



## Classroom Management:

- Classroom Environment
- Management Systems

Module 1

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# Module 1: Classroom Management

Best practices are research-based instructional approaches and strategies that lead to the greatest gains in children's knowledge and understanding. Studies have shown "effective teaching and learning rests on the shoulders of the teacher who makes informed decisions about the instructional approaches and practices that are the most appropriate for a particular student." Best practices support children's ability to think critically and make choices.

Morrow, et al. 2003



## **Eight Principles of Best Practice**

1. Learning is meaning making.
2. Prior knowledge guides learning.
3. The gradual release of responsibility model and scaffolded instruction facilitates learning.
4. Social collaboration enhances learning.
5. Learners learn best when they are interested and involved.
6. The goal of best practice is to develop high-level strategic readers and writers.
7. Best practices are grounded in the principle of balanced instruction.
8. Best practices are a result of informed decision making.

Morrow, et al. 2003

## **Best practices include**

- building a positive classroom community
- understanding how children learn
- creating an effective room setup and design
- establishing rules and routines
- developing a daily schedule
- providing cognitively challenging instruction



## **How Children Learn**

Children are active constructors of their own knowledge. Their natural inquisitiveness leads them to investigate, explore, build, search, inspect, and analyze every aspect of the world around them. Teachers facilitate this learning by providing opportunities for children to explore and learn about the concepts

and skills they need to be successful in school and in life. These opportunities occur in various settings throughout the day including large group, small group and individualized lessons.

Children learn through hands-on experiences and exposure. Since children learn in different ways and their developmental stages of learning are different, teachers should consider the following when planning instruction for preschool children:

- Use children's prior knowledge.
- Include hands-on activities that actively involve children.
- Connect learning throughout the day in transitions, large group, small group, centers, and book reading.
- Differentiate instruction for children who are at different levels of understanding.

**Note:** Children learn best through hands-on experiences. Therefore, worksheets, workbooks, and flash cards are not recommended.

## Classroom Environment

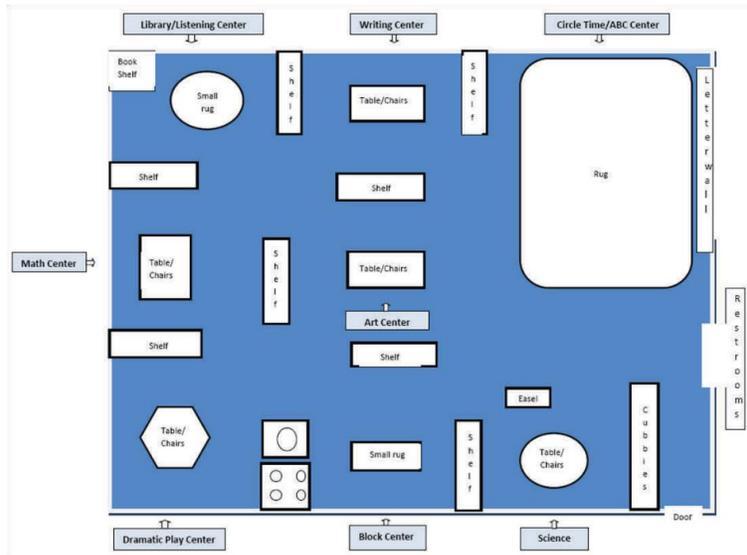
The arrangement of the classroom affects how children learn and play together. Room setup is the physical layout of the classroom. Setting up a classroom environment requires a lot of thought and strategic planning. Additionally, the overall room setup and design plays a significant role in the level of interaction and engagement for learning. The setup should support the child's social and emotional development and cognitive learning.



### Things to consider when setting up the Learning Environment:

1. \_\_\_\_\_
2. \_\_\_\_\_
3. \_\_\_\_\_
4. \_\_\_\_\_
5. \_\_\_\_\_
6. \_\_\_\_\_

This room arrangement sample can be used as a guide when setting up an appropriate learning environment for preschool children.



What are some key areas that stood out to you as you reviewed the sample room arrangement?

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## Center Management Systems

Young children thrive on solid and clear-cut rules and routines that are meaningful. Children need to know what to expect and what will be expected of them. One way to do this is with classroom management charts.

Classroom management charts are used to establish an effective learning environment that includes rules and routines. Management charts help with classroom management, create the daily routine, and provide examples of meaningful print around the classroom.



**The Center Management Systems allow children to:**

1. \_\_\_\_\_
2. \_\_\_\_\_
3. \_\_\_\_\_

**Notes:** \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_



**Important things to keep in mind when setting up and using the Center Management Systems:**

1. \_\_\_\_\_
2. \_\_\_\_\_
3. \_\_\_\_\_
4. \_\_\_\_\_
5. \_\_\_\_\_
6. \_\_\_\_\_

**Notes:** \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_



### **Attendance Chart**

The attendance chart is a visual cue of children's presence in the classroom and provides a quick check of attendance.

<b>The Attendance Chart allows children to:</b>
<b>Things to consider when setting up and using the Attendance Chart</b>
<b>How should do we Introduce the Attendance Chart</b>



## **Class Rules Chart**

The rules chart is a visual reminder of classroom rules. Visual rules and routines give children a sense of security. When children know the rules of the classroom they are more successful and independent.

<b>The Class Rules Chart allows children to:</b>
<b>Things to consider when setting up and using the Class Rules Chart</b>
<b>How should do we Introduce the Class Rules Chart</b>



## **Children's Daily Schedule**

The children's daily schedule is a visual plan of the day with words and pictures that helps children understand and learn the routines of their classroom. It is a concrete way to represent time and allow flexibility across the day when special events occur.

<b>The Children's Daily Schedule allows children to:</b>
<b>Things to consider when setting up and using the Children's Daily Schedule</b>
<b>How should do we Introduce the Children's Daily Schedule</b>



## **Helper Chart**

The helper chart shows job assignments with words and pictures. It allows children to learn responsibility. They feel like a part of the classroom community as they are involved in helping with specific tasks.

**The Helper Chart allows children to:**

**Things to consider when setting up and using the Helper Chart**

**How should do we introduce the Helper Chart**



## **Center Management System**

The center management system is a concrete way to manage the number of children allowed in a center at any one time and provides a visual method to help children make choices. Prior to introducing the management system to children, determine the number of children each center accommodates with space and materials. In order for the use of management systems to be successful in the classroom, we must first model the procedures for the children in making a center choice and how to place their name tag on the appropriate chart. Additionally, we want to model the use of materials by taking out and replacing materials on their designated shelves/baskets, and using their name tag to choose a new available center once we have demonstrated the cleanup process.

**Center Management Systems allows children to:**

**Things to consider when setting up and using Center Management Systems**

**How should do we Introduce the Center Management System**



## **TAKEAWAYS**

Empty box for taking notes on key takeaways.



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