

PositivelyAutism.com Newsletter
February 2014
Topic: Transitioning to New Places

Transition Countdown

5
Minutes


Games

Transition Countdown

A chart for visual learners that shows the passage of time until a transition takes place. Many times, it makes the transition between activities easier for students with autism if they know what activity will come next and when it is time to change activities.

<http://www.teacherspayteachers.com/Product/Transition-Countdown-375393>

February Newsletter Topic: Transitioning to New Places

Last month, Positively Autism focused on helping children with autism transition more easily between activities. This month, we are continuing to focus on transition, but with a slightly different topic. We'll be sharing tips and resources to help your child or students with autism to transition to new places, such as:

- A new school,
- A new classroom,
- A new church or place of worship,
- Places in the community (such as stores, libraries, and movie theaters)

Planning for Successful Transitions Across Grade Levels

Transition is a natural part of all educational programs. Students with and without disabilities must adjust to changes in teachers, classmates, schedules, buildings and routines. The transition from one grade to the next can be especially challenging for a student on the autism spectrum (ASD). However, these students can make this shift more easily with careful planning and preparation.

<http://support.autism-society.org/site/DocServer/Transition Across Grade Levels.pdf?docID=10621>

A Transitions Box for a Child with Autism



A clever strategy for making a child with autism feel comfortable in a new Sunday school. Could easily be adapted for use in classrooms and other settings.

<http://theinclusivechurch.wordpress.com/2011/09/06/creating-a-transitions-box-for-a-child-with-special-needs/>

Preparing a Child with Autism for Attending or Hosting a Birthday Party

Help a child with autism know what to expect at birthday parties with this visual schedule and social stories. Reviewing a schedule and reading stories can help a child know what behaviors are expected and what may take place at these events.



Birthday Party Visual Schedule

Available in [PDF](#) and [PowerPoint](#)



Having a Birthday Party

<http://www.positivelyautism.com/free/BirthdaySocialStory1.pdf>



Opening Presents at a Party

<http://www.positivelyautism.com/free/BirthdaySocialStory3.pdf>



Going to a Birthday Party

<http://www.positivelyautism.com/free/BirthdaySocialStory2.pdf>



Birthday Vocabulary

<http://www.positivelyautism.com/free/BirthdayVocabulary.pdf>



Birthday Verbs

<http://www.positivelyautism.com/free/BirthdayVerbs.pdf>



Playing Piñata at a Party

<http://www.positivelyautism.com/free/BirthdayPinata.pdf>



<http://www.positivelyautism.com/free/BirthdayPinTail.pdf>

How to Prepare Your Autistic Child for a Change in Routine

Children with autism appreciate sameness and routine so going someplace new is not only scary, but also traumatic to them. How can you ease your child into going to a new place? I have a few solutions to this issue that comes up often as your child with autism grows. Over time, autistic children do better with this but you will find those early years, your child with autism may have a hard time going to new places.

Read more: <http://voices.yahoo.com/how-prepare-autistic-child-change-in-3334928.html?cat=25>

Tips for Transition Between Schools

Tips from parents and the Ambitious About Autism website:

http://www.ambitiousaboutautism.org.uk/page/about_autism/support/transition/between_schools/tips.cfm

Social Stories to Help Transitions

"Let's Go Grocery Shopping" Social Story - This story can be used to preview what will happen on a grocery shopping trip. Students review it before going out. The story can be printed, so that students can also refer to it in other places away from the computer. The book is also an example of using local photos to prepare a student for an outing. You can cut and paste to add your own pictures and remove pictures you don't need.

<http://www.setbc.org/pictureset/resource.aspx?id=263>

Social Story for Preparing for a Doctor Visit - Helping a child know what to expect in a new location, such as doctor's office, may help ease anxiety about the new place. Reading a story about visiting the doctor, such as the free story from Positively Autism, can give a child an idea of what will happen. http://www.positivelyautism.com/downloads/DoctorVisit_Story.pdf

Going to the Library Resource Kit - Includes a Social Story, library vocabulary flash cards, and a library visual schedule. Use these resources to prepare for a library visit to check out

books or library activities, such as story time.

<http://www.positivelyautism.com/downloads/LibraryResourceKit.pdf>

"Going to a Movie Theater" Social Story - A short story with words and pictures and what to expect when seeing a movie at a theater.

http://www.pathfindersforautism.org/docs/Theater_SOCIAL_STORY.pdf

Positive Autism News

Autism: A New Cultural Competency

February 11, 2014

http://www.huffingtonpost.com/william-stillman/autism-a-new-cultural-com_b_4761697.html

Autistic Twins Take to the Court, and Lead Team to Win

February 13, 2014

<http://www.cbsnews.com/news/fifteen-year-old-twins-with-autism-take-to-the-court-and-lead-team-to-win/>

Start-up Opens Digital Door for Students with Autism

February 17, 2014

http://articles.philly.com/2014-02-17/news/47382285_1_life-skills-students-digital-skills

Necklaces Inspired by Boy with Autism Go Worldwide

February 23, 2014

<http://www.ktvb.com/on-tv/sevens-hero/Necklaces-inspired-by-autistic-boy-go-worldwide-246811011.html>

Thrift Store's Success Creates Jobs for Those with Autism

February 24, 2014

<http://www.wral.com/new-thrift-store-employs-those-with-autism/13422777/>

Ex-MSU Hoops Player Talks About Overcoming Autism, Bullies

February 24, 2014

<http://www.macombdaily.com/social-affairs/20140224/ex-msu-hoops-player-talks-about-overcoming-autism-bullies>

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