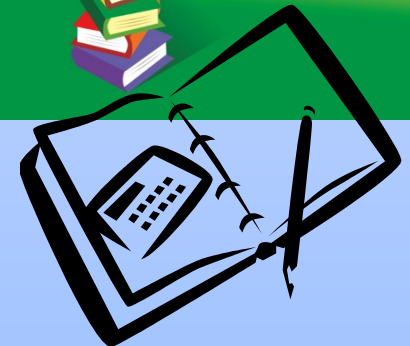
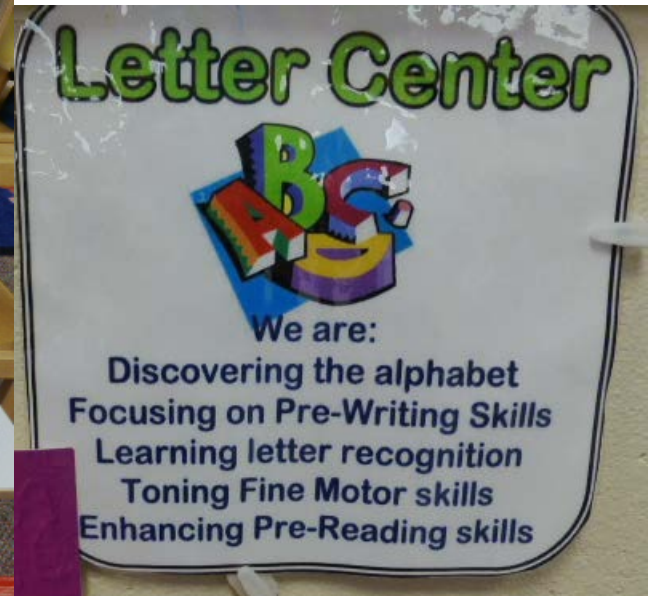


A Print-Rich Preschool Classroom



Välkommen





Writing Center

ABCs are attached to the writing surface and a variety of writing materials is available. A poster with a clear purpose and explanation is located in each learning center in this classroom. This center is located adjacent to the Book Center.



Writing Center

Children find a variety of writing tools, papers, cards, prompts and activities to use here.



Book Center

PUPPETS add an extra dimension to the book area for pretend play, story telling and re-telling. The poster explains to observers what children are learning while engaged with puppets.



Book Center

Non-stereotypical and culturally rich photographs are found in each center that depict occupations and include print to build vocabulary.



Book Center

Books are sorted in tubs by topic or interest. A visual attached to the front of the book tub tells the reader what books can be found here.



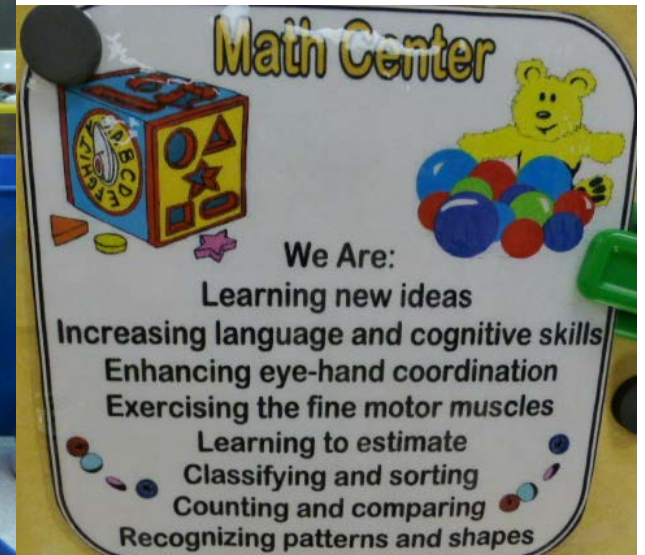
Book Center

A variety of topics is available. This tub combines a favorite topic, animals, with the season. The visual engages the children's curiosity about what they might find here.



Environmental Print “Word Wall” in the Book Center

ABC “owls” set the stage for the children to bring in their favorite words, labels and logos for display.



Discovery & Math Center

This center has its own book shelf and incorporates mathematical concepts. The poster's pictures and print support children's understanding of the center's opportunities.



