South Dakota State University

ECE 361: Methods and Materials in Early Childhood Education

Concepts addressed in this course: *Arranging classroom space*

**Students should refer to:**


**Specifically, students should review:**

I. Arrangement of Arrival & Departure Area
   a. Children’s Identity
   b. Communication Area
   c. Teacher-Research Area

II. Learning Center Considerations
   a. Definition
   b. Size
   c. Boundaries & Traffic Flow
   d. Noise Level
   e. Play Slot Number to Allow for Choice in Play
   f. Types of Learning Centers
      i. Self-directed Discovery
      ii. Self-directed, Self-corrected
      iii. Teacher-instructed - Exploration
      iv. Teacher-directed - Process Guided
   g. Learning Center Organization
      i. Materials Choice
      ii. Orderliness on Shelf - Placement
      iii. Labeling for Clean Up – Visual Cues

III. Kinds of Learning Centers
    a. Meet All Developmental Domains
    b. Work within All Content Areas

IV. Balance of Dimensions in the Environment
    a. Solitary vs. Group
    b. “Messy” vs. Tidy
    c. Low Activity vs. High Activity
    d. Private vs. Public