

WAC

WAC 170-295-2010

What types of play materials, equipment and activities must I provide for the children?**You must:**

- Provide a variety of easily accessible learning and play materials of sufficient quantity to implement the center's program and meet the developmental needs of children in care.
- Have a current daily schedule of activities and lesson plans that are designed to meet the children's developmental, cultural, and individual needs. The toys, equipment and schedule must be:
 - Specific for each age group of children, and
 - Include at least one activity daily for each of the following (you can combine several of the following for one activity):
 - Child initiated activity (free play);
 - Staff initiated activity (organized play);
 - Individual choices for play;
 - Creative expression;
 - Group activity;
 - Quiet activity;
 - Active activity;
 - Large and small muscle activities, and
 - Indoor and outdoor play
- Ensure the lesson plan, daily schedule of events, available toys and equipment contain a range of learning experiences to allow each child the opportunity to:
 - Gain self-esteem, self-awareness, self-control, and decision-making abilities;
 - Develop socially, emotionally, intellectually, and physically;
 - Learn about nutrition, health, and personal safety; and
 - Experiment, create, and explore.
- Post the daily schedule and lesson plan in each room for easy reference by parents and by caregivers;
- Keep the daily schedule of events and lesson plans for the past six months on site for inspection;

- Maintain staff-to-child ratios and group size during transitions from one activity to another during the day;
- Plan for smooth transitions by:
 - Establishing familiar routines; and
 - Using transitions as a learning experience.
- Ensure the center's program affords the child daily opportunities for small and large muscle activities, outdoor play, and exposure to language development and books; and
- Afford staff classroom planning time.

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Materials, Equipment, and Activities

You will need to offer an assortment of culturally relevant activities, experiences and materials that are based on developmentally appropriate practice. Developmentally appropriate practice supports the belief that all children are unique and progress through predictable ages and stages at their own pace. Make sure that the activities, materials, and experiences are appropriate for each child in your care.

To engage children in active, meaningful learning it is important that you:

- ◆ Foster positive self-identity and a sense of emotional well-being
- ◆ Develop social skills and knowledge
- ◆ Encourage children to think critically, reason, question, and experiment (as used in pre-reading, writing, mathematics, science, and social studies)
- ◆ Enhance physical development and skills
- ◆ Encourage and demonstrate sound health, safety, and nutritional practice
- ◆ Encourage creative expression, representation and appreciation for the arts
- ◆ Develop a sense of belonging to the natural environment
- ◆ Ensure the materials and practices of your program reflect the backgrounds and current practices of the children and families enrolled, and
- ◆ Respect and celebrate cultural diversity.