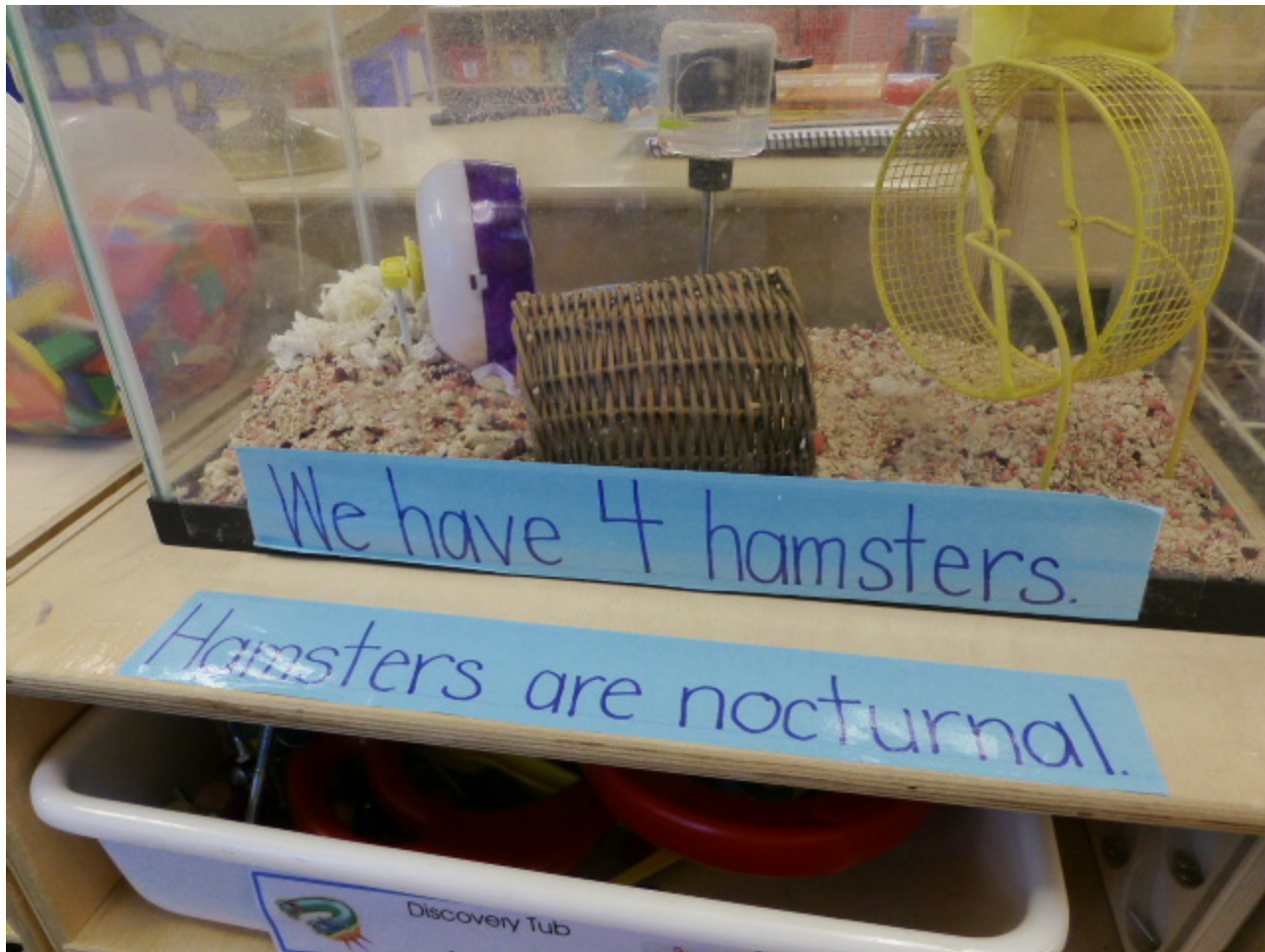
Discovery & Math Center

Materials to sort by different properties are inviting, with a book on display to offer examples.



Discovery & Math Center

Non-stereotypical and culturally rich photographs are found in each center that depict occupations and include print to build vocabulary.



Discovery & Math Center

Print, numerals, and vocabulary building are all evident in this display.



Discovery & Math Center

Books relevant to items in the discovery area are attractively displayed.



