

## Room Arrangement Paper



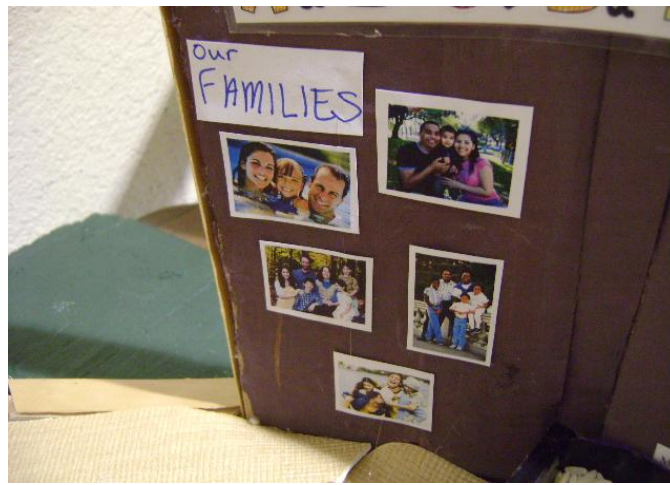
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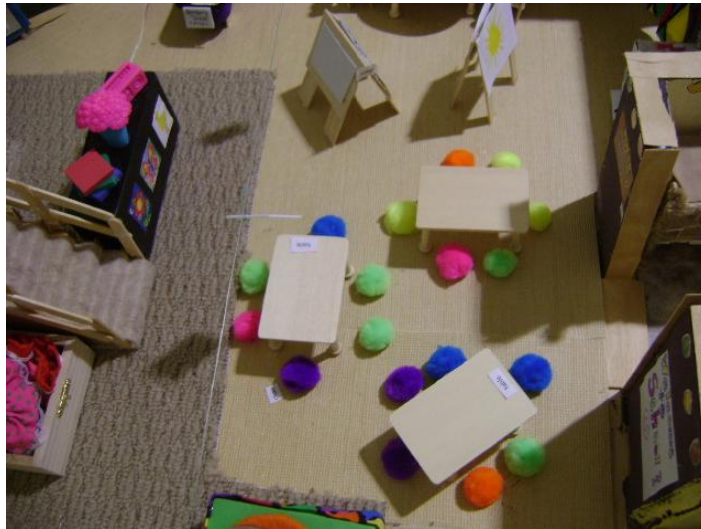
We painted our room yellow because it is a calming color and encourages learning. The abundance of windows will bring in natural light for the room to have a soothing effect. The lamps are natural and not fluorescent. We had the multi-colored curtains because they were fun and we figured that the curtains will stay drawn for majority of the time. The flowers in our classroom add elements of nature and aides in offering a safe and comfortable environment. To keep our classroom organized we brought in many shelves, bookcases, and a trunk to store a variety of materials that our students could use and easily access.



One form of how we manage the classroom is we have limited open areas which discourages running. Second, we have our rules posted in the room where they can be easily read. Third, we incorporated pictures of students' families so that the students know that the classroom involves families with learning. The classroom is not just for students and teachers, families are just as involved in the students learning accomplishments.



In order to accommodate students with exceptional needs we decided to replace chairs with stability balls. Stability balls are used to help these children focus and also to work with balance skills. Also, in the reading area we color coded books according to the children's varying reading levels. This helps because children are able to have an area where they can go and receive books that are in their zone of development. Otherwise children go and grab a book that can either be incredibly difficult which frustrates them or a book that is too easy, which could bore them and not challenge them enough.



In our classroom we believe that incorporating technology into the curriculum is highly important and this is why we have Smartboard, which is one of the latest forms of technology. Not only will we use the Smartboard to teach the question of the day, but we can also use it to play educational games and anything else that requires use of the internet. The listening center is where children come to use headphones in which they are able to listen to the story being read to them. This is very important because children get a chance to look at the words as they are being read and they will be able to hear how the word is supposed to sound like. The reference books are helpful because they give the children a chance to have the experience of researching instead of simply asking an adult their question. The radio is a fun tool to have in the classroom because teachers can use it to help the children learn rhythm skills and the ability to dance in front of other people. This is important because it is good for children to learn that it is okay to dance in front of others! The radio can also be a tool to calm the class down, when soothing music is put on. This could be played when children have reading time or another form where you want the energy of the classroom to be calm.





We made the reading area a main focus in our room because we believe that literacy is an important concept that children need to develop every day. We decided to put it near the 3 windows because the natural sunlight will have a relaxing and soothing affect on the reading area. The children will be able to focus on the reading and not be distracted from other areas. We also thought that it would be nice to have a wrap around sitting area around by the windows. This would be a comfortable place where children can relax and read. Along with the window seats, we have bean bag chairs for the children to read in. There is a wide selection of books on the book shelves for the children. The children have easy access to the books. We decided to have an open area, so that the children can lay and read books if they wish. If an area is too cramped the children may feel tense and lose concentration. We also have an audio/listening device where children are able to listen to stories while they follow along with the book. This is accessible right next to the reading area for the children to use. This was described earlier in the paper.



