

Keeping Healthy and Safe: Smaller Group Sizes

Young children are attending programs that may have smaller groups or different groups. Adults can support them with simple explanations, visual supports, and practice.

Provide a Simple Explanation

Use simple phrases, such as “Your group is smaller or different now so that people can have room to spread out. This helps us keep our germs to ourselves.”

Use Visual Supports

Post individual pictures of all the children in a class or group.



Set Them Up for Success

Support children who talk about friends who are no longer in their group. Encourage them to draw pictures for them or write letters to them.

Provide Practice and Encouragement

Play name games to help children learn the names of everyone in the current group.

Any opinions, findings, conclusions, or recommendations expressed in this tip sheet are those of the author(s) and do not necessarily reflect the views of the Illinois State Board of Education.



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