

Infant/Toddler Materials for Exploration Stations

Materials should be evaluated for safety and added to your exploration stations based on the ages and abilities of children in your program. Supervision while using all exploration stations and learning materials is necessary to protect children's safety. Consider diversity (cultures, ages, races, and abilities) when embedding materials into each station. This is not a list of required materials, but a starting point for building stations that offer children a variety of engaging play opportunities.

BOOKS	DISCOVERY	PRETEND PLAY
<p>A variety of fiction and factual books that introduce children to a variety of topics, books added according to themes</p>	<p>A variety of nature/science/discovery toys or books that include realistic introductions to nature, plants or pets for children to observe, sand and water play opportunities for older children</p>	<p>A variety of dramatic play materials based on the age of children in your program:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • dolls, dress-up clothes • soft animals • toy phones • play food/dishes
MUSIC/DANCE	BLOCKS	TABLE TOYS
<p>A variety of music materials based on the age of children in your program:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • toys that make music/noise • rattles • shakers • bells • maracas • drums 	<p>Blocks and accessories based on the age of children in your program:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • wooden blocks • soft blocks • unit blocks • cardboard blocks • blocks with letter and numbers • toy people/cars/animals to use with blocks 	<p>A variety of fine motor and math toys based on the age of children in your program:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • grasping toys • simple puzzles • shape sorters • nesting/stacking toys • peg boards • large pop beads • toy cash register • busy boards/boxes • books with interactive features • etc.

BASIC SUPPLIES TO KEEP ON HAND

- | | | |
|--|---|--|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • bags (fabric and paper) • balls/beanbags • baskets/boxes • camera • cardboard tubes • chalk • clear contact paper • containers/buckets • craft sticks • cups/bowls/dishes | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • digital device • felt/craft foam • flannel board • kitchen utensils/bakeware • magnifiers • mirrors • newspapers/magazines • paper plates • paper punch • parachute/blankets/sheet | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • printer • safety scissors • sensory bin/sand • stamp pads • stickers • stuffed animals/toys • types of glue/paper/tape • yarn/string/ribbon (cut short) |
|--|---|--|