

Alex Nearing

Learning Centers

Age: 4-5

Setting: Pre-School Classroom

Learning Center #1

Center: Seashell Experiment

Time: 5-10 minutes

Learning Objectives:

- Learn the difference in quantities of weight of objects
- Learn how to use a magnifying glass

Materials:

- Tray filled with seashells
- Large and small magnifying glass
- Comparison Scale

Description:

This is a station that can be used during either free play or centers. A maximum of three children to this center while two are preferred. Students will be able to touch and feel the different types of seashells. They can hold the shells up to different sized magnifying glasses to learn how to use a magnifying glass and to get to see what the shells look like zoomed in. There is also a scale at this station so that students can compare different quantities of shells in terms of how much they weigh.

Learning Center #2

Center: Letter Writing

Time: 5-8 Minutes

Learning Objectives:

- Learn how to write individual letters in both their capital and lowercase form
- Work on fine motor movement

Materials:

- Plastic container

- Colored sand

Description:

This is an activity that should be done one on one with a teacher. The student will be given a letter and must draw that letter with a finger in the sand inside the plastic container. They should work on both the uppercase and lowercase letters. The teacher should prompt the student for the first half of the activity and then the student should be able to freely do it for the remainder of the activity.

Learning Center #3:

Center: Rubber Band boards

Time: 5-10 Minutes

Learning Objectives:

- Work on fine motor skills
- Learn how to make shapes in other ways than just drawing them

Materials:

- Rubber band board with rows of pegs
- Rubber bands

Description:

Students can freely choose to do this activity. They pick out a board and a bucket of rubber bands and work on stretching them over the pegs to create a design all of their own. This center is good for one to two students at most since it is mainly an independent play area.

Learning Center #4:

Center: Dramatic Play

Time: 10-15 Minutes

Learning Objectives:

- Students will learn social-emotional skills while interacting with other students
- Students will learn how to play the roles of professionals in the real world

Materials:

- These are rotated out as time goes on, but basically anything that involves dressing up and playing the part of someone/thing else

Description:

Students will be able to choose this center during either free play or centers. This center should max at 4 students. The students will take on the role of the people in the center and create a dramatic world that they play in during the time they are in this center. They are to make up the story line as they go along and learn to work with one another.

Learning Center #5:

Center: Sand Table

Time: 5-10 Minutes

Learning Objectives:

- Students will gain an understand of the world through their sense of touch
- Students will learn to work on social-emotional growth through working with another student

Materials:

- Sand table
- Miscellaneous plastic objects to place in sand

Description:

This center is designed for a maximum of two students. They are to work together as they search through the sand to discover its hidden contents. There should be some objects that are familiar to the children and some that will require the students to talk to themselves about what they believe the object is.