

Let's Create!

A Lesson for All Ages:

Objectives

Participants (children and their caregivers¹) will

- Explore and create at various Centers.
- Look at books for ideas.
- Share their creation with others.
- Move in different ways.
- Share about their favorite activity.

Materials

Stuffed animals, dress-ups, home decorating items (pillows, blankets, baskets, etc.), blocks (I used tree blocks, but any kind can be used), Duplos, small animals and other props (I used Calico Critters and wooden items), books that depict various activities and participants of all races, art kit (see photo), paper bags, paper, drawing materials, nature items, music, ribbons for dancing (the girl in the photo is using my cat toy), computer

Notes:

Set up Centers in your space, if your room isn't already set up. Place dress-ups, larger stuffed animals, wooden beads, some books, and home décor in a large basket in one corner. Place the various baskets of blocks, smaller stuffed animals, nature items, small animals, and objects in another corner or on a shelf along with more books. At a table, place the art kit and other supplies. Place ribbons in a basket. (Refer to photos at the end of the lesson).

If including infants and toddlers, adults should carefully supervise both art and nature materials. All other items should be checked using the toilet paper tube test: If the object fits in a toilet paper tube, it can be a choking hazard. Make sure to also include board books.

¹This lesson can be engaged with children only or in a setting with children and their caregivers.

Introduction

- **Sing** the [Welcome Song](#).
- **Say:** “Today you are going to be able to be creative in lots of different ways.”
- **Take a tour** of the room together, pointing out all of the activities. (You may also want to share the photos on the next page to your group).
- **Show** participants how they can look at books to get ideas.

Lesson

Main Point: Adults and children can be creative together.

- **Invite** the adults and/or children, a few at a time, to select a Center that they would like to explore.
- **Play** instrumental music as the participants explore Centers.
- **Take** photos of the Décor/Dress-up and the Blocks Centers before they are disassembled.
- **Place** finished artwork in a separate area to dry.
- **Make** a slideshow, using the photos, on your computer.
- **Give** a five-minute warning.
- **Turn off** the music after five minutes.
- **Encourage** participants to help you clean-up.

Closure/Music and Movement

- **Gather** together. Pass out participants’ artwork.
- **Show** the slideshow to your group.
- **Invite** individuals to share their artwork with the group.
- **Say:** “You all really used your imaginations today, didn’t you? You were so creative!”
- **Invite** participants to share with those next to them about their favorite activity.
- **Say:** “We are going to do one more creative activity before saying good-bye.”
- **Play** music as participants dance around with the ribbons. (Participants may choose whether they feel comfortable engaging in this activity).

Photos of Materials:





