

Suggested Materials by Age Group and Abilities

	Babies	Toddlers	Preschoolers	School-Agers
Furnishings	Crib or portacrib Diaper-changing table or mat Rocking chair or armchair Highchair or sassy seat Sling or backpack Unbreakable mirror	Shelves displaying children's books Sturdy step stool Low chairs and table Booster chairs Dishpans or water table Cots or mats	More book shelves Small stepladder Workbench Card table More sand and water play areas Safe family beds for quiet time	Couch, lounge chairs, benches Large table and comfortable chairs More book shelves Tent Hammock
Social and Dramatic Play	Washable baby dolls with diverse skin tones and features Washable stuffed animals	Play bottles and blanket for dolls Doll bed, stroller Stuffed animals Small people figures Play telephone Play stove, refrigerator, pots and pans, food Dress-ups for girls and boys Rubber or vinyl animals, barn Blanket or tent	Washable dolls of various ethnicities, many matching the children Simple doll clothes and accessories for feeding, diapering, sleeping Doll house Wagons, garden carts, baby strollers for dramatic play Puppets Cash register, play money Prop boxes with various themes Full-length mirror near dress-ups	Plays to act out Various props, fabrics Construction materials Movable climber, boards, building materials for dramatic play
Literacy and Language	Cloth and cardboard books Simple picture books and nursery rhymes for lap reading	Variety of sturdy books Books to be read: simple stories, with familiar, non-threatening themes, nursery rhymes	Longer storybooks Information books Storybooks of increasing length with detailed illustrations ABC toys, puzzles, magnets Paper and pens	Chapter books Reference books Children's magazines Computer for email, writing stories, plays, note cards

MANY RIGHT WAYS - DESIGNING YOUR HOME CHILD CARE ENVIRONMENT

	Babies	Toddlers	Preschoolers	School-Agers
Manipulatives: Cognitive and Math	<p>Toys with visual or sound effects</p> <p>Rattles</p> <p>Shoebboxes</p> <p>Busy box</p> <p>Variety of grasping toys</p> <p>Squeeze toy</p> <p>Materials to explore</p>	<p>Thick pencils and ball-point pens</p> <p>Duplo blocks (large Legos)</p> <p>Small blocks for stacking</p> <p>Simple puzzles (2-5 pieces)</p> <p>Containers for carrying things</p> <p>Counting objects</p> <p>Pegboard with large pegs</p> <p>Stringing beads</p> <p>Color cubes, parquetry blocks</p> <p>Shape sorter</p> <p>Simple matching and lotto games</p>	<p>Unit blocks (at least 100)</p> <p>Small Lego blocks</p> <p>Puzzles with up to 20 pieces for 3 year olds, up to 50 for 5 year olds</p> <p>Number toys, puzzles, magnets</p> <p>Materials for matching, sorting, sequencing and ordering</p> <p>Stringing beads and pattern cards</p> <p>Dominoes, simple board games</p> <p>Concentration, memory games</p> <p>Complex matching and lotto games</p>	<p>Puzzles with 50-100 pieces</p> <p>Cash register, play money</p> <p>Puppets</p> <p>Construction materials</p> <p>Rulers, yardstick, tape measure</p> <p>Board games, playing cards</p> <p>Word and guessing games</p> <p>Concentration</p> <p>Dominoes</p> <p>Checkers, Chinese checkers</p>
Sensory Play and Science	<p>Mobile</p> <p>Rattle</p> <p>Teething toy</p> <p>Mouthing toy</p> <p>Containers to empty and fill</p> <p>Tray of water with floating toys</p> <p>Small, lightweight blocks</p> <p>Wind chimes</p> <p>Aquarium, bird feeders</p>	<p>Sorting items: shells, seeds, etc.</p> <p>Nesting cups</p> <p>Stacking rings (same diameter)</p> <p>Large magnet</p> <p>Simple toy train</p> <p>Large magnifier</p> <p>Water with cups, floating toys</p> <p>Sand with pail, shovel, scoop</p> <p>Doctor kit</p>	<p>Plants and animals to tend</p> <p>Measuring cups and spoons</p> <p>Complex water and sand toys: strainer, baster, pump, wheel</p> <p>Hand-held magnifying glasses</p> <p>Balance scale</p> <p>Pulley</p> <p>Thermometer</p>	<p>Cookbooks, staple ingredients</p> <p>Gardening tools, seeds</p> <p>Woodworking tools, workbench</p> <p>Natural materials for study</p>

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Large Motor	<p>Crib gym</p> <p>Floor pillows</p> <p>Variety of balls</p> <p>Infant swing</p>	<p>Push and pull toys</p> <p>Low climbing structure and slide</p> <p>Larger balls, beach ball</p> <p>Cars and trucks</p> <p>Pull toy on short string</p> <p>Tunnel for crawling through</p> <p>Bouncing or rocking toys</p> <p>Low wagon</p> <p>Pounding bench</p> <p>Stable ride-on vehicle</p>	<p>Climber, swings, slide with cushioning material underneath</p> <p>Low, non-tipping tricycles and wheel toys with pedals</p> <p>Balls for throwing and kicking</p> <p>Various building materials</p> <p>Parachute</p> <p>Wheelbarrow</p> <p>Shovel, rake</p> <p>Hoops</p>	<p>Open space and sports equipment: basketballs, soccer balls, gymnastics mats, jump ropes, skates, scooters</p> <p>Music for dancing</p> <p>Complex climbing structure with ladders, rings, hanging bars</p>
Art and Music	<p>Large nontoxic crayons with paper taped down</p> <p>Wall hangings, pictures, photos</p> <p>Music box</p> <p>Musical rattles</p> <p>Tape recorder or CD player</p> <p>Wrist/ankle bells</p>	<p>Variety of papers</p> <p>Large nontoxic markers</p> <p>Easel, large brushes</p> <p>Nontoxic paint, finger-paint</p> <p>Sharp, blunt scissors</p> <p>Chalkboard, large chalk</p> <p>Play dough or clay</p> <p>Shakers, bells, rattles</p> <p>Drum</p> <p>Tambourine</p> <p>Rhythm sticks</p>	<p>Glue sticks or white glue</p> <p>Collage materials</p> <p>Various paint brushes</p> <p>Water colors</p> <p>Thin markers in many colors</p> <p>Variety of tools for dough/clay</p> <p>A variety of tapes/CDs/DVDs</p> <p>Additional rhythm instruments</p> <p>Piano or keyboard</p> <p>Scarves</p>	<p>Papier-mâché, molding materials</p> <p>Clay and access to a kiln</p> <p>Mapping materials</p> <p>Materials for making models</p> <p>Sewing</p> <p>Weaving</p> <p>Beading</p> <p>Candle-making materials</p> <p>Pastels, colored pencils</p> <p>Variety of paints and brushes</p> <p>Real musical instruments</p> <p>Music for singing</p>