

Dramatic Play Center

- Clothing for both genders as well as gender-neutral clothing
- Empty food and other product containers with labels and logos on them
- Telephone book
- Cookbooks and recipe cards
- Pots, pans, dishes, glasses/cups, and plastic eating utensils
- Plastic food and other kitchen equipment
- Bathroom scale
- Dolls with doll clothing and blankets
- Child-size broom and mop
- Memo pads, pencils, menu
- Furniture such as wooden stove, refrigerator and sink, drawers or shelves for storing clothing, small couch, table and chairs, mirror, doll stroller and high chair
- Prop boxes for other themes such as: doctor's office, shoe or grocery store, office, post office, etc.

Skills Addressed:

Self-awareness
Better understanding of the immediate environment
Visual discrimination skills
Small muscle skills and eye-hand coordination
Opportunities to role play home and work experiences

GLEs Addressed:

ELA: 4, 7, 19, 21, 23, 25, 27
Science: 6
Social Studies: 10, 14, 15

Art/Creativity Center

- Pencil, crayons, markers, paint brushes
- Easel
- Books, postcards and pictures of famous paintings and artists
- Writing pads, whiteboards, paper,
- Collage materials such as sequins, feathers, scrap construction paper, popsicle sticks, and pipe cleaners
- Scissors (various cutting patterns)
- Glue, glue sticks
- Sponges, netting materials, textured materials for stamping/painting
- Play dough and/or clay

Skills Addressed:

Creativity
Imagination
Small and large muscle skills
Color concepts
Expression of positive and negative feelings
Reading readiness and prewriting skills

GLEs Addressed:

ELA: 12
Math: 20, 24

Math Center

- Balance scales
- Small objects of various sizes and colors to count and measure
- Rulers and tape measures
- Number and shape puzzles
- Magnetic numbers
- Blocks: shape and parquetry with pattern cards
- Dominoes
- Geometric shapes
- Unit blocks
- Geoboards and rubber bands
- Judy clocks
- Items for patterning with pattern cards
- Books about shapes and numbers
- Games involving counting such as Hi Ho Cherrio and Chutes and Ladders
- Paper, crayons, pencils, and markers
- Paper plates or mats for sorting/counting
- Unifix cubes
- Calendar
- Abacus
- Cash register and money
- Puzzles or objects (picture or real) that can be counted and matched to written numerals
- Number line

Skills Addressed:

Counting
Measurement
Identify, compare, create and identify plane and 3-D shapes
Create and copy patterns
Visual discrimination
Become familiar with written numbers
Fine motor skills
Eye-hand coordination
Conservation of number
Compare size and quantities
Become familiar with coins
Patterns and relationships
Vocabulary
Geometry
Problem solving

GLEs Addressed:

Math: 1-20, 24
Social Studies: 6
Science: 12, 13

Sand and Water Centers

- Container for sand
- Sand, soil, birdseed, small plastic pellets
- Toys for sand play that can be used to dig, scoop, fill, and pour
- Toy animals, small people and figurines, small cars and trucks
- Sand/water wheel
- Plastic tubes and funnels
- Container with water
- Sponges
- Items that sink and float
- Boats, dolls
- Soap for creating bubbles in the water
- Turkey baster, spray bottles, pumps for experimenting

Skills Addressed:

Measurement, comparison, problem solving
Fine motor skills and eye-hand coordination
Scientific exploration
Strengthen small muscles
Water and sand have a calming effect
Expand vocabulary

GLEs Addressed:

Science: 2-4, 6, 15, 17

Writing Center

- Paper
- Envelopes
- Pencils, crayons, markers
- Books
- Rubber stamps and stamp pads
- Journals
- Typewriter
- Clipboards
- Stapler and paper clips
- Computer and software for writing
- Blank booklets for creating books
- Textured letters
- Small sand box for writing in sand
- Magazines and newspaper

Skills Addressed:

Fine motor skills
Letter recognition
Letter/sound correlation
Pre-writing and pre-reading skills
Social skills
Organization of thoughts and ideas

