

The programming options are provided to support a range of implementation based upon library staffing and community needs. The materials and activities in the Play K curriculum are meant to support Pennsylvania's Learning Standards for Early Childhood and promote school readiness.

Playscape 6: My Colorful World

This playscape explores the theme of color and light with preschoolers. The big idea for this theme is: Physical properties help us understand and describe the world around us. Two essential questions guide the programming options: How do colors help us describe objects in our world? How can we sort and observe objects? A variety of key learning areas are reinforced as the children and parents play together and participate in the activities.

Playscape Contents	Programming Option 1: Passive	Programming Options 2 & 3: Circle Time & Storytime	Pennsylvania's Learning Standards for Early Childhood
<p><u>Playscape Materials</u></p> <p>Go Away Big Green Monster Storytelling Puppet Kit</p> <p>Size and Color Teddy Bear Counters & Hands-on Sorting Tray</p> <p>Light and Color Table Top Blocks</p> <p>Can Do! Color and Light Discovery Kit</p> <p><u>Books</u></p> <p><i>Go Away Big Green Monster</i> by Ed Emberly</p> <p><i>Mouse Paint</i> by Ellen Stoll Walsh</p> <p><i>Tabbed Board Books - My First Colors: Let's Learn Them All</i> by DK Publishing</p> <p><i>Color Dance</i> by Ann Jonas</p>	<p><u>Playscape Set-Up</u></p> <p>Working with your available space, set out and arrange all or some of the materials and books to create an attractive "play corner" for parents and children. Also, display the following parent tips:</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Tips for Parents & Children</p> <p style="text-align: center;">1,2,3, Play with Me!</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Follow your child's lead while exploring the different activities and use natural opportunities to extend language and concepts. For example, if your child chooses to start playing with the Size and Color Teddy Bear Counters, "Look at all of the different colors! Let's see if we can use this tray to sort the teddy bears by what color they are. We can put all the red ones in the first row. What color should go in the second row?" Let your child choose one of the books for you to read 	<p><u>Circle Time: Playing Kindergarten!</u></p> <p>Gather children in a circle to simulate a kindergarten experience. Tell children that storytime today will be a chance to "Play Kindergarten!"</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Praise children for how nicely they are sitting with their eyes on you, and tell them that their kindergarten teacher will love to see this when they start school! Explain that in kindergarten there will be rules to follow during Circle Time. One rule we will practice today is to raise your hand and wait to be called on when you want to say something. Assure them that you will remind them if they forget, but that you are sure they will try their best! Go over the calendar with the children as they do in kindergarten, using the "My First Calendar" board. Talk about the day of the week, the date, the month, the 	<p><u>Key Learning Areas Reinforced</u></p> <p><u>Passive Program</u></p> <p>Approaches to Learning Through Play - Constructing, Organizing and Applying Knowledge</p> <p>Language and Literacy - English Language Arts</p> <p>Mathematical Thinking and Expression - Exploring, Processing and Problem-Solving</p> <p>Scientific Thinking and Technology - Exploring Scientific Inquiry and Discovery</p> <p>Creative Thinking and Expression – Communicating Through the Arts</p> <p>Partnerships for Learning - Families, Early Care and Education Programs, and Communities</p>

