

# Cool Tool

School-wide expectation: Take care of ourselves, take care of each other, take care of our things

Skill embedded in the transition activity: Standing in line.

**Purpose of the lesson:**

Motor Skills/ travel/ balance  
Incorporate reading/literacy (letter, #'s in eggs)

**Activity:**

Eggs/ flowers with different actions for children during line time

**Materials needed (what and where):**

Plastic Eggs  
Different movement cards  
Letters and numbers

Skill embedded in the transition activity: Waiting in Line

**Purpose of the lesson:**

Engagement  
Music Expression  
Patience

**Activity:**

Sing "If you're patient and you know it"  
"If you're patient and you know it, stand in line (clap, clap)"  
"If you're patient and you know it, here's how to show it. If you're patient and you know it, stand in line (clap, clap)"

**Materials needed (what and where):**

None

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Skill embedded in the transition activity: Standing in line.

**Purpose of the lesson:**

To learn color recognition, taking turns.

**Activity:**

Give each child an item to hold (small toy, Lego, small block, etc.) as they wait. Tell them to hold it with both hands and have the children take turns guessing what color the items are.

**Materials needed (what and where):**

20 small toys in a variety of colors

Skill embedded in the transition activity: Waiting at tables or in a specific spot

**Purpose of the lesson:**

To learn the B-I-N-G-O song

**Activity:**

Sing the B-I-N-G-O song, "There was a farmer who had a dog....."

**Materials needed (what and where):**

Create a visual board as you clap, attach a picture of a dog to each letter as you sing along.

B I N G O

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Skill embedded in the transition activity: The relaxing guessing game-  
What do you hear?

**Purpose of the lesson:**

Children can use relaxation skills while using cognitive and science skills

**Activity:**

Have the children sit together in a circle, close their eyes, relax and listen to the sounds they hear. Take turns using soft voices to express what they hear. (birds, walking feet, frog, airplane, talking, etc.)

**Materials needed (what and where):** Imagination

Skill embedded in the transition activity: "I Spy" with letter sounds

**Purpose of the lesson:**

To engage children in positive behaviors while waiting and to have fun!

**Activity:**

Have children take turns spying/ giving clues....

"I spy something that starts with the 'B', 'B', 'B' sound: Bus" "I spy something with the 'F', 'F', 'F' sound: flower, friend, etc"

**Materials needed (what and where):**

None

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Skill embedded in the transition activity: Movement Exploration

**Purpose of the lesson:**

Practice large motor skill while waiting in line to wash hands

**Activity:** Different Movements

1. Walk
2. Walk on tiptoes
3. March
4. Slide
5. Gallop and run
6. Up and down

**Materials needed (what and where):** None

Skill embedded in the transition activity: Pattern Development

**Purpose of the lesson:**

To follow others patterns

**Activity:**

One child leads the others to do two or three things they just did (while waiting for the bus)

Example: Clap hands, turn around , touch toes; next child leads

**Materials needed (what and where):** None

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Skill embedded in the transition activity: Language and literacy

**Purpose of the lesson:**

Ways to communicate

**Activity:**

Sign language alphabet posted where children wait for the bus.  
Teach letters, (first letters of names), then words, demonstrate signs, have children mimic. On another day demonstrate the sign and have children guess the sign and on another day have the child lead the activity.

**Materials needed (what and where):** Signing Poster

Skill embedded in the transition activity: Transitioning out of circle

**Purpose of the lesson:**

Engagement  
Traveling Skills  
Music Expression

**Activity:**

Travel through a tube to the next activity

**Materials needed (what and where):**

Tube to travel through

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Skill embedded in the transition activity: Conversation building, flexible thinking, creativity

**Purpose of the lesson:**

To expand thinking

**Activity:**

Questions to expand children's thinking:

"What makes the clouds stay up in the sky?"

"Why do trees grow so tall?"

**Materials needed (what and where):** Ideas to expand on.

Skill embedded in the transition activity: Listening, following directions, movement

**Purpose of the lesson:**

Sensory integration, stop/ start

**Activity:**

Begin a dance: "use words such as stop, wait, hold on, patience."

**Materials needed (what and where):**

Music to boogie or sing a song, insert word to signal, stop and wait.

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Skill embedded in the transition activity: Letter or Sound of the week

**Purpose of the lesson:**

To familiarize children with letter, sound recognition.

**Activity:**

Pass around a "Mystery" bag that contains an item that begins with the sound or letter of the week. Have the children feel what is inside the bag without saying what they think it is out loud OR give them clues so they can think of something that begins with the letter or sound of the week.

**Materials needed (what and where):** Small items, drawstring bag.

Skill embedded in the transition activity: Excusing children one at a time using a feather to touch each child on the back.

**Purpose of the lesson:**

To teach children to listen carefully and be very still

**Activity:**

Have the children sit and cover their eyes. Teacher touches each child on the back gently with the feather to be excused.

**Materials needed (what and where):**

Feather.

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Skill embedded in the transition activity: Clean up

**Purpose of the lesson:**

Teaches clean up skills by using their imagination

**Activity:**

Have children put their arms out and make a vacuum cleaner noise. Have them pretend their arms are the vacuum cleaner hose to pick up paper, objects, etc.

**Materials needed (what and where):** Miscellaneous items

Skill embedded in the transition activity: Open, shut them song

**Purpose of the lesson:**

To teach children to keep their hands to themselves and keep them engaged.

**Activity:**

Sing the "Open, shut them song".

**Materials needed (what and where):**

None



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Skill embedded in the transition activity: "Ooh, Aw" circle game

**Purpose of the lesson:**

To teach children their right from their left.

**Activity:**

Start with everyone in a circle, holding hands. Have one person give a quick squeeze to the hand of the person on their right. The squeeze is passed from person to person around the circle until the exercise is running smoothly, then add sound. Squeeze and say "Ooh" and watch it go around the circle. Next add the "Ah" but with a left exchange. Watch and listen as some sounds pass over each other.

**Materials needed (what and where):** None

Skill embedded in the transition activity: Waiting to wash hands

**Purpose of the lesson:**

Teaches patience, taking turns and rhyming

**Activity:**

While sitting in circle before going to wash hands, play "Bubble gum"  
Rhyme: "Bubble gum, bubble gum, in am dish. How many pieces do you wish?" Choose a child to pick a number, then count children's feet and whoever the teacher lands on gets to wash their hands next.

**Materials needed (what and where):**

None

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Skill embedded in the transition activity: "Waiting in circle for their turn to talk."

**Purpose of the lesson:**

Taking turns, building gross motor skills.

**Activity:**

Toss a ball to children in circle. When they have the ball it's their turn to talk.

**Materials needed (what and where):** Sensory ball

Skill embedded in the transition activity: Waiting on others patiently

**Purpose of the lesson:**

Teaches engagement, patience

**Activity:**

"I wonder what the children are doing, we are missing story time (or group)". VS Stand-around waiting for the few that need to finish washing hands, going potty, etc.

- Have a treasure hunt
- Pass a ball or other object
- Play simple touch games (find your ear lobe)
- Play "I Spy"
- Walk around the garden and point out different plants

**Materials needed (what and where):**

None

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Skill embedded in the transition activity: "Waiting for the bus,

"Scents in the air"

**Purpose of the lesson:**

Teaches children to wait safely and patiently

**Activity:**

Using scent tubes, remind children to smell one at a time and they will get a turn if they are standing in line. Ask "What do you think it smells like?"

Magical Melodies, "Did you ever taste an apple, an apple? What does it taste like?"

**Materials needed (what and where):** Small scent tubes

Skill embedded in the transition activity: Walking in from the bus,

"Merrily we walk along".

**Purpose of the lesson:**

Teaches children to stay engaged on their way in from the bus and gives TA's a chance to connect with children.

**Activity:**

Sing the song each day as the children walk in while you say each child's name. This is a good way to greet and bond.

"Merrily we walk inside, walk inside, merrily we walk inside from the school bus.

Hello \_\_\_\_\_ Hello \_\_\_\_\_ How are you today?"

**Materials needed (what and where):**

None

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Skill embedded in the transition activity: Rhyme that word!

**Purpose of the lesson:**

Pre-literacy

**Activity:**

Rhyming words, for example: "Think of a word that rhymes with time". Think of a word that rhymes with ball". etc

**Materials needed (what and where):** None

Skill embedded in the transition activity: Waiting/ Transition Activity

**Purpose of the lesson:**

Teaches children to learn each others names/ memory

**Activity:**

"Who's missing?" With a group of children in circle, have each child "turn into" a magic rock or a mouse (yoga). Then cover one child up with a blanket and have the other children sit up and ask who's missing.

**Materials needed (what and where):**

Blanket

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**Materials needed (what and where):** None

Skill embedded in the transition activity: Waiting/ Transition to hand washing

**Purpose of the lesson:**

Teaches children gross motor body awareness and leading

**Activity:**

Give each child a yoga card. Have them demonstrate the pose on the card and encourage peers to try it out too. They pick who goes next, then they go to wash.

**Materials needed (what and where):**

Yoga cards

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Skill embedded in the transition activity: Waiting in one place,

"Caterpillar to Butterfly"

**Purpose of the lesson:**

Life cycle of a butterfly, scientific inquiry

**Activity:**

Have children start on the floor and pretend they are an egg, then a tiny caterpillar coming out of the egg. Next have them pretend they are caterpillars looking for food. Have them pretend to eat leaves and getting bigger and bigger. Now they are a great big caterpillar and they're getting sleepy, make a cocoon and go to sleep. When they wake up they chew a hole n their cocoon , put their head out and look around. They begin to crawl out and realize some of their legs have turned to wings. Tell them to stretch and flap their wings, ready to fly away to their next destination.

**Materials needed (what and where):** None

Skill embedded in the transition activity: Moving from one area to another in line.

**Purpose of the lesson:**

To practice different ways to move while staying in a line and following directions.

**Activity:**

Have children form a line with teacher leading. Have the children say "We walk and we walk and we walk and we stop". "Then we hop and we hop and we hop and we stop".

Ways to move: walk, hop, gallop, slide

**Materials needed (what and where):**

None

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Skill embedded in the transition activity: Patterning

**Purpose of the lesson:**

Learning about patterns, builds math skills

**Activity:**

Different activities can include: "I Spy" a pattern, Clapping patterns, stomping patterns, jumping patterns

**Materials needed (what and where):** None

Skill embedded in the transition activity: Play catch

**Purpose of the lesson:**

Gross motor manipulation, social interaction & recognition.

**Activity:**

Yarn ball catch and throw. Say peers name, make sure they're ready and throw the ball.

**Materials needed (what and where):**

Yarn ball or other soft object for tossing & catching