



# BUILDING BLOCKS

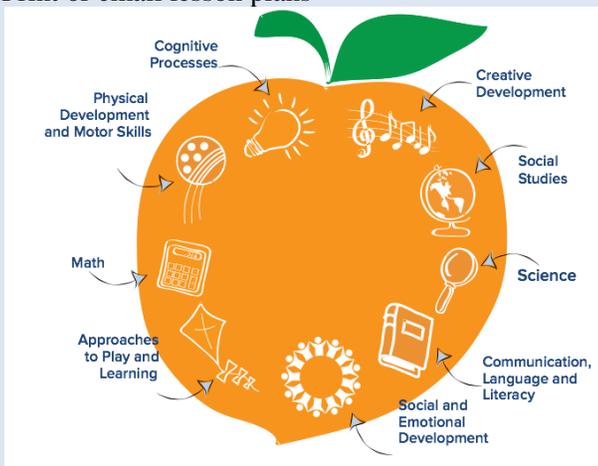
A Newsletter for Teachers Working with Preschool Educational Equity For All

February 2018



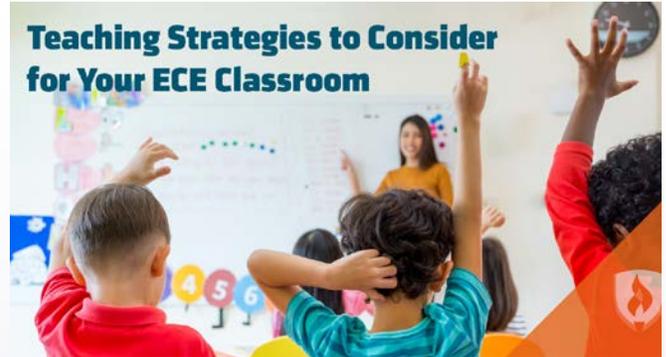
Using PEACH, Teachers Can...

- Create a customized lesson plan
- Include multiple age groups on a lesson plan
- Choose a variety of activities in each of the GELDS domains (And they match many of our areas in California Preschool Learning Foundations)
- Add unique activities of their own
- Add time blocks to correspond to daily schedule
- Add children's names to individualize activities
- Plan for adaptations or modifications as needed
- Design a plan to assess children's progress
- Designate favorite activities to come back and use later
- Listen to audio examples of songs
- View images of how to create materials and games
- Save lesson plans
- Print or email lesson plans



<http://peach.decal.ga.gov/app/classroom>

## Teaching Strategies to Consider for Your ECE Classroom



1. Logo / symbol labeling
2. Sound recognition & matching
3. Switch out activities
4. Start a garden
5. Get the senses involved in science
6. Establish rules
7. Tailor activities to your students

<http://www.rasmussen.edu/degrees/education/blog/7-teaching-strategies-for-ece-classroom/>



## DAP Activities in a Preschool Classroom Making the Most of Materials

Preschoolers excel when they have opportunities to explore new types of materials, notes the National Association for the Education of Young Children, or NAEYC. DAP activities should include new, age-appropriate materials that help children reach their potential developmental levels. For example, instead of giving 4-year-olds the same crayon-and-paper art activities that they've done for years, create an activity that uses a new art item, such as oil pastels or water-based nontoxic printing ink and stampers. Additionally, DAP materials for activities should include a broad range of cultures to address each child's background. Provide a range of multicultural dolls for pretend play or stock your dress-up area with traditional clothing pieces from other countries.

<https://goo.gl/2mnxZe>

EDUCATIONAL EQUITY FOR ALL  
 Giving kids what they need to succeed.

Tana Donaghy, President, Educational Equity For All  
[Missstanad@educationequityforall.org](mailto:Missstanad@educationequityforall.org); 909-964-5057  
<http://www.educationequity4all.com/>

## FEATURED IDEA OF THE MONTH



50 non-food sensory bin fillers to try with kids. Includes a free printable list and over 125 sensory bin ideas that don't use food!  
<https://goo.gl/iPnpVE>

**Preschool teaching strategies.** Promote early literacy. **Preschool** children develop literacy skills in a social environment through language-rich activities. **Teachers** should spend time each day reading books aloud to their students, which helps with reading comprehension, letter recognition and print awareness.

	When children do this...	They are learning to
 Computers	Try out a computer program together with another child  Type the letters of their names	Share and play cooperatively with others (social skills)  Recognize and use alphabet letters (literacy)
 Library	Scribble on paper, using some letters and then telling what the scribble says  Listen to a story and talk about what happened	Use writing as a way to communicate (literacy)  Make a connection between letters and their sounds (literacy)  Love books, remember details, and express ideas (language development, literacy)
 Music & Movement	Sing or do a fingerplay with other children and the teacher  Create different sounds by putting more (or fewer) beans in cans and shaking them	Participate cooperatively in a group (social skills)  Recognize rhymes (phonological awareness, listening)  Explore cause and effect (science, logical thinking)
 Cooking	Follow directions in a recipe that calls for adding ingredients by teaspoons, cups, etc.  Watch bread dough rise or butter melt	Understand measurement (math)  Read a recipe (literacy)  Understand that foods can change their physical states (science)

<https://goo.gl/VCajeN>

## WEBSITES AND RESOURCES

<https://goo.gl/XMsHnV>  
<https://fun-a-day.com/how-to-dye-corn-kernels/>  
<https://www.prekinders.com/category/teaching-tips/>



## PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

**Conferences For**  
 Pre-K, TK, Kindergarten and First Grade  
**Teachers**  
 Hosted By: The Southern California Kindergarten Conference, Inc.

The 32nd Annual Conference  
**February 9-10, 2018** at the Pasadena Convention Center - 300 E. Green Street, Pasadena, CA. 91101  
<https://goo.gl/GVkQN7>

## Developmentally Appropriate Learning Environment for Preschool

By Shelley Frost

- **Space Division-** Young kids use the physical arrangement of a space to make sense of what happens there, according to Early Childhood News.
- **Organization-** The organization of the materials within each area of the classroom contributes to the predictability that preschoolers seek in the environment.
- **Materials-** According to the National Association for the Education of Young Children, a preschool environment with a variety of organized and well-maintained materials supports learning.
- **Wall Décor-** The wall decorations lend more than a colorful view. The materials displayed provide learning opportunities for preschoolers.

<https://goo.gl/Ua2Lkt>



## 27 AWESOME WAYS TO TEACH THE ALPHABET (WITHOUT USING FLASH CARDS)

by [Sheryl Cooper](#)

It's not about flash cards or workbooks. It's about providing playful literacy activities that excite young children to want to learn more.

<https://teaching2and3yearolds.com/27-awesome-ways-to-teach-the-alphabet/>