

Materials for Playspace Environment

Items on this list are necessary for supporting children's exploration and development

For more information on Responsive Environments, please visit the Alberta Childcare Framework website www.childcareframework.com

Materials which support/encourage

Dramatic and Social Play

- Loose Fabric/Material such as sheets, scrap fabric, scarves, etc.
- Boxes for children's imaginative play (ie: house, airplane, kitchen, train, etc)
- Puppets/Materials to make puppets
- Real-life kitchen materials such as wooden spatula's, whisks, small pans, potholders, etc.
- Dolls and clothing that represent different cultures and genders
- Loose parts such as rocks, pinecones, seashells, etc which may become food items, utensils, etc. during play

Materials which support/encourage

Creative Play

- Paper (blank white, recycled, newspaper rolls, construction paper)
- Crayons
- Markers
- Paint
- Paint Brushes (and other materials for painting such as kitchen utensils, tooth brushes, sponges)
- Pencils
- Loose Parts such as pinecones, rocks, sticks, leaves, shells, etc
- Tape (various kinds)
- Recycled materials (milk jug lids, paper towel rolls, coffee cans, corks etc)
- Scissors
- Glue (stick and liquid)
- Natural dough

Materials which support/encourage

Building and Construction

- Blocks:
 - Wooden Blocks
 - Lego/Mega Blocks
- Cardboard (boxes, tubes, cereal boxes, tissue boxes)
- Other recycled materials (cans, tins, etc)
- People figures
- Vehicles
- Animals
- Loose Parts
- Photos for inspiration (buildings from around the world, maps, etc)

Materials which support/encourage a

Calm Space

- Materials for relaxation (pillows, mats, soft furniture, etc)
- Preferably low traffic area, away from "busier" areas of the environment
- Books (displayed at children's level, rotated regularly, represents culture, diversity, gender)

Additional Materials to provoke children's thinking

- Flashlights
- Mirrors
- Materials to produce sound/music such as instruments, music player, etc

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