

Norma Osorio

ECE 211

Prof. Kristin M Scarola

October 28, 2020

Learning Environment Project Commentary Paper

The classroom that I designed will provide students an environment that makes them feel comfortable and encourage them to explore and learn. I have chosen materials that will help children to develop their creativity and express themselves through creative art. My goal, “is to create a place of freedom and delight where the enchantments and mysteries of childhood can be given full expression(Anita Olda Child Care Design Guide)”. To create this kind of environment, my first job as a teacher is to make the connection with children and families. It is important not to forget that for children to reach their best potential they need to feel accepted and appreciated as a member of the school community.

Second, each center will have materials that will give children different play opportunities that will support active learning, language development, social skills and critical thinking. For example, the Math Center will have puzzles and many other manipulated materials

that will help children to develop their critical thinking. In the Block Center, children can create buildings, farms, zoos, and valleys. These activities will encourage children to discuss their ideas of how and what to build. By doing this will help them to develop language skills, critical thinking, fine and large motor skills. The Dramatic Play Center encourages children to use their imagination and pretend to be a doctor, a princess, a policeman/woman, a chef and many other characters that children are able to imitate from what they observe from places they visit or people who are around them. In fact, I will make sure that all centers have the materials to help children develop the 4Cs, Creativity, Communication, Collaboration, and Critical Thinking. According to The Partnership for 21st Century Learning these are the most important skills to develop today in pre-K - 12 education today and that will have a powerful impact on the future of today's children (Nurturing Creativity pg.13).

In my classroom I will have pictures of each child and their family. Posters that show the culture and tradition of each family. I will display children's work as well. By creating this type of environment I will make them feel welcome to the school community. This will help to make connections to each family to create a community outside the classroom. The centers will have age appropriate materials and some that required more effort. I will add and remove materials as needed. I will create multicultural activities, for instance, dancing music from different countries. I love to spend time outside the classroom. I want my students to learn in a real and natural environment. I will organize a lot of field trips to museums, parks and the neighbourhood. Visiting places will stimulate their curiosity. They will ask many questions and we can find the answers together. The most important thing is to have fun while learning.

