Transitions and Temperaments in the Classroom

Vandy Moore, 1st Grade Teacher
Moving from one subject, activity, area, or environment, to another.

(possibly having tasks in the process)

Combined these make up a LARGE portion of our day, and have the power to set the tone/temperament of your classroom.

Focus on solutions.
Experiment! Let’s Watch...
... Effective Transition Strategies ...

**SUBJECT**

SMALL TIME
- mental transition

-SUBJECT CHANGE IDEAS: predictable saying, summary-task, “tell a friend____”, exit slip, talk-back, movement break

-Make it visual!

**SPACE**

MEDIUM TO LONGER TIME
- physically moving from one space to another

-SPACE CHANGE IDEAS: count (strategy), talk-back (you-me), content-rich song/poem

-ROTATIONAL IDEAS: fun, upbeat music count, song, talk-back
... Effective Transition Strategies ...

SUPPLIES

FAIRLY SMALL TIME

-GIVE DIRECTIONS on the FRONT END

-SUPPLY CHANGE IDEAS: have them talk back (verbalize, rhythmic or musical, repeat instructions, provide visual cues with pictures pictures (IEP)

-Be CONSISTENT with expectations

SITUATION

VERY SHORT TIME

-talking to not
-working to stopping

-SITUATION CHANGE IDEAS: attention getters, keyword, sound, call back, online stopwatch
Use, don’t lose time in Transition!

- Write or FIND jingles with important concepts whether academic or emotional

- Use routine exchanges to teach morals
... Transition from Home or Hall ...

- BEGIN THE DAY VERY CONTROLLED! It sets the tone!

  - Don’t forget visual expectations

  - Transition from school to home

  - I Love You Rituals

  - Having “quiet” moments to transition into your room

Let's Try!
... Implementation Tips ...

- More structure...more calm
- Student-led transitions
- REHEARSE! Plan before school! Start day 1!
- TEACH THESE FIRST, then move into content (Harry Wong)
- Have them verbalize/repeat instructions and provide visuals (IEP)
- Use movement when you can tell it is needed
... Project Time ...

- Look at schedule and identify transition moments, and make a plan for them!

- Use your own creativity or online resources!

Here's to a year full of making EACH moment matter!
... Resources ...

- “I Love You Rituals” by Becky Bailey

- “The First Days of School” by Harry Wong

- “Making the Most of Small Groups” by Debbie Diller

YouTube Favorites for academic-content songs:

- Blazer Fresh
- Have Fun Teaching
- Jack Hartman
Follow/Contact Me...

Subscribe to my YouTube Channel to follow a year of teaching tips and fun read-alouds!

YouTube Search: Joyful Education

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