

What to Do When I Miss My Family

at My Early Learning Centre



Reader Notes:

These stories can help children become familiar with some things they may experience at an early learning centre or kindergarten. Every child, early learning centre, and kindergarten is different. Before reading, change the words, pictures and order so they match the child's early learning centre or kindergarten, routines, communication and support needs. The “add your own image” version can be used to include familiar photographs.

Read the story with the child. Invite them to notice what is the same or different, share how they feel and show what helps them feel safe, comfortable and included. Children may communicate through speech, gesture, movement, sign, symbols, a communication device or other ways.

Families and educators can use what the child shares to plan supports and reasonable adjustments. The aim is to support predictability, agency, belonging and participation while recognising that every child may engage with their early learning centre or kindergarten in different ways.



My family brings me to my
early learning centre.



I can say hello in my own way. I find the place for my bag. It may have my name and photo. My family leaves. They will be back to pick me up.



Sometimes I miss my family when they leave.

I might feel sad, worried, or upset.
I might feel like crying and want my family to come back.



It is okay to miss my family.



I can tell or show a teacher that I miss my family.

I can use words, signs, or pictures.



A teacher can help me feel better.

We might sit together, talk, and look
at my family photo.



A teacher can also help me find something to do that I enjoy.

I might listen to a book, do some craft, or talk and play with a friend.



I can also bring a soft toy from home.

I can cuddle my toy when I miss my family. When I am ready to play, I can put my toy somewhere safe.



There are lots of things to do at my early learning centre.

We have playtime, snack time, rest time, and lots of fun games and activities.



When the day is finished, my family will come to pick me up.



I can miss my family and still
have a good day at my early
learning centre.

