

# The Quality Connection



in this issue >>> **Arts & Crafts**

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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

 Art materials provided for all students, appropriate to developmental ability

 Make adaptations and extensions appropriate for individualization and reflect on lesson plans

(Ex. tape paper in place to prevent movement, utilize grasping accessories to assist with holding materials, limit material options for those who get easily over-stimulated, draw lines for cutting, etc.)

### Foundational Practices

 Variety of age & developmentally appropriate materials available/accessible

 Materials in good repair

 Schedule reflects opportunities for child-directed, free choice art time

### Quality Practices

 Artwork is child-directed & individualized, unique & varied by child

 Allow all learning domains to be used simultaneously and engage in conversations about work being created

 Individualized artwork posted at eye-level around classroom

### GA Pre-K Practices

 Allow children to explore artistic media independently & express themselves creatively

 Ask open-ended questions & support vocabulary by including words such as texture, patterns, symmetry

 Rotate materials & supplies frequently to allow for a variety of experiences

# Setting up your classrooms>>> Materials & Space

## INFANTS & TODDLERS

Art materials should be non-toxic, safe and appropriate. Teachers will engage in all art activities with children to model use of materials and ensure safety.

- **Drawing materials:** crayons, paper, non-toxic markers
- **Play Dough**
- **Finger Paints**
- **Non-Toxic Paint and Brushes**
- **Collage Materials:** textured fabric and paper, natural materials, cut shapes



## PRESCHOOL

The Art area should be inviting to young children organized, and labeled with pictures and words.

- **Drawing materials:** crayons, markers, pencils, various paper
- **Paint materials:** finger paints, tempera, water colors, variety of brushes
- **3-dimensional materials:** play dough/clay, pipe cleaners, cardboard tubes
- **Collage materials:** glue, variety of paper, felt, magazine pictures, cotton balls, sequins, feathers
- **Tools:** scissors, staplers, hole punches, tape, play dough cutters/tools, stencils, sponges for painting, etc.

## SCHOOL AGE

School age children need challenges to match their abilities. Children should be free to choose their own activities and should be able to include materials based on their current interests.

- **Drawing Materials**
- **Paint Materials**
- **Jewelry Making:** beads, string, wire, rainbow looms
- **Washi Tape**
- **Origami Materials**
- **String Art**
- **Calligraphy Materials**



## ROOM ARRANGEMENT

The following furniture should be present in the art space:

- **Table and chairs**
- A **drying rack** or space for art to fully dry
- **Full size easel** – accessible daily and replenished with paper and paint daily
- **Shelving** for storage of the art materials
- **Note on Materials:** Art materials related to current classroom topics, interests, and themes are encouraged to be updated throughout the year



## Provider Spotlight >>>

## Next Issue!

### Dramatic Play

#### Special Thanks to:

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Nakilia McCray & Rachael Lee - CCS

## 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](mailto: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.