

The Quality Connection



in this issue >>> Dramatic Play

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Beyond the Rule: A Path to Quality Care

Each issue of The Quality Connection will focus on one classroom component and will identify connections between requirements and expectations of DECAL's various divisions and the impact each one has on classroom practices. The Quality Connection aims to illustrate how all DECAL programs are part of the Quality Continuum and designed to work together toward continuous quality improvement.

Inclusive Practices

- Space large enough for all children to move around freely and safely
- Print materials of differing abilities in the dramatic play area, helps children to begin understanding diversity (ex. people with hearing or visual equipment, or adaptive equipment for mobility)
- Dress-up clothing/costumes should be easily worn (ex. Velcro closures, slide on/off, etc.)

Foundational Practices

- Variety of age & developmentally appropriate materials available/accessible
- Materials in good repair
- Schedule reflects opportunities for child-directed, free choice dramatic play time

Quality Practices

- Children allowed to use dramatic play materials independently to cultivate creativity and imagination
- Examples of diversity represented in materials, including culture, race, age, gender, and ability
- Opportunities for language development provided through positive interactions & teacher communication and engagement

GA Pre-K Practices

- Materials labeled and organized within the dramatic play area
- Props to encourage beginning reading and writing skills are included
- Variety of prop boxes for dramatic play themes are provided and routinely rotated

Setting up your classrooms>>> Materials & Space

INFANTS & TODDLERS

- ★ Soft Dolls
- ★ Animals
- ★ Play Food
- ★ Pots and pans
- ★ Toy telephones
- ★ Toy vehicles
- ★ Child-sized furniture
- ★ Cooking/eating equipment
- ★ Simple dress-up clothes

NOTE: Ensure toys/materials are age appropriate and not choking hazards for this age group

PRESCHOOL

- ★ Soft Dolls
- ★ Animals
- ★ Play Food
- ★ Pots and pans
- ★ Toy telephones
- ★ Toy vehicles
- ★ Child-sized furniture
- ★ Cooking/eating equipment
- ★ Simple dress-up clothes
- ★ Doll furniture
- ★ Props for role play
- ★ Print materials

SCHOOL AGE

- ★ Child-sized furniture
- ★ Dolls or figures
- ★ Toy foods
- ★ Menus
- ★ Variety of dress-up that supports different roles
- ★ Costumes and props
- ★ Puppets
- ★ Print materials



ROOM ARRANGEMENT

An inviting dramatic play center encourages children to be creative. Store labeled, organized materials on low, accessible shelves.

Rotating prop boxes periodically gives the opportunity to explore a variety of dramatic play themes. Examples of themes for prop boxes include birthday celebration, picnic, flower shop, or office.

The area should be large enough so that several children playing can be active and noisy without interrupting other activities.

Provider Spotlight >>>

We Want to Showcase You!

Check for topics covered in the next issue and submit pictures of your classroom interest areas for the chance to be included in the next publication!

You can send your pictures to*:

ccsqi@decal.ga.gov

Make sure to include your program name and location!

**Ensure parent permission for images of children to be used in publications.*



Next Issue!

Rhythm & Music

Special Thanks to:

Donna Marks – Pre-K

Jennifer Waters – Quality Rated

Katie Hagen – Inclusion/Bev. Support

Nakilia McCray & Rachael Lee - CCS

Provider

Spotlight...



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Elberton, Georgia