

 **Welcome!**

Hello!

- While you wait, feel free to click on the **green resource widget** to explore the Transition to Kindergarten resources we will discuss today.
- Consider having a pen and paper handy to jot down notes.





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**Education Manager Series:
Let's Talk Transition!**

April 28, 2020

Presenters:
Rilee Larsen
Katie Miller





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 **Webinar Features**

Slide Deck Question & Answers Ideas Closed Captioning (English & Spanish)



Help Media Player Resource List Webinar Tips (English & Spanish)



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Introductions

Hello

Nǐ Hǎo

Hola

Bonjour

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Mindfulness Moment

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Session Objectives

At the end of this presentation, you should be able to:

- Discuss the importance and benefits of a collaborative approach to kindergarten transitions
- Implement strategies that support effective transitions
- Locate resources designed to support programs with the development and implementation of an effective transition process

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Transitions Are A Part Of Life

During a child's life, change is inevitable.

Families move, siblings are born, school begins and, consequently, transitions happen.



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Change Is Complicated and Sometimes Hard



Children need our help to manage changes.

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AUDIENCE RESPONSE: REFLECTION

Think of the life transitions you have experienced.

- What do you find supportive during periods of change?
- What might be helpful to the education staff that you work with?



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Experiencing Feelings About Transitions



We all experience feelings as we anticipate or react to change and transitions.

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Adults Play A Role



Adults can help children feel safe and secure and can turn transitions into learning experiences that support children's growth and development in all domains.

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Preparation, Skills, and Practice

Learning how to manage change requires preparation, skills, and practice.

Children need support before, during, and after transitions to assist them in managing change.



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Preparation, Skills, and Practice

Stability and continuity of predictable routines help children gain self-confidence and capacity to manage transitions effectively.



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A Smooth Transition to Kindergarten Is Important

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School Readiness And Transition

Inadequate View



Preschool → Kindergarten

- Cognitive Readiness & Intelligence
- Language Abilities
- Temperament
- Poverty status
- Gender

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When Connections Are The Focus

Teachers Peers
Community Family

Early Experiences → Kindergarten

The changing dynamics of these relationships during transitions influence child outcomes.

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Effective Transition Practices

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Building Bridges

Head Start Receiving Elementary School

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What practices facilitate successful adjustment?

- Information
- Relationships
- Alignment

Successful Adjustment

Plant & Kraft-Sayre, 2003

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Building Bridges: Leaders Supporting the Transition to Kindergarten

ECLKC

Building Bridges

Leaders Supporting the Transition to Kindergarten

VIDEO: Building Bridges
Leaders Supporting the Transition to Kindergarten

Download the video (MP4, 63MB)

Download the transcript (PDF, 20KB)

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AUDIENCE RESPONSE: REFLECTION

Consider the three key practices:

- Sharing information
- Building relationships
- Creating alignment

• What areas would you like to strengthen?

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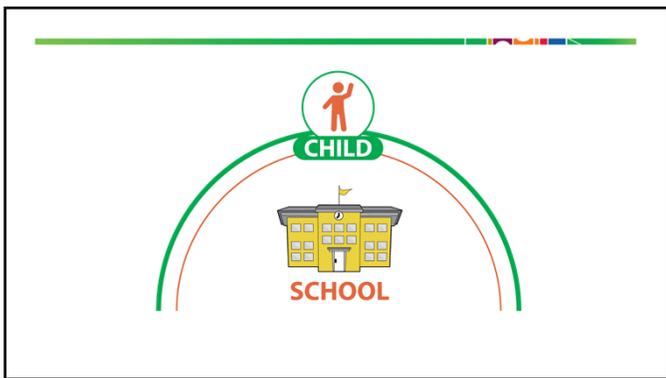


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Seven horizontal lines for writing.

Supporting Dual Language Learners

Warm, responsive interactions between children and adults are important during transition.

Stories, activities, and music that reflect home language and cultural tradition will help to develop a sense of belonging and comfort.



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Seven horizontal lines for writing, with a '1 0' at the top right.

Supporting Children who are Dual Language Learners

Supporting Children Who are Dual Language Learners (DLLs)

Through the Transition to Kindergarten

Warm, responsive interactions between children and adults are important during transition. Stories, activities, and music that reflect home language and cultural tradition will help to develop a sense of belonging and comfort.

