

GROUP TIME INFORMATION AND INSPIRATION

"If you try having a little less circle time and a little more small group time, I think you'll find more opportunities to connect with each child as an individual and more success in developing children's knowledge and skills."

Sarah Taylor Vanover

HOW CAN WE SAFELY SUPPORT GROUP TIME?









- Create opportunities for small groups throughout the day to allow more space for physical distancing, and more time for individual interactions and engagement
- Use visual cues like mats or stickers to show children where to sit to encourage and support physical distancing
 - Think about the purpose of your group time; Is it for movement? For learning a new skill? Or for connecting through literacy?
 - Take group time outdoors to allow for more space for movement and singing songs, or play music for the children to dance and move.
- Use your group time to share a new toy/material, model positive interactions, discuss topics of interest, and teach problem solving skills.

Use props to support storytelling and songs. This increases children's engagement and attention span.

Consider ways to engage children without singing, such as finger plays, puppets, games and stories that offer movement exploration. E.g., "Going on a Bear Hunt", "Pete the Cat" etc.





ADDITIONAL RESOURCES

From Circle time to Small Groups: Meeting Children's Needs

Group Learning in Early Childhood