GLEs Addressed:

ELA: 2, 3, 19, 21-23, 25, 27, 28, 30-32, 42, 43

Greeting Area

- Sign-in area for children to find their name/picture or write to indicate that they have arrived
- Classroom news showing what is being worked on and special events
- Family information pictures, notes to parents
- Labeled space for each child's belongings
- "Question of the Day" that can be a graph to respond to by writing or adding a marker

Skills addressed:

Identification of own name and names of classmates
Counting
Adding to and interpreting graphs
Pre-writing skills ELA

GLEs addressed:

ELA: 2, 19, 28, 30, 31, 35, 45
Math: 1-3, 8, 11, 21-23

Science Center

- Animals, food, and housing
- Plant/seeds for growing
- Balance scales with items to weigh
- Magnifying lenses
- Eyedroppers
- Tweezers
- Microscope
- Kaleidoscope
- Containers and items for sorting, mixing and measuring
- Magnets and assorted objects
- Natural objects such as pine cones, leaves, shells, or rocks
- Paper and pencils and crayons
- Books related to items in center or displays
- Rulers, string, tape
- Thermometer
- Simple science experiments with written/picture directions
- Etch-a-sketch or similar activity using magnet and iron filings
- Feely boxes

Skills Addressed:

Observation and discrimination skills
Concepts through first-hand experiences
Sense awareness
Opportunities for care of plants and animals
A foundation for later learning of physics, chemistry, biology, geology, astronomy, etc.
Encourages curiosity, discovery and exploration

GLEs Addressed:

ELA: 11
Science: 1-11, 13-16, 21-25, 28

Fine Motor Center

- Puzzles, both knobbed and plain
- Floor puzzles
- Beads for stringing
- Lacing cards with strings
- Scissors and magazines for cutting
- Small building toys such as tinkler toys and interlocking blocks
- Paper of various sizes and colors
- Hole and shape punches
- Stencils
- Pencils, crayons, and markers
- Pegs with peg boards
- Gears with interlocking plates and connectors
- Snap blocks
- Mr. Potato Head
- Play dough and/or clay

Skills Addressed:

Fine motor skills
Eye-hand coordination
Increased vocabulary
Pre-writing skills
Patterning
Problem solving

GLEs Addressed:

Math: 1, 2, 24

Block Center

- Wooden unit blocks
- Hollow or foam blocks
- Accessories such as road signs, small vehicles, animal props (farm, zoo, pets), people props (multi-ethnic family sets and community helpers sets)
- Level area large enough for building without interruption
- Books about construction and buildings

Skills Addressed:

Social skills
Gross and fine motor skills
Mathematical concepts (size, shape, balance and counting)
Creativity and decision-making skills
Social studies skills development
Visual discrimination skills
Communication skills and vocabulary

GLEs Addressed:

Math: 2, 8-11, 14-16, 18
Social Studies: 3, 10, 15, 16

Reading Center

- A variety of books representing different topics and showing diversity in a positive way – Include some wordless picture books and books with colorful, bold illustrations and photographs
- Books on tape and tape player
- Blank tapes for students to record their own stories
- Pillows, soft chair, rug, dolls and puppets

Skills Addressed:

An appreciation of good literature
Reading readiness skills
Imagination
Interest in and respect for books
Visual perception
Vocabulary and attention span
Isolates and decodes one-syllable words

GLEs Addressed:

ELA: 3, 5, 7

Music Center

- Various types of music
- CD and/or tape player
- Microphone
- Headphones
- Scarves and streamers
- Instruments (lummy sticks, xylophone, sand blocks, tambourine, bells, cymbals, maracas, drums, etc.)

Skills Addressed:

Social/emotional development
Appreciation for different types of music
Expression of feelings
Listening skills
Vocabulary and language
Phonological awareness in rhyme and repetition
Physical science-how sound is created and different sounds can be made by the same instrument and by different instruments
Technology-operating tape or CD player

GLEs Addressed:

Science: 19

