DOCTOR’S OFFICE – Art-Based Dramatic Play Centre

Learning Goals

Students will be able to:

1. Work independently and self-regulate;
2. Create personal responses to the centre materials;
3. Share their ideas with peers; and
4. Demonstrate a sense of accomplishment.

Extensions

1. Creative Centre - Have children paint, draw and create art for the centre.
2. Writing Centre – Encourage children to make a list of their body parts.
3. Science - Place the Human Head Model and the My Body-Interactive Chart at the science centre.
4. Listening, Language and Story Telling - Provide lots of story books such as, Daisy the Doctor by Felicity Brooks, I’m Getting a Checkup by Marilyn Singer and Bookworms Tools We Use #1: Doctors by Dana Meachen Rau.
5. Math Centre - Encourage children to use wooden pattern blocks to make people and body parts.
Prepare

Gather the doctor materials and place them in a central area.

1. Markers
2. Glitter Glue
3. Blunt Tip Scissors
4. Crayons
5. Glue Sticks
6. Paints
7. Paint Brushes
8. Pencils
9. Variety of Paper
10. Stethoscope
11. Aneroid Sphygmomanometer
12. Percussion Hammer

Introduction

During your read aloud or circle time read stories that relate to doctors and personal health. Teach a new poem or song that also relates to personal health, for example, *Happy Doctor* and *To the Hospital*.

The Process

Plan and set up the doctor’s office as a class. Allowing children to help set up gives them a chance to see a doctor’s office come together. Children will be using their imagination and problem-solving skills, and will gain a sense of responsibility as they work through the process.

1. Use the gym mat as the patient’s bed.
2. Use a table as the counter. Arrange the doctor’s tools nicely along the counter. Use small plastic containers for needles (syringes)
3. Put some hooks on the wall or have a hook stand to hang the doctor’s costume.
4. Use a small table or desk with a chair beside it for the waiting area. Put some books on the table for patients to read while waiting to see the doctor.
5. Put poster up.
6. Put out any other items you may have such as patient files and pencils.
7. On a desk or table in the dramatic play centre include a Creativity Kit. A Creativity Kit is a bin containing Crayola products such as washable markers, crayons, glitter glue, glue sticks, blunt tip scissors, pencils and paper. Encourage children to create signs and art for the doctor’s office.

Teacher Prompts

- *What signs might you see in a doctor’s office? Why do they have these signs? What signs can we make for our doctor’s office? Where could you look for words in the classroom if you need help spelling words for your sign?*
- *I like how you filled in your patient’s file. Can you share your work with the class?*

Sharing

During sharing time allow children to share their experiences in the doctor’s office dramatic play centre and what they may have created at the creative centre that relates to the doctor’s office. A student might even want to share a personal story from their own experience at the doctor’s office.
The *Doctor’s Office* centre provides children with personally meaningful, daily writing activities. Displaying their work encourages children to learn from and inspire each other.