It also has links to documents such as "Durham's Transition to Kindergarten Plan," which lays out the goals this county has created and steps they are taking to reach those goals.

Families as Primary Partners in their Child's Development & School Readiness

www.aecf.org/upload/publicationfiles/families.pdf

This tool kit has been created for the Annie E. Casey Foundation to help promote early childhood development and school readiness. The purpose of this tool kit is to provide guidance, resource materials and references that will assist communities in working with families as primary partners in their child's development and school readiness.

What is Family Support?

http://eclkc.ohs.acf.hhs.gov/hslc/tta-system/teaching/eecd/Families-Parent%20Involvement/Ongoing%20Communication/famcom_lea_09271_062005.html#family

This is a website from the Early Childhood Learning and Knowledge Center and the National Center on Quality Teaching and Learning outlining why families need support from schools and steps to take in order to foster such support. This site is specifically designed for the Head Start community.

Back to School Time: Tips to Help Children Adjust

<http://readyweb.crc.uiuc.edu/virtual-library/1996/bck2schl.html>



This list of tips from the National Association for the Education of Young Children is both for parents and early childhood professionals and includes steps to take to help children adjust during the transition from preschool to kindergarten.

NECTC Transition Tips: Toolkit of Practices and Strategies

<http://www.hdi.uky.edu/SF/NECTC/practicerearch.aspx>

This toolkit provides practitioners with specific strategies for building transition practices such as designating a contact person within their program and identifying timelines.

Florida's Transition Project

<http://www.floridatransitionproject.ucf.edu/>

Florida's Transition Project for Infants, Young Children and Their Families assists local communities in establishing trained teams to develop a seamless system of transition among agencies providing services to young children with disabilities, birth to six years of age, and their families.

Kindergarten Transition Resources: For Families, Community Members, Teachers, Caregivers and Policymakers

<http://education.state.mn.us/mdeprod/groups/EarlyLearning/documents/Instruction/008965.pdf>

This brief, prepared by staff at the Minnesota Department of Education, who used information from local childhood education staff and research literature, offers transition opportunities and resources (children's books, research articles and state reports) for families, community members, teachers and caregivers, and policymakers. The document is partitioned with relevant sections for each stakeholder.

Family Engagement and Ongoing Child Assessment

<http://eclkc.ohs.acf.hhs.gov/hslc/tta-system/family/docs/family-engagement-and-ongoing-child-assessment-081111.pdf>

This accessible 12-page document serves as a practical guide for Head Start staff as they prepare to share data with families. The guide offers strategies and tips (e.g. questions to ask and ideas to consider) and describes what data should look like and how to share it. While not specifically centered on transitions, as noted in the introduction, successful data sharing at the preschool level will likely empower parents to share and ask for data in kindergarten and beyond.

Transition web resources for researchers

Transition from Preschool Services to Kindergarten

<http://www.nectac.org/topics/transtoK/transtoK.asp>



This is a website from the National Early Childhood Technical Assistance Center that provides links to many other websites and documents related to transition to kindergarten.

National Early Childhood Transition – Literature Database

<http://www.hdi.uky.edu/SF/ExternalPages/NectcDB/search.aspx>

Searchable database for articles related to transition. Also includes links to the articles in some cases.

Background for Community-level Work on School Readiness

www.childtrends.org/files/LIT_REVIEW_DRAFT_7.pdf

This is a Child Trends report to the Knight Foundation on school readiness and factors that contribute to school readiness. It includes strategies that “work” and “don't work” for practices such as getting children immunizations, proper nutrition, etc. (119 pages)

A Good Beginning: Sending America’s Children to School with the Social and Emotional Competence They Need to Succeed

<http://casel.org/wp-content/uploads/2011/04/goodbeginning.pdf>

This paper examines the current state of research regarding the social and emotional risk and protective factors that predict early school problems or success, as well as address the next steps in closing the gaps between research and policy.

Development of a Comprehensive Community Assessment of School Readiness

<http://ecrp.uiuc.edu/v4n2/murphey.html>

This paper describes the development of a multipart assessment of kindergarten readiness for the State of Vermont. The approach described reflects emerging consensus around the appropriate domains of development to include in child assessments, as well as the need to assess schools' readiness for young children and their families. The approach differs from some states' approaches, however, in its emphasis on readiness data for purposes of community-level accountability rather than to support individualized instruction.

School Transition – from the Encyclopedia of Early Childhood Development

http://www.child-encyclopedia.com/pages/PDF/School_transition.pdf

This research brief from the Encyclopedia of Early Childhood Development presents summaries of individual published, peer-reviewed articles between 2003-2009.

The Transition to Kindergarten: A Review of Current Research and Promising Practices to Involve Families

<http://www.hfrp.org/publications-resources/browse-our-publications/the-transition-to-kindergarten-a-review-of-current-research-and-promising-practices-to-involve-families>

This website includes research on the transition to kindergarten as well as including strategies that can help facilitate that transition.



