Head Start center for inclusion

Visual Support Guide: Daily Activities

What?

These visual supports show images of daily activities and routines that commonly take place during the day in a group setting. Each picture has an object or action that provides information about an activity or routine. Use these visuals to help children understand what's happening and support them to engage more independently in daily activities.

Why?

- Visuals of activities in early learning settings help children understand what's happening, where to be, or what to do during daily activities and routines. Using visual cues can support children who may benefit from additional support to understand a verbal direction on its own, including children who have language delays, have difficulty attending, or who are dual language learners.
- You can use the visual activities in different ways.
 - Remind children of what they can do in certain areas of the learning environment.
 - [.] Help a child who has a language delay choose an activity during free choice.
 - . Help children know what will happen next during transitions.

How?

- Make daily activity visual supports.
 - Decide how and when you'd like to use the visuals.
 - Will you use the visuals with the entire group of children?
 - Will you use the visuals for an individual child?
 - Select visuals you want to use for the group and/or for an individual child. Translate the names of the activities into all the languages spoken by the children in your program or making separate pictures for each language.
- Use school day activity visual supports.
 - Use visuals to help children understand what to do in an area of the classroom or how to engage in a particular routine. For example, post the hand washing visual near the sink. When a child is at the sink during handwashing, show them the visual and explain the activity using language the child can understand. "We wash our hands here in the sink."
 - . Use visuals to support a child to choose an activity during free play. Show a few activity visuals to the child when you ask them, "What do you want to play with?"
 - During daily transitions, use a visual to show children what to do next.
 Explain, "It's time to sit at circle" or "It's time for snack." Point to each picture as you say the word to help children understand.

HEAD START CENTER FOR INCLUSION FUNDED BY THE OFFICE OF HEAD START DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

This resource was supported by the Administration for Children and Families (ACF) of the United States (U.S.) Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) as part of a financial assistance award totaling \$10,200,000 with 100% funded by ACF. The contents are those of the author(s) and do not necessarily represent the official views of, nor an endorsement, by ACF/HHS, or the U.S. Government. This resource may be duplicated for noncommercial uses without permission.