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<p><u>Book-FLIX selections</u></p> <p>Fiction: <i>Planting a Rainbow</i></p> <p>Nonfiction: <i>It Could Still be a Flower</i></p> <p><u>Technology Connection</u></p> <p>Toca Boca Apps</p> <p>tocaboca.com/apps</p> <p>Toca Mini</p> <p><u>Master Kit Materials (for Circle Time / Storytime)</u></p> <p>My First Calendar Board</p> <p>Activity Scarves</p> <p>Shatterproof Safety Mirrors</p> <p>Hand Magnifiers</p> <p>Scissors</p> <p>White drawing paper</p> <p>Markers</p> <p>Shapes handout for cutting practice</p>	<p>aloud. As you share the book, connect the story, characters, or concepts to the materials you have been playing with together. For example, "Look, this book has tabs so you can turn to different parts! The title is <i>My First Colors: Let's Learn Them All</i>. We can read to see if they have all of the teddy bear colors we just sorted." Your child may also enjoy using the toys in this playscape to make up a story about colors.</p> <p>3. Build scissor skills with the theme related shapes and other cutting practice activities we have provided. Help your child and "share the scissors" as needed to keep it fun!</p> <p><u>Optional Technology Extensions</u></p> <p>Load the theme-related TOCA BOCA App on a tablet for children and parents to explore together. TOCA BOCA is an award-winning game development studio that makes popular child-friendly applications for tablets and smartphones (both Apple and Android). Go to</p>	<p>season and the weather for the day and allow children to take turns placing each on the board, if appropriate for the group.</p> <p>4. Show a picture of a rainbow and ask children to tell you what this is. Ask, "If you were going to tell someone about a rainbow, what would you say to describe it? Depending on their answers say something to the effect of, "That's right, a rainbow has beautiful colors in it! Colors help us describe different things in our world. It helps to "paint a picture in our minds" doesn't it? Hold up the Big Green Monster Puppet and tell children we're going to see how color helps us describe this monster and then make him go away!</p> <p>5. Perform a read-aloud of <i>Go Away, Big Green Monster</i> using the puppet and the removable pieces. Invite children and parents to chime in with the story!</p> <p>6. Share the Size and Color Teddy Bear Counters and model how to use the sorting</p>	<p><u>Circle Time & Storytime</u></p> <p>All of the above, plus</p> <p>Social and Emotional Development - Student Interpersonal Skills</p> <p>Health, Wellness, and Physical Development – Learning About My Body</p>

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	<p>tocaboca.com/apps and look for Toca Mini.</p> <p>Make the parents aware of the Book-Flix selections that support this theme.</p>	<p>tray for colors and sizes. Demonstrate a simple AB pattern, such as red, blue, red, blue with the patterning tray. Tell parents that these activities provide excellent reinforcement of beginning math skills and will be available to play with after Circle Time.</p> <p>7. Briefly show the Light and Color Table Top Blocks and ask children if they notice how clear the blocks are and that you can almost see through the blocks. Tell children that the blocks are translucent. Translucent is a big word that means light can shine through. (Demonstrate with flashlight from the Color and Light Discovery Kit.) Explain that they can use the blocks to build with and then use the magnifying glasses and mirrors to observe all of the colors. (Model quickly, just so they have the idea.) If time permits, preview the Can Do! Color and Light Discovery Kit and state that all of these materials will be available</p>	

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		<p>after Circle Time, also!</p> <p>8. Close circle time with a song, praise the children for trying their best to remember to raise their hand today, and announce the next Play K.</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><u>Storytime Option</u></p> <p>TALK</p> <p>Favorite Colors Most children love to talk about their favorite things, whatever they may be. As children to “turn and talk” to a partner about their favorite color. Give them a minute to think about it first. Then model with a parent volunteer before the children turn and talk to one another.</p>	

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		<p>SING:</p> <p>Find the Color (Tune: The Muffin Man)</p> <p>Sing the following song and let children point to a (color) item: Oh, can you find the color (blue), The color (blue), the color (blue)? Oh, can you find the color (blue), Somewhere in this room? (After children point, then sing...) Yes, you found the color (blue), The color (blue), the color (blue), Right here in this room! (Repeat with other colors...)</p> <p>READ:</p> <p>Additional books to expand the playscape theme~</p> <p>Books About Colors</p> <p>www.prekinders.com/color-books</p>	

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		<p>WRITE:</p> <p>Prepare little stapled books for each child with the title, <i>My Colorful World</i>. Include several pages with <i>I see (color word)</i> on each page. Provide magazines with pictures of different colored items for the children to cut out and glue to each page. Children could also draw and color something for each page, if they choose. Encourage parents to help with labeling the pictures and "sharing the pencil" for the child to write a letter or two, if appropriate.</p> <p>PLAY:</p> <p>Color Hokey Pokey (Use the activity scarves to play this game.)</p> <p>Before playing, give each child two different colored scarves. Call out different colors, and have parents assist in helping children participate when one of their colors is called.</p> <p>You put red in, You take red out. You put red in And you shake it all about. You do the hokey-pokey and you turn yourself around. That's what it's all about! Continue with each color.</p>	

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		End with: You put all the colors in, You take all the colors out. You put all the colors in, And you shake them all about. You do the hokey-pokey and you turn yourself around. That's what it's all about!	