

# Plan ahead: Make transitions more fun!

**No one likes to wait!**

**How often do you expect children to wait patiently?  
Transitions = trouble, if you don't plan ahead!**

- Think about transitions in your room (mealtimes, lining up, naptime, moving from one activity to another). Are they hectic? Noisy? Behavior problems? Children are counting on you to make transitions smoother.
- Have realistic expectations & be proactive. Have lunch ready before calling children to the table, have centers already set up for when you return from the gym/outdoors, give children a two-minute warning before clean up, etc. Know who needs extra attention & give it freely.
- Have a plan. Every teacher needs a bag of tricks—your activity box, a trinket in your apron, songs & jokes, and a sense of humor will all help!



**Need specific transition tips? Just ask your director!**

OCFS Regulation 418-1.8(a) The child day care center must employ or have available staff who will promote the physical, intellectual, social, cultural and emotional well-being of the children.

MSA High Quality Indicator 4.2a Teachers treat the curriculum as everything that happens during the day. This includes while children play and explore, eat, interact, toilet, take walks or field trips, engage in planned experiences, and are involved in transitions such as arrival, clean-up, and departure.



**Children's Centers**