

Transition Activity Ideas by Connection

Type of connection	Transition activity
Child–School	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Establish a connection between preschool children and kindergarten teachers. • Create a connection between children and the kindergarten using school functions. • Have children practice kindergarten rituals in preschool. • Incorporate preschool activities into the kindergarten year. • Encourage preschool teachers to stay in contact with their former students. • Encourage kindergarten support staff to visit preschool children. • Conduct Spring kindergarten orientation for preschool children. • Establish peer connections within the preschool class. • Establish connections among preschool peers who will be in the same kindergarten. • Establish preschool peer connections with kindergarten peers.
Family–School	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Contact families during the first few days of preschool and kindergarten. • Assess family strengths and needs. • Maintain periodic contact with families. • Connect families to community resources. • Encourage family participation in home learning activities. • Encourage family participation in the classroom and at school events. • Conduct regular family meetings. • Conduct family meetings about transition issues. • Provide opportunities for parents to engage in planning activities, offer input and feedback, and lead activities when appropriate. • Share information about individual children with families, preschool teachers, and kindergarten teachers. • Use newsletters and resource materials. • Send letters home. • Set-up two-way communication. • Conduct Spring orientation about kindergarten for preschool families. • Conduct individual meetings between teachers and families. • Conduct parent orientation at the beginning of the year at preschools and kindergartens.
School–School	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Foster inter-school collaboration about programs and classroom practices. • Conduct visits: Preschool teachers visit kindergarten classrooms and kindergarten teachers visit preschool classrooms. • Communicate about curriculum (preschool and kindergarten personnel). • Connect about a specific child (preschool and kindergarten teachers). • Share written records. • Align curriculum. • Align early learning standards.
School–Community	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Build useful policies related to the kindergarten transition. • Identify and communicate community expectations for children. • Establish policy coordination through inter-agency connections.