



Back to the Field

Socialization



Socialization is an important part of our society. Opportunities for children and families to socialize with others has been very limited this past year. Now that early intervention providers are transitioning back to the field and more families we serve are venturing out in the community, we may need to make adjustments in how we might typically socialize, so that it is comfortable and safe for everyone.

Familiar Places, New Routines: The pandemic kept a lot of children and families inside their homes, limiting visits with family and friends, and trips to many community locations, including parks, stores, and restaurants.



Children may need reminders of rules and expectations for behavior with different people in different places. New routines are needed for wearing masks, cleaning hands more often and allowing for personal space around others.



Going to School: Some children we serve may be starting school or child care for the first time or returning for the first time in many months. Help families think through what will allow their children to be successful with these new experiences. Schools and child care programs have their own rules, so families should check the guidelines for these settings.



Comfort Levels: As communities have increasingly opened, families may have different comfort levels with social experiences involving people outside their family group and/or in community locations. This may include how quickly they want to return to face-to-face early intervention visits.



Remember that each family we serve may be in a different place in terms of how quickly they return to former and/or engage in new social opportunities.

