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English 1101

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Classroom Planning

Working in a classroom with three year old preschoolers is a very rewarding job for a teacher. Watching a child grow a little more each day and gaining knowledge makes a teacher very proud. A classroom must have a very detailed and structured schedule to prevent it from being a chaotic setting.

At the beginning of each year with a new class, a teacher must take a step back and examine their class. Each class is very different, such as, the way the children interact with one another, their individual temperaments, and their overall behaviors as a group. A teacher needs to know how to plan their classroom activities to best meet the needs of all the children.

Learning language is very important at this age. While planning a schedule and activities for the week a teacher should always keep this in consideration. Language should be used in every activity the child is involved in. A teacher should talk with their children constantly to promote strong language skills. Here is an example of what a three-year-old class schedule may consist of.

While making the schedule for the week, a teacher should first start their day with an early morning greeting time and breakfast, between 7:30 to 8:30 AM. As each child arrives each morning, a teacher should always smile and greet each child with warmth and love. The teacher should let the children know how happy they are to see them and what a great day they expect that they will have. This will help to ensure that each child feels safe and comfortable inside the classroom. This also gives a parent peace of mind to leave their child in the care of others.

The next step of planning is to prepare for breakfast. The teacher should allow time for handwashing as this protects the children from being exposed to germs. During this process the teacher can use this opportunity to express language with their children. The teacher can teach the children songs to sing or teach them rhymes they can chant as they wash their hands. This also allows the child the time to properly wash the germs away. During meal time a teacher can also use this time to enhance language throughout the meal. This is also a great time for teaching correct table manners.

The next step of the day is between 8:30 to 9:45 AM, would be a great time for the teacher to plan for free play. This time allows the children to play on their own and with toys of their choice. A teacher should set up their classroom with centers. The classroom should have an area for dramatic play, a block center, a cozy center for reading books, science center, art center and any other of their choice. If needed the teacher can limit the number of children in each center. A great way to limit the children in centers is to have a picture of each child so that they can hang it up in the center. When the child goes to that center they will know if it is full or not. Each center should have enough items to accommodate the number of children in the room.

The next step of the day is group time between 9:45 and 10:40. This time of the day a teacher should plan to teach letters, numbers, and colors. These things can be taught through reading stories, singing silly songs, and teaching each topic directly. Story time is a perfect time for the teacher to expand vocabulary. While reading the teacher can take simple words and replace them with bigger words that have the same meaning. After learning time is over, the class can break into small groups to color, enjoy art work or activities that apply to the daily lesson.

Next, between 10:30 and 11:30 am, the children will all go to bathroom as a class. After all the children are done, the class will line up for outside play. Outside play is an important part of the day. This is a time for the children to run and play. Exercise is good for the children to build strong muscles and bones. The area of play should be large enough for the number of children you have in your class. Slides and climbing equipment are good for outside play. As well tricycles and riding toys.

At 11:30 AM, the next activity is to line up and go inside. Before entering the classroom, the children should use the restroom and wash hands to prepare for lunch. Lunch time is again a great time to for a teacher to intertwine language. After lunch the children should again wash their hands.

Between 12:30 and 2:30 PM, The next step of the day is story time with the children. The teacher could read a calming story for the children to prepare them for nap time. Once the story is over the children will lie on cots with their sleep mats and take a nap. Not all children will want to go to sleep, in this case the teacher should encourage them to do quiet activities, so they do not disturb their classmates.

Around 2:30 as the children wake up the teacher should take them to the restroom and the children should wash their hands to prepare for snack time. Once snack time is over, the children have free play again between 2:45 and 3:30. Then from 3:30 to 4:30, the teacher will take their class outside on the playground.

Between 4:30 and 5:30 is the part of the day that a teacher should prepare for the children’s departure. The teacher should make sure that all children are clean, and their clothes are clean. Once each parent arrives, greet the parents with a friendly smile. As each child leaves tell them things such as “have a great night”, and “see you tomorrow”. This helps the child know that you care about them and you are looking forward to their return.

A daily plan is very helpful to a teacher. With three-year old’s each day is very different from one another. A daily structured schedule will help the day go much smoother.