



HELLO PARENTS,

Intentional Learning Environment starts with a plan and design to your space, in a way that offers your child an opportunity to feel comfortable owning the space for learning. The environment is seen as the third teacher; it is a communicator and is capable of shaping values. How we place materials, what your child sees and experiences, and the choice of materials all play a significant role in how they "see" the purpose of their learning space. In this newsletter, you will find activities that will promote your child's motivation to learn in an environment that encourages their growth.

ACTIVITIES INFANTS (3 – 18 MONTHS)

SENSORY ENVIRONMENT

MATERIALS:

- Transparent containers, with various materials. For example: rice, pom-poms, cotton balls, water beads, etc.
- Different textures: scarves, cotton fabrics, yarn, soap, food.
- Playdough
- Tape
- Ziploc bags

DIRECTIONS:

- Place a variety of fabric pieces and scarves in a basket. Let your child explore the fabric during their tummy time or in a supported sitting position.
- Place the transparent containers with materials in your child's environment. Encourage your child to shake them and listen to different sounds.
- Put some playdough or water-beads in Ziploc bags. Seal the bags with tape and let your child explore them.

[Click here](#) for more activities.

TODDLERS (19 MONTHS – 2.5 YEARS)

GROSS MOTOR ENVIRONMENT: HOME GYM

MATERIALS:

- Plush toys
- Empty cardboard boxes
- Chairs
- Basket

DIRECTIONS:

- Create different gross motor stations within your home, such as:
 - Throwing station: plush toy toss.
 - Crawling station: crawling through cardboard boxes, or under chairs, etc.
 - Jumping station: jumping high and far, on one foot, skipping etc.
- Encourage your child to explore all stations.
- Participate in the stations alongside your child, and move your bodies together!

[Click here](#) for more ideas.

PRESCHOOLERS (2.5 – 5 YEARS)

LITERACY ENVIRONMENT: MY LIBRARY

MATERIALS:

- Books on a variety of topics
- Notebook
- Pencils
- Crayons
- Markers

DIRECTIONS:

- Introduce your child to age-appropriate books of different themes based on their emerging interests.
- Arrange and organize your child's books in a specific place in the house, such as a shelf in your child's room. This will empower your child to explore the books independently.
- You can provide your child with other supplies like, notebook, pencils and crayons in order to motivate them to create their own stories.
- Allow your child to share their creative stories with you and other family members.

[Click here](#) for more literacy activities.

JK/SK (4 – 6 YEARS)

SOCIAL-EMOTIONAL ENVIRONMENT: BEING INDEPENDENT

DIRECTIONS:

- Set up an environment that encourages your child to be independent throughout their daily routines.
- Ensure that their clothes are easily accessible and organized by categories, so they can choose their own outfit every day. For example: shirts and pants kept together.
- Provide opportunities for your child to do simple tasks that promote their self-confidence. For example, give them age appropriate household chores such as cleaning their room and setting the table.
- When there is a need, let your child problem-solve on their own. This will make them feel self-sufficient.
- Encourage your child to try new things!

[Click here](#) for more information.

SCHOOL-AGERS (6 – 12 YEARS)

MUSICAL ENVIRONMENT: MY FAVOURITE MUSIC

MATERIALS:

- Music of different genres. For example: classical, pop, folk, etc.
- Voice recorder/cellphone

DIRECTIONS:

- Search and familiarize yourself with different styles of music.
- Different types of music will help you to understand a variety of cultures and important events.
- Pay careful attention to the components of the music that you are listening to, such as rhythm, tempo, beat, etc.
- Learn how artists use music as a form of self-expression; for example, to share feelings of happiness, sadness, determination, etc.

[Click here](#) to listen to different genres of music.



Immigration, Refugees
and Citizenship Canada

Immigration, Réfugiés
et Citoyenneté Canada

A TIP FOR TODAY

- Create a space for your child to explore freely, with a variety of open-ended materials.
- Ensure that the environment encourages your child's current interests.
- Your child's learning environment should reflect their abilities, while also challenging them to explore and problem-solve.
- Wait, observe, and follow your child's lead within their environment.