Transitions Without Tears or Turmoil

1. Plan fun ways to move from one space or activity to another.

2. Create a list of your favorite transition ideas.

3. Include transition ideas on your daily lesson plan.

4. Give a warning before the transition is about to happen.

5. Vary your transition strategies to keep them fresh.

6. Consider transition times to be learning times.

7. Post your daily routine so children know what’s next.

Source: “I Know What’s Next!” Preschool Transitions Without Tears or Turmoil

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Ideas for Transitions

1. **Name a movement for children.**
   - Quiet: tiptoe, creep, spy, sneak
   - Loud: march, drive, bounce, trot, leap

2. **Ask children to “Move like a…”**
   - Monkey, snake, bus, airplane, rocket, robot

3. **Gain children’s attention by changing the tone or quality of your voice.**
   - Talk like a monster, pirate, opera singer, or announcer

4. **During waiting times, keep a steady beat on your knees or shoulders as you say favorite nursery rhymes.**

5. **Instead of having children wait in line, “circle up” and have fun by retelling short stories.**
   - The Three Little Pigs, The Gingerbread Man

6. **Create your own stories using children’s names from your classroom.**
   - “While driving to school one day, Alex saw...”