Child-School Connection

Recommendations for All Children

Adaptations for Children Who are DLLs

There is a lot of support to enroll my child in kindergarten. I appreciate the help from Head Start staff to figure it out.

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Seven horizontal lines for writing.

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Coordinating Transition Supports for Children with Disabilities



<https://www.connectmodules.deced.org/connect-modules/learners/module-2/>

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Supporting Children with IEPs



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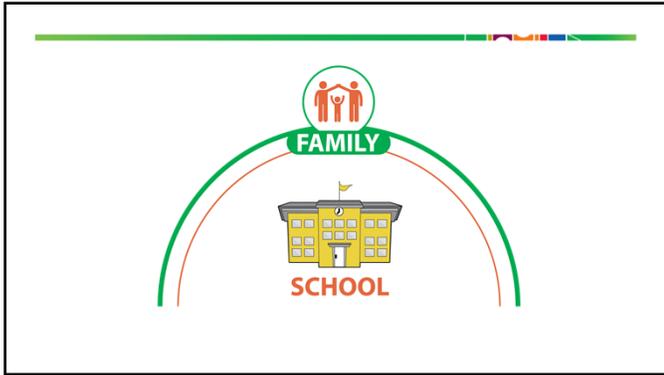
AUDIENCE RESPONSE: REFLECTION



- How are you currently supporting the child-school connection?
- What resources or practices could further strengthen this connection?

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The Importance of Family Participation

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Parent, Family and Community Engagement

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Honoring Families Through the Transition

- Are the program's materials, specifically related to transition, presented in ways that honor the cultures and languages represented in the families we serve?
- Are transition activities organized to value and accommodate the various strengths and needs of families?

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Ready, Set, Go: Hosting a Kindergarten Registration Event

Ready, Set, Go! Planning a Kindergarten Registration Event

Overview

Let's Get Ready!

Next, We Get Set!

Checklist

Page 1

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AUDIENCE RESPONSE: REFLECTION



- How does your program typically support the Family-School connection?
- How can those efforts be adapted to fit current program operations?
- What resources or practices could support these efforts?

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Program-School Connection Activities



- Jointly plan and participate in virtual transition to kindergarten meetings or events
- Use social media or another online platform to create a group for regional Head Start and elementary school leaders
- Identify or plan virtual joint professional development opportunities for educators
- Plan time for educators to meet virtually to discuss transition efforts and child data
- Align curriculum, routines, and activities
- Share assessment expectations
- Share photos or videos of each other's settings
- Create data-sharing agreements
- Use online, universal enrollment forms

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Leadership Practices for Successful Transitions

Transition to Kindergarten Leadership Practices for Successful Transitions to Kindergarten

Connections Overview

Supporting Transitions

Strengthening Connections

Program-School Connections

Key Takeaways

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Policy Connections at a Glance

Transition to Kindergarten Policy Connections at a Glance

Supporting Transitions and Meeting Standards

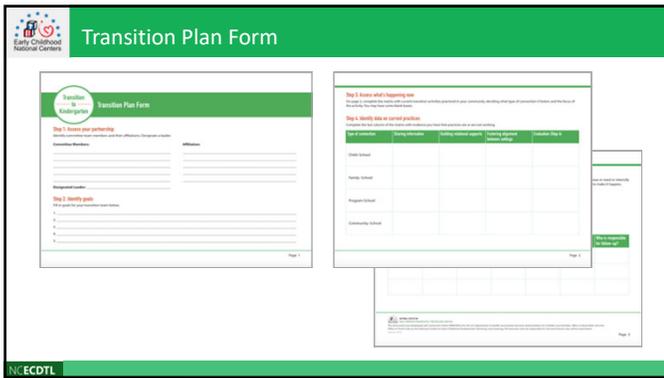
Notable Policy Connections

Head Start Act

Key Connections

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AUDIENCE RESPONSE: REFLECTION



- How does your program support the program-school connection?
- What resources or adaptations could continue to support this connection?

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Community-School Connection Activities

- Share kindergarten transition information via essential services:
 - Food access points
 - Medical offices providing physical exams for incoming kindergarten students
 - School supply sources
 - Postal mail
- Post kindergarten registration information in outdoor spaces around the community
- Ask libraries to host virtual story times
- Ask linguistic or cultural programs to conduct outreach
- Social services



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Benefits of Strong Connections

- Children are more ready to participate socially and academically.
- Families are engaged with the school from the very start, which improves short- and long-term child outcomes.
- Educators establish relationships with children and families sooner, which improve short- and long-term child outcomes.

