

Transitions

Purpose: The purpose of this Tool Kit is to help Program Leaders help students to make successful transitions from one activity to another.

Transitions are one of the most public faces of afterschool programming. Once you are "on the move", whether this is changing activities or location, you are much more likely to have students who are not fully cooperating. Learning to manage transitions will help you be successful in your work.

Here are the top 5 tips for Managing Transitions successfully:

Make space in your schedule for transitions. Too often we allocate a certain amount of time for an activity, but we forget that we will need to transition from one activity to another. So be sure that you make space for the transition—in the beginning probably 10 minutes, once you become accomplished you will probably only need 5 minutes.

Talk about what a transition is and what it would take to do it well. Be careful to ask students what it would take to move from one activity to another or one location to another effectively. If you need help asking questions view the Direct and Tell vs. Ownership Mini on C4K.

Give a 5 minute warning before the transition is to begin. Remember, even professional football players appreciate being given a 2 minute warning.

Use an attention getter so the students know that it is time for a well-run transition. Be sure students know what they are going toward. You've ended the last activity with a debrief, so remember to set the stage and build anticipation about the next activity just before you begin the transition.

After you have determined as a group what a good transition will look like, when you have completed a transition, rate yourself. Talk about what went well and what needs improvement. Make plans for the next transition.



For more information, contact Consult 4 Kids at

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