

## ART CENTER

### SOCIAL INTERACTION

- Imitate actions paired with fun sounds
- Roll art materials back and forth
- Paint/color to music and stop the music every now and then to break the routine

### REQUESTING

- Hold or place materials out of reach
- Use materials that are difficult to open
- Offer materials of different colors, shapes, sizes, etc. to encourage choice making
- Staff request needed items by pointing

### JOINT ATTENTION

- Make a habit of showing or pointing to children's art projects
- Use novel or odd items in the art center
- Hang old projects around the room and point to the art periodically

### EXPLORATORY PLAY

- Put out textured items as art materials
- Use play-dough, clay, Gak<sup>TM</sup>, etc.
- Encourage multiple actions with the same art tool

### RELATIONAL PLAY

- Incorporate sorting activities into art projects
- Encourage putting in and taking out with art materials and containers
- Stack pieces of various art materials

### FUNCTIONAL PLAY

- Make puppets or animals to feed, groom, put to sleep, etc.
- Create clothing or jewelry items and put them on teachers or peers

### SYMBOLIC PLAY

- Make puppets or animals dance, jump, etc.
- Pretend art materials are hot, heavy, stinky, etc.
- Role play an art museum visit with artist, tour guide, and visitors

## Center-Specific Material Suggestions

CENTER	SUGGESTED MATERIALS	
<b>Art Center</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Various types and sizes of paper (white, construction, newsprint, easel)</li> <li>• Crayons; markers; colored pencils</li> <li>• Easel with various brushes</li> <li>• Recycled/re-used items (bubble wrap, bottles, packing peanuts, magazines)</li> <li>• Watercolors, finger paint, tempera</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Scissors; glue/glue sticks</li> <li>• Various collage materials</li> <li>• Clay (modeling, natural)</li> <li>• Ink/Bingo Dotters</li> <li>• Beads , string, yarn, ribbon</li> <li>• Play-dough, Gak™</li> <li>• Dry erase boards with markers</li> </ul>
<b>Block Center</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Blocks various shapes, sizes, &amp; colors</li> <li>• Legos®/Duplos®, Lincoln Logs®, Bristle Blocks, Tinker Toys®</li> <li>• Action figures/dolls (people/families)</li> <li>• Road map rug or mat</li> <li>• Toy house, farm, garage, pirate ship</li> <li>• Mailing tubes</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Pictures of places in community</li> <li>• Pictures of famous places</li> <li>• Dress up clothes (construction, fire fighter, train conductor)</li> <li>• Toy animals (farm, dinosaur, zoo)</li> <li>• Trains/connecting tracks</li> <li>• Vehicles/transportation toys</li> </ul>
<b>Circle Time</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Large dry erase board</li> <li>• Easel with large chart paper</li> <li>• Felt Board Activities</li> <li>• Pockets charts, sentence strips</li> <li>• Visual schedules</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Musical instruments</li> <li>• Song charts (with pictures)</li> <li>• Low chairs; labeled seats</li> <li>• Weather chart</li> <li>• Calendar</li> </ul>
<b>Dramatic Play</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Kitchen toys (pots, dishes, utensils)</li> <li>• Grooming toys (brushes, comb, dryer)</li> <li>• Household accessories (vacuum, iron)</li> <li>• Toy food/grocery store items</li> <li>• Dolls with extra doll clothing, crib</li> <li>• Puppets and stuffed animals</li> <li>• Toy cameras</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Large mirror (shatter proof)</li> <li>• Doll house with dolls &amp; furniture</li> <li>• Dress-up clothes and accessories</li> <li>• Cash register, shopping carts</li> <li>• Themed kits (doctor, vet, salon, restaurant, post office)</li> <li>• Telephones &amp; phone book</li> </ul>
<b>Gross Motor</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Bean bags</li> <li>• Balls (various types/sizes)</li> <li>• Trikes, riding toys, wagons</li> <li>• Stilts, swings</li> <li>• Hula hoops</li> <li>• Balance beam</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Parachute</li> <li>• Scarves, ribbon streamers</li> <li>• Hopscotch, hop-along balls</li> <li>• Tents, tunnels</li> <li>• Tumbling mats, trampoline</li> <li>• Basketball hoop</li> </ul>
<b>Math/Manipulatives/ Puzzles</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Counting and matching games</li> <li>• Puzzles (form board, floor puzzles)</li> <li>• Magnetic shapes/numbers with board</li> <li>• Sorting/counting items &amp; trays</li> <li>• Geoboards® with rubber bands</li> <li>• Rulers/Tape measure</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Number line/number cards</li> <li>• Paper dolls, color forms, dice</li> <li>• Clocks, timers, calculators</li> <li>• Pattern blocks with cards</li> <li>• Unifix® cubes, nesting cups</li> <li>• Pattern and sequence games</li> </ul>
<b>Reading Center</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Books (rotate regularly) &amp; props</li> <li>• Puppets (hand, finger, stick)</li> <li>• Writing materials (clipboard, pencils)</li> <li>• Alphabet cards/chart</li> <li>• Magazines</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Felt board stories</li> <li>• Word Wall</li> <li>• Letter and phonic games</li> <li>• Magnetic letters with board</li> <li>• Letter rubber stamps with ink pad</li> </ul>

<b>Science Center</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Natural items (rocks, feathers, acorns)</li> <li>• Microscope, magnifying glasses</li> <li>• Prisms</li> <li>• Collection containers</li> <li>• Plants/seeds growing</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Science/nature books/magazines</li> <li>• Animals (aquarium, hamster)</li> <li>• Magnets</li> <li>• Picture cards</li> <li>• Balance scale</li> </ul>
<b>Sensory Table</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Water (add soap or food coloring)</li> <li>• Sand, soil, rice, beans</li> <li>• Float and sink items</li> <li>• Sponges, strainers, sifters</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Cups, buckets, shovels</li> <li>• Boats, cars, trucks</li> <li>• Water wheels, funnels</li> <li>• Items to bury (animals, etc.)</li> </ul>
<b>Table Time</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Play-dough, Gak™</li> <li>• Craft materials</li> <li>• Books and related toys/objects</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Dry-erase boards and markers</li> <li>• Pipe cleaners, yarn, beads</li> <li>• Puzzles and mazes</li> </ul>