Terrific Transitions: Ensuring Continuity of Services for Children and Their Families

<http://www.terrifictransitions.org/TT/tt1f.pdf>

This document, produced by the SouthEastern Regional Vision for Education (SERVE), provides readers with a context on the definition and importance of transitions and then offers recommended practices and case studies featuring exemplary programs in Florida. The document is sectioned off by several topics including, (a) the definition of transitions, (b) promoting continuity, (c) transitions for children with special circumstances, (d) exemplary programs, (e) transition planning, (f) and preparing children for transition.

Transition web resources for families

A Parent's Guide to a Successful Kindergarten Transition for Preschoolers with Special Needs

www.nea.org/assets/docs/HE/44013_NEA_W_L6.pdf

This is a National Education Association pamphlet with tips on how to prepare your child for the transition to kindergarten, suggestions for books about the transition, and plans to make for the transition.

Kindergarten Readiness: A Child's Checklist

<http://www.del.wa.gov/publications/development/docs/KindergartenReadinessBrochure.pdf>

A brochure from the Washington State Department of Early Learning including information on what children need to know and be able to do before entering kindergarten.

Transition to Kindergarten Parent Guides

http://www.michigan.gov/mde/0,1607,7-140-6530_6809-152726--,00.html

This website from the Michigan Department of Education provides a series of tip sheets which highlight a variety of questions 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?"

Getting Ready for Kindergarten

<http://illinoisearlylearning.org/tipsheets/readykindergarten.htm>

This website from the Illinois Early Learning Project answers question parents might have when their children are preparing to enter kindergarten. This site addresses questions such as, "What will the teacher expect my child be able to do?" and "What kinds of knowledge and experience help prepare my child?" The website also has links



to other resources that give such information as what books are good to share with children who are getting ready for kindergarten.

Helping Preschoolers Transition to Kindergarten

<http://www.suite101.com/content/helping-preschoolers-transition-to-kindergarten-a241375>

This article provides parents with warnings of what to expect from kids during this transition as well as providing useful tips for making the transition easier.

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Kindergarten Readiness Tips

http://www.del.wa.gov/development/kindergarten/readiness_tips.aspx

This website from the Washington State Department of Early Learning gives a checklist of skills and competencies a child should have before entering kindergarten. It also provides parents with a list of practices that will help prepare their child for the transition.

Tips for Parents on Kindergarten Transitions

http://www.goodbeginnings.org/images/uploads/Transitions_Tips_Brochure.pdf

Hawaii's Good Beginnings Alliance (GBA) is a nonprofit organization that is 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 document, 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 includes 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 document concludes with a list of required documents needed for entry into Hawaii's public schools. This list could easily be tailored for any state.

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Terrific Transitions: Supporting Children's Transition to Kindergarten

http://www.terrifictransitions.org/TT/fp_tips.html

This website, formerly maintained by the SERVE Center out of UNC at Greensboro, lists 14 Parent Tip Sheets. The tip sheets address topics from why the transition to kindergarten is important, to organizational hints for parents as they prepare for the first day of school, to how to fulfill entry requirements.

Preparing Your Child For Kindergarten (YouTube video)

http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=EqdY_ak7Pc8&feature=related

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 your child a physical), and strategies to use for preparing their child for the transition. (4:44 min.)

From Kindergartener to Kindergartener: What's Important to Know (YouTube video)

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=DMf1mveot3I&feature=related>

This video, from the Orange Co. Department of Education, is geared toward children preparing to enter kindergarten. It features children telling other children what to expect in the new environment. (4:51 min.)

Transitioning from Preschool to Kindergarten (YouTube video)

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=i7fvCzmQs-o&feature=related>

This video provides parents with useful tips to help prepare their child for the transition to kindergarten. It suggests practices such as making a kindergarten photo album so that your child will know what to expect on the first day of school, making a portfolio about the child to let his or her new teacher know more about the child, and reading books about kindergarten to the child. (5:25 min.)

Transition web resources for school leaders and policymakers:

Building & Supporting and Aligned System: A Vision for Transforming Education Across the Pre-k – Grade Three Years

http://www.naesp.org/resources/1/NAESP_Prek-3_C_pages.pdf

This document, from the NAESP Foundation Task Force on Early Learning, sets forth 10 action steps for policymakers and other stakeholders to take in order to better build an aligned system for early learning.

Building a Seamless Learning Continuum: The Role of Leadership in Bridging the Gaps Between Early Childhood and K-12 Education Systems

http://leadershiplinc.illinoisstate.edu/downloads/FINAL_LINCreport.pdf



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Quality Teaching
and Learning

This report from the Leadership to Integrate the Learning Continuum project is a culmination of research and discussion examining how education leaders can better bridge identified gaps in the coordination between early care and education and K-12 schools to create a seamless learning continuum.

Pre-K – 3rd: Principals as Crucial Instructional Leaders

<http://fcd-us.org/sites/default/files/FCD%20PrincipalsBrief7.pdf>

This “Action Brief” from the Foundation for Child Development examines what principals and policymakers can do to help develop a “seamless learning continuum” from Pre-k to 3rd grade.

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