Our writing is in the middle of the room where the tables fit best. The writing supplies are located in the art area. We had the art and writing areas close by because they share similar materials and some children like to draw pictures with their written work. We believe drawing and coloring are linked together and have lasting effects with student's literacy abilities. We also have a reference area that has reference books for the children to use for any research they need to do or if they just want to look up information. This was also described earlier in the paper.



Our carpet area is the space where the children come every day to hear daily messages and anything the teacher has to announce on that particular day. There is a rug with a designated spot for each child and the teacher sits in the rocking chair. There is a smartboard in which the teacher is able to teach lessons on and there is also a weather board. Each day the children use this weather board to announce and discuss what the weather is like that day. There is also a message board in the circle area in which the children are able to read what the message of the day is, which is written by the teacher. The calendar is also in this area and is used to help the children learn about days, weeks, and months. This is also helpful because children learn how to state the date correctly.





We also have a turtle and two fish that are located in the aquarium which is near the carpet area. The pets are great to have in a classroom because each child can take turns feeding them and cleaning out the aquarium. This is a great way for children to learn responsibility.



Our bathrooms are near the art center because the sinks are shared by both rooms. There are two toilets and signs around the room to help children remember what the proper manners and customs are when going to the bathroom.



Having an art center is important because art contributes to children's development. A child's physical development can be improved through their fine and gross motor skills which are used in art. Social and emotional development is enhanced through art because the children are building their self-esteem while also learning about their classmates. A child's cognitive development can also be improved by incorporating math into the art activity. Knowing that a child's development is affected by art made it beneficial that preschool had an art center. Though our art and writing center doesn't have a clear separation we still consider them two separate centers. In our art center we wanted to include a lot of materials that will improve the children's creativity, such as paint brushes, paint, and markers. We have designed two easels so at least four children can work on a picture at one time. The easels have been incorporated into our art center, because it provides the student's with an open-ended art activities. Along with the easels we have provided the students with plenty of blank paper, since coloring books only stifle children's creativity.



We felt that a very important center to construct in our preschool was the dramatic play center. Dramatic play is extremely important to a child's development. When a child is pretend playing, they might be physically practicing their fine motor skills as they snap clothes on themselves. While playing at the dramatic play center a child might be recalling past experiences and at the same time improving their abstract thinking. The most important reason for dramatic play is for the child's social and emotional development. When a child is at this center they are working with their peers, negotiating roles, making choices with them, and playing cooperatively, all are essential to development. These are just some of the ways we feel that having a dramatic play area is important. When it came time to decide what would be in our center we thought of adding play clothes so the children can practice their fine motor skills. The kitchen underneath the loft will encourage the children to be imaginative with their peers as they play house. On the top of the loft we have provided an area for the children to continue the house theme. It also has puzzles which are important for a child's cognitive development as they try to logically figure out how pieces go together. The children may also be able to turn the upstairs loft into a variety of things that may fit into their imaginative play that day.



Our block area is an area that the children are able to use their imagination to create whatever they want with using the blocks provided. Our block area offers the children enough area to put their imaginations into actions, but not enough room to run, roughhouse, or encourage undesired behavior. When arranging our classroom, the block area was one of our last areas we had to find a place for. After some discussion, we decided to put the block area next to the dramatic play area because the children could incorporate the building blocks into the dramatic play. We also included a radio in the block area because we thought this and the dramatic area is a fun place where the children can dance and add that into their imagination story.

To create our block area we used a book shelf that we got from whoever used our classroom last semester. We also used cartons from cheese and cracker snacks to make bins for our blocks. Our blocks are made of foam pieces that are cut into different sizes and shapes.





The purpose is for the sensory table is for students to explore different materials using their senses: taste, touch, sight, smell and sound. Often times, though, we can neglect this useful classroom tool and don't take the opportunity to allow preschoolers to do what they do best- learn through play and exploration. Since this is one area that is often overlooked, it was unanimous that we include it in our classroom. The sensory table is a great opportunity for preschool students to learn about the environment around them. Student-driven exploration and hands-on experience manipulating objects can lead to powerful learning in early childhood. We decided to put the sensory table near the art center and close to the door because the sensory table can be (and usually is) a messy area. The art area is usually messy as well so we thought it would be a good idea to keep the mess all together instead of it being strewn throughout the room. It's also close to the door which is nice because if any contents need to be poured out outside, it is easily accessible.

To make our sensory table, we used a carton from a cheese and cracker snack that children usually like to eat. Once we cleaned it and painted it, we glued cut Popsicle sticks on the carton for legs.

Overall, we believe that a classroom needs to be welcoming, comfortable, and a relaxing place to learn. Positioning certain areas and objects in your classroom to manage your classroom, you are able to diminish problems that may occur in the classroom.