NC ECDTL Parida & Kroll-Seyne, 2002

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Planning Calendars



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Coming Soon: Resource Guide



Transition to Kindergarten Resource Guide

Strong partnerships between Head Start programs and receiving elementary schools help children and families transition from early learning settings to kindergarten with confidence and success. In the **Resource Catalogue** section, all available transition to kindergarten resources are organized by program or audience. We created this guide to allow early childhood programs or local or national networks and each group of resources is hyper-linked and listed alphabetically in the **Resource Profiles** section of this guide, so you can see suggested ways to gather resources for a particular audience of teachers, educators, or families in a variety of contexts.

Resource Catalogue

Check out the resource categories below. If you need to be:

- Get the information:** Resources to increase knowledge about the transition to kindergarten.
- Share:** Resources to share what effective transition practices look like.
- Apply it:** Resources to support leaders, educators, and families to carry out effective kindergarten transition practices.
- Host a Summit:** Resources to plan and carry out a transition to kindergarten summit.

Resource Profiles

We appreciate you gathering transition to kindergarten materials for a variety of purposes:

- Target Your Audience:** The transition to kindergarten resources organized based on a targeted audience of leaders, educators, or families.
- Plan an Event:** Suggested ways to gather resources for a few common types of transition to kindergarten events for educators, leaders, or families.
- Host a Summit:** A graphic organizer of current practices and presentation materials, as well as opening questions to help you select handouts specific to your summit audience.

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MyPeers

Head Start School Connections MyPeers Community



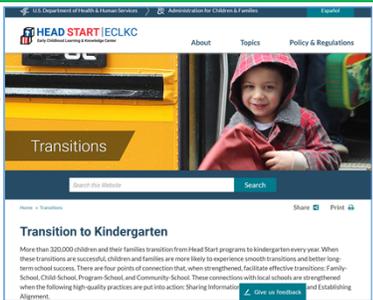
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ECLKC Transition to Kindergarten Website

Find it:

- ECLKC Website
- Search for "Transition to Kindergarten"



More than 320,000 children and their families transition from Head Start programs to kindergarten every year. When these transitions are successful, children and families are more likely to experience smooth transitions and better long-term school success. There are four points of connection that, when strengthened, facilitate effective transitions: Family School, Child School, Program School, and Community School. These connections with local schools are strengthened when the following high-quality practices are put into action: [Sharing Information](#) and [Establishing Alignment](#).

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Supporting Transitions: Resources for Building Collaboration

Each brief focuses on a different partnership level: the child and family, early educators, early care and education (ECE) programs, and ECE partners.

<https://eclkc.ohs.acf.hhs.gov/transitions/article/supporting-transitions-resources-building-collaboration>

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Conclusion

- **Effective transitions support:**
 - children's social, emotional, and academic success
 - family engagement
- **Effective transitions rely on:**
 - Information
 - Relationships
 - Alignment
- **Effective transitions include four key connections:**
 - Child-School
 - Family-School
 - Program-School
 - Community-School

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AUDIENCE RESPONSE: IDEAS

- What role does your community typically plan in the transition to kindergarten?
- What community resources remain available? What are some new community resources that you could use?

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AUDIENCE RESPONSE: EXPLORE RESOURCES



Let's explore the resources!

- If you haven't already, please click on the green resource widget to get started.

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REVIEW

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Early Childhood National Centers **Summary**

Today, we:

- reviewed the four points of connection in successful kindergarten transitions.
- discussed the three key practices to support the transition to kindergarten.
- familiarized with new and updated transition to kindergarten resources.
- identified new resources to support your specific goals and efforts.

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Questions?



Questions?

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We Are A Strong Community

- In these trying times, please stay safe and aware - this is how we can all do our part.
- You can find a link to the ECLKC COVID-19 information page in the **green resource widget**:
<https://eclkc.ohs.acf.hhs.gov/physical-health/article/coronavirus-prevention-response>
- We challenge you to tell the next person you interact with one thing you appreciate about them!

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Thank you!



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