GUIDING PRESCHOOLERS IN CHOOSING PLAY ACTIVITIES

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The importance of play in the development of preschool children can no longer be ignored. Thus, it is a wise decision to include a variety of play activities in the pre-school program.

For both outdoor and indoor play, it is important that children be given enough space where they can play. This space should support the full range of children’s development play including social and cognitive play.

Children’s play is greatly influenced by the type of available equipment and materials. The “richer” the play environment, the more beneficial it would be for the children.

The type of play activities and the quality of play equipment and the kind of play materials must be suitable to the preschoolers developmental stage. For instance, choose a game that requires little group cooperation and have few rules to follow.

The play equipment and materials must also promote growth toward independence, exploration, group activity and social relationships. They must be the kind that can be used for more than one purpose and by more than one child.

The play activities must also promote cooperation and camaraderie. Thus, choose game in which many preschoolers can actively participate.