

# How to Make Descriptive Books



A descriptive book is a visual tool that helps you share with children the expectations you have for them in the classroom or during a particular activity, so they can successfully meet them. You can use descriptive books at different times during the day to share expected behaviors during specific moments (transitions, storytime, lunchtime, outdoor time, etc).

In the descriptive book, you will describe the expected behavior step by step using pictures. You will be telling a story of what children will be doing. It is important to use the visual support consistently until children can identify and follow the routine. Descriptive books are particularly useful for dual language learners, who may need extra support in communication and comprehension of directions in English. The pictures will provide a clear idea of what children need to do and the vocabulary related to the routine.

When making your books, it is most helpful to use actual photographs of the children in your classroom demonstrating the expected behavior. They will enjoy seeing themselves! Focus on writing the expectations in positive language. For example, you might write “use walking feet” instead of “don’t run.”

