

Flower Pots

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Inspired by Alejandra Pamatz

Early Childhood Boeing Grant

Flower Pots

Foundations

California Department of Education Preschool Learning Foundations

<http://www.cde.ca.gov/sp/cd/re/documents/preschoollf.pdf>

Social- Emotional Developmental Domain

2. Social Interaction, which focuses on interactions with familiar adults, interactions with peers, group participation, and cooperation and responsibility
3. Relationships, which addresses attachments to parents, close relationships with teachers and caregivers, and friendships

Language and Literacy Domain

1. Listening and Speaking, which includes language use and conventions, vocabulary, and grammar

English-Language Development Domain

1. Listening, which includes understanding words, requests and directions, and basic and advanced concepts
2. Speaking, which focuses on using English to communicate needs, expand vocabulary, become skillful at engaging in conversations, use increasingly complex grammatical constructions when speaking, understand grammar, ask questions, use social conventions, and tell personal stories

Mathematics Domain

3. Measurement, which includes comparison and ordering
4. Geometry, which focuses on properties of objects (shape, size, position) and

the relation of objects in space

5. Mathematical Reasoning, which addresses how young children use mathematical thinking to solve everyday problems

Children Input/Purpose

The children are very interested in the garden that is growing in our outdoor environment. Even before we planted things there the children were interested in digging up the dirt and mud that existed in the planter. Once the children became interested in using the shovels, hoes and water buckets, the teachers began asking families to donate plants or seeds to plant in the garden. This lesson encourages children to bring art and geometry concepts into their work with gardening.

Theme/Main Goals

The goal of this lesson will be for children to experience an activity that relates to their family life in terms of them coming from family members who work in agriculture on a regular basis. Another goal is for children to have the opportunity to interact with their peers, teachers, and family members in making a collective work. Finally, the last goal is to allow students to have the opportunity to creatively express themselves. During this lesson the children will be assisting the teacher in making planters, painting the planters, then planting flowers into them. This experience will benefit children by allowing them to take part in several different parts of one activity, or simply the only parts of it that they would like to work on.

Instructional Sequence

Indoor and Outdoor—LISTENING/ DIALOGUE/ACTION

1. Precut the milk jug to leave open space for the soil and flowers and push several holes through the bottom of the jug for water to drain.
2. During indoor free play invite children to help you paint the flower pots. Discuss with the children what the pots will be used for and how they will work.
3. Later during the week, meet with children during their outdoor play and invite them to plant flowers in the soil. After planting hang to fence using zip ties and allow children to water the flowers. Discuss with children their work and what is needed to keep the flowers alive.
4. Continue maintenance of the flowers with children and continue further gardening projects if possible.

*Invite family members to come into the classroom and assist the children with painting the flower pots or planting the flowers with the children.

Materials/Organization

Gallon sized milk jugs
Scissors
Paint
Paintbrushes
Soil
Flowers
Water

Student Assessment (Learning Story Format)

Assessment was conducted through anecdotal records, both taken during the activity and post activity. Photos were also taken for documentation. These were used to help create learning stories. Learning stories help to tell the story of what a child is working on, analyzes this learning, and then plans what is next for the

child in their learning.

*Please see sample flower pot. I chose to use a half gallon size for storage purposes.



