

## Tips to Prepare Your Child for Transitioning Out of Early Intervention (EI) Services

### 1. Make transition decisions with your EI team well in advance

- Make sure your child's medical, educational and assessment records are up to date.
- Learn how to advocate for your child.
- Plan ahead. Allow enough time to make decisions.
- Talk with other families familiar with the process of transitioning to a new school or setting.

### 2. Include your child in preparations

- Talk to your child about going to a new program or setting in advance.
- If possible, take your child to the new setting/school ahead of time.
- Start socializing your child, giving him or her the chance to be around and play with other children before the transition.
- Work on communication skills with your child so he or she is more comfortable with one-on-one interactions.

### 3. Seek assistance from your IFSP team and local educational professionals, focusing on the following:

- Ask what the differences are between EI and special education preschool services in your community.
- Seek out options and suggestions for EI special education services in the community via preschool, childcare centers or Head Start.
- When you visit potential EI programs, ask about student-to-adult ratios, length of the school day and opportunities for family involvement.
- Check local resources such as [KYSPIN](#) for additional information, webinars and resources that may assist you in understanding how to select the right program for your child.

Additional tips and suggestions for helping your child transition out of EI services can be found at [PacerCenter.org – Preparing your child for transition from IFSP to an IEP, and beyond.](#)

## Wise Words

"A new year is a blank canvas, ready for the beautiful colors of your family's love to paint upon it." – Unknown

"The kids who need the most love will ask for it in the most unloving ways." – Russell Barkley

"Some things may never get better but your ability to deal with that problem will improve." – Wayne Kirk

"Tests, assessments and rating scales will only tell you the difficult things. They will never tell you how amazing your child will be." – Unknown

## 2025 Dates to Know:

### January

National Blood Donor Month  
National Birth Defects Prevention Month  
6<sup>th</sup> National Cuddle Up Day  
13<sup>th</sup> National Rubber Ducky Day  
23<sup>rd</sup> Maternal Health Awareness Day

### February

International Prenatal Infection Prevention Month  
Children's Dental Health Month  
8<sup>th</sup> National Kite Flying Day  
10<sup>th</sup> National Make a Friend Day  
14<sup>th</sup> National Organ Donor Day  
20<sup>th</sup> National Leadership Day  
28<sup>th</sup> National Tooth Fairy Day

## Upcoming Events and Trainings

**Thank You from the Coaching in Early Intervention Training and Mentorship Program (CEITMP)**

As of November 2024, the majority of early interventionists who work with the Kentucky Intervention System (KEIS) completed the CEITMP, with plans for the remainder to participate by 2026. Thanks so much to the families who allowed your KEIS provider to record sessions as part of their professional development! After completing the program, survey responses from participants show that coaching is working to support caregivers to collaborate with their EI provider to share about concerns, make plans, participate and lead during sessions. The word cloud below shows the various ways that providers report caregivers engaging in sessions.

Graphic provided by CEITMP



## Upcoming 2025 Family-Friendly Events

January 2-5 [School's Out Science Camp at Kentucky Science Center](#)

January 24-25 [Erth's Dinosaur Zoo LIVE on Stage at Boyle County Performing Arts Center](#)

February 26 [Jim Henson's Fraggle Rock LIVE on Stage at Boyle County Performing Arts Center](#)

Ongoing parenting and family education classes designed to fit your schedule provided both in-person and virtually can be found at [MakeParentingSweet.org](https://www.MakeParentingSweet.org).