

# BUILDING BLOCKS

A Newsletter for Teachers Working with Infant, Toddler and Preschool Educational Equity For All



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instruction that sticks pages 36-40

Content-rich instruction in preschool

What content-rich looks like

Content-centered classrooms, in contrast, involve preschool children in learning about print through literacy practice (neuman & wright, 2013). Preschoolers enhance their content learning while developing the skills and functions of literacy. Their new abilities become meaningful because they help these children understand their world.

This approach builds on five research-based principles about how young children develop the schemas necessary to construct basic knowledge networks.

1. Learning benefits from integrated instruction.
2. Learning requires guidance.
3. Teacher interaction enhances learning.
4. Play supports learning.
5. Competence enhances motivation.

<https://t.ly/rpjmw>



FREE BEAR COUNTING CARDS

Bonus! I've created some FREE bear counting cards that help preschoolers count and identify numbers 1-10.

<https://t.ly/rpjmw>

**Brightly** | Raise Kids Who Love to Read

**SCIENCE YOU CAN EAT**

**INSTANT ICE CREAM**

**You will need**

- 1/2 cup (125g) strawberries
- 1/4 cup (60g) cold plain yogurt or heavy cream
- 2 tbsp honey
- Food processor

**The science**

The cream is a colloidal emulsion of carbon dioxide bubbles with milk protein, sugar and air (ice cream water). After the ingredients are mixed it must be frozen quickly. Because the freezing creates large crystals, the crystals that grow are pleasant to eat. Fast freezing on the other hand creates a lot of much smaller crystals, creating that smooth texture we know and love.

**Why it works**

The trick to the ice cream is to get enough to freeze the other ingredients and keep the air and other ingredients from separating. Each berry gets its own little space, so the air is in the yogurt or cream with the cold water molecules with the strawberries.

<https://www.readbrightly.com/how-to-make-instant-ice-cream/>



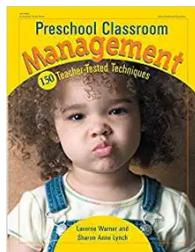
Science Center Set Up and Ideas for Preschool

Effective science learning requires:

- hands-on contact with materials
- time to investigate and manipulate those materials
- time to contemplate the results

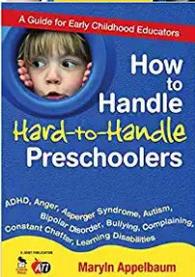
<https://www.pre-kpages.com/science/>

## FEATURED IDEA OF THE MONTH



Preschool Classroom Management:  
150 Teacher-Tested Techniques

by Laverne Warner, Sharon Lynch



How to Handle Hard-to-Handle  
Preschoolers: A Guide for Early  
Childhood Educators (NULL) 1st  
Edition

by Maryln S. Appelbaum

*Increasing numbers of young children with diagnosed disabilities and unique learning needs are enrolled in early childhood programs. Individualizing learning opportunities is one widely accepted practice for successful inclusion.*

### Individualizing Instruction in Preschool Classrooms

Mary B. Boat, Laurie A. Dinnebeil, and Youlmi Bae

#### How to Individualize Instruction

The process of individualizing instruction consists of four primary steps (Pretti-Frontczak & Bricker, 2004):

- Get to know each child's interests, needs, and abilities
- Create opportunities for learning that build on children's interests
- Scaffold children's learning through supportive interactions
- Monitor children's progress toward achieving important goals

<https://t.ly/5Ern1>



## U.S. Department of Education

### Teaching Our Youngest

A Guide for Preschool Teachers and Child Care and Family Providers

This is the index page for the publication, "Teaching Our Youngest: A Guide for Preschool Teachers, Childcare, and Family Providers". It draws from scientifically based research about what pre-school teachers and childcare providers can do to help children develop their language abilities, increase their knowledge, become familiar with books and other printed materials, learn letters and sounds, recognize numbers and learn to count. <https://t.ly/VARRn>

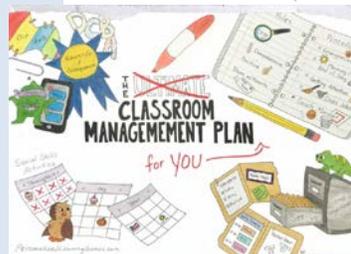
## WEBSITES AND RESOURCES

<http://mara.yasamayolver.com/preschool-floor-plans/>  
<https://t.ly/1DdW7>  
<https://cpin.us/calendar-list>



## PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

**Centervention®**  
Focus on fun, because fun works.



Classroom  
Management Plan  
Overview  
This classroom  
management plan is a  
step-by-step guide

and includes proven strategies, tips and printables for elementary school teachers, and it covers four key components for establishing a successful, well-managed classroom:

- Classroom Set-Up and Organization
- Classroom Rules and Procedures
- Classroom Rewards and Consequences
- Effective Classroom Management Throughout the Year

<https://www.centervention.com/classroom-management-plan/>



[Education staff use effective teaching practices to:](#)

- Establish strong relationships with children and their families
- Create content-rich learning environments and activities that foster children's curiosity and extends their learning based upon their interests and development
- Support and extend children's learning in culturally and linguistically responsive ways

Use these resources to strengthen preschool teaching practices.

- Effective Practice Guides
- Standards in Action: Promoting Learning Through Approaches to Rest, Meals, Routines, and Physical Activity
- Engaging Interactions and Environments
- Teacher Time: Preschool Series

<https://t.ly/ePwwN>