

Kindergarten Transition Summit Activity Guide

Discussion Norms/Agreements:

- Communicate clearly and listen respectfully
- Honor time limits
- Be present. Please make sure your cell phone is off or at least on vibrate
- Ask and welcome questions for clarification as needed
- Be respectful of one another's viewpoints and opinions
- Take responsibility for the quality of the discussion
- Build on one another's comments; work toward a shared understanding

Activity 1

I. What's going well?

- Gather in your assigned group and discuss what is going well in your current preschool to kindergarten transition plan
 - CDC/preschool staff and coordinating District staff members

- Write your comments on sticky notes and post on the corresponding large Post-it on the wall

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Activity 2

II. What are your frustrations or barriers?

- Gather in your assigned group consisting of the following and discuss frustrations or barriers in your current preschool to kindergarten transition plan:
 - CDC/preschool staff and coordinating District staff members

- Together agree on 3 challenges that you plan to address in your transition plan. Write your comments on sticky notes and post on the corresponding large Post-it on the wall

Guiding questions:

- Does this challenge occur in just one sector in which the preschool operates (e.g. public schools, Head Start agencies, specific age groups, etc.)
- Do any other policies (e.g. legislation, other initiatives, funding) impact these frustrations/barriers
- What barriers have inhibited attempts to resolve these challenges

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Activity 3

III. Review Your Current Kindergarten Transition Plan

- Gather with your group (CDC/preschool and coordinating District staff) to discuss your **current** transition plan and activities
- Consider: Checklists, pamphlets/brochures, timelines, transition activities, open houses, etc.

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Activity 4

IV. Transition Plan Toolkit

- Teams will collaborate around best practices on kindergarten transition and make adjustments and/or enhancements to their shared transition plan using the *Kindergarten Transition Planning Guide* graphic organizer.
- *Suggested resources: Self-Assessment Tool for Effective Transition from Prekindergarten to Kindergarten; 2. Kindergarten Transition Best Practices*
- Teams may choose to have an open discussion with other like-minded Regions/Districts (Large Regions/Districts, Medium Regions/Districts, Small Regions/Districts)
- What high impact transition activities should be included in your plan?
- If you were to design the perfect kindergarten transition toolkit, what would it include?
- Post your plan under the corresponding Region/District number

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Activity 5

V. Take Note!

- Choose one person from your group to stay with your poster and answer questions
- Take a Gallery Walk to view other transition plans
- Use this time to take notes and gather ideas for improving your shared plan
- Return and collaborate with your group regarding implementation, scheduling, and three next steps
