

Two-Minute Tips

COVID-19 Edition: Transportation

Transporting children to and from a child care facility poses increased risk of exposure and spread of the virus. The new guidelines explain the requirements intended to make transporting as safe as possible. If your facility does not offer transportation, this guideline will not apply.

Practice Tips

Talk to Children

“[Riding the bus will be different](#)” is a great social story resource to introduce the new transportation process.¹

Prepare Families

Ensure that families are informed of the new transportation requirements:

- The adult dropping off should be a household member of the child, preferably the same person every time.
- Everyone ages five and up must wear a face covering.
- Practice social distancing.

Ideas for Implementation

Transition during transportation may look different. Here are some ideas to make this time more engaging and safe for children:

- Use markings to indicate where each child should stand while waiting for the bus.
- Encourage children to bring a small item to keep their hands busy.
- Label assigned seats with a child’s photo or a unique symbol so children can easily locate their seat and avoid contaminating other spaces.

- While waiting for the bus, engage children in conversation, physical movements (e.g., Simon Says, balancing on one foot) or songs with hand or finger gestures (e.g., Itsy Bitsy Spider, Wheels on the Bus, Where is Thumbkin).
- To increase safe distancing, have children load from back-to-front and unload from front-to-back.
- Suggest that families role play the new transportation procedures at home.



Tips in Action!

Watch [this video](#)* to see a provider's warm, positive interaction with children as they exit from the bus.

Click [here](#) to see the same video with Spanish subtitles.

*Disclaimer: Linked media was filmed before COVID-19. Please follow the necessary guidelines to make these tips helpful and safe for your program.

References

¹Tuchel, T. (2020, June 20). Riding the Bus During COVID-19. [Autism Little Learners](#). (<https://bit.ly/2QmSNOp>)

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