

Transition Ideas

- **Use a tech talk to give positive reinforcement to students while getting settled on the rug.** For example, record messages that say things like, "I like the way Sam is sitting" or "Jack, great job getting ready to listen so quickly." This will remind students that though we are not using our "typical" voices, the device can also serve as our voice. Teachers are great models, so students will learn to respect their peers when they are using their devices as well.
- **Use large picture symbols to give directions to students that have just arrived on the rug.** Hold up signs that say "It's time to listen" and "Find your spot quickly" so that students realize how important it is to pay attention to Picture Communication Symbols that are a Universal Language of our class.
- **When lining up to leave the classroom, use gestures to have children show if they are ready.** Say, "If you are ready to go to art, make a happy face" or "If you are ready to go to recess make your body move." (Obviously, gestures and directions are dependent on the capabilities of your class). This way all students will be able to show their teacher and friends if they are ready to leave the room with out using the room.
- **Play the game "Touch Something" with your class.** This game is great for getting students to move around during rug activities. Ask your students to move around the classroom (however they are able to) and listen for your directions. The teacher calls out various directions such as, "Touch something that is red" or "Touch something that starts with the letter B" or "Touch something that is smaller than you are."
- **Play Freeze Dance!** We really like this game because it gets students up and moving during seated activities. We let students control the music by plugging a switch into the stereo so that students can press the switch to stop the music and let their friends know they have to freeze. This game is

also great for students with motor impairments, as they can dance however they want to, from whatever position is most comfortable.