Discovery & Math Center

Writing options and experimental toys are always available on this table, at just the right height for children.



Discovery & Math Center

Tubs are clearly labeled with print and pictures so children can visually match labels when putting materials away.



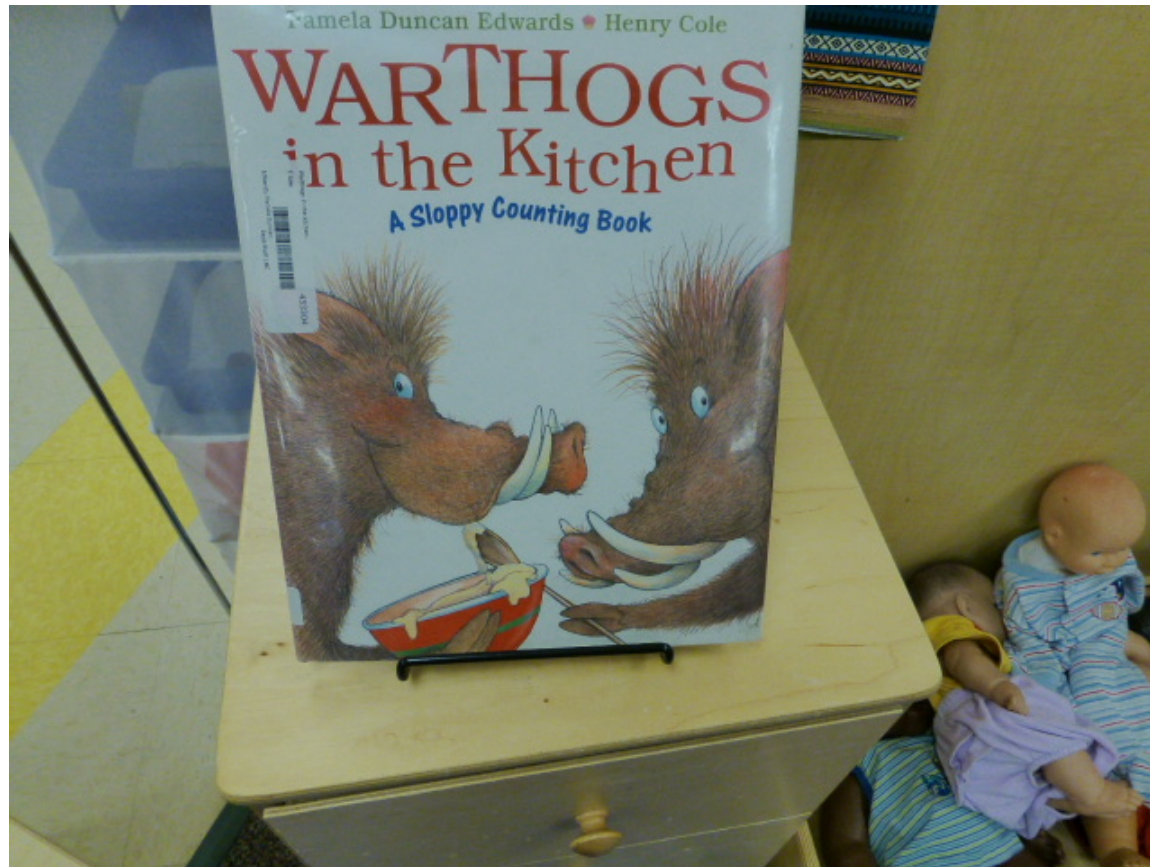
Discovery & Math Center

Thematic tubs offer a variety of options for exploration and include books related to the theme.



Discovery & Math Center

Natural objects are an essential addition to this center. Pine cones, rocks, and shells are in individual tubs, labeled with print and pictures.



Dramatic Play Center

Children can read to the babies in this center. This book on display has an inviting cover and brings a counting opportunity into the kitchen.



Dramatic Play Center

A telephone, magazines, and occupational photos are strategically located by these chairs to create a space for children to interact and engage in conversation.



Dramatic Play Center

Books and print are incorporated into this area to reflect real kitchen environments and functions of print.



Art Center

The bottom of a discarded rotating book stand serves as a spinning “Lazy Susan” color wheel for the center of a large table in the art area.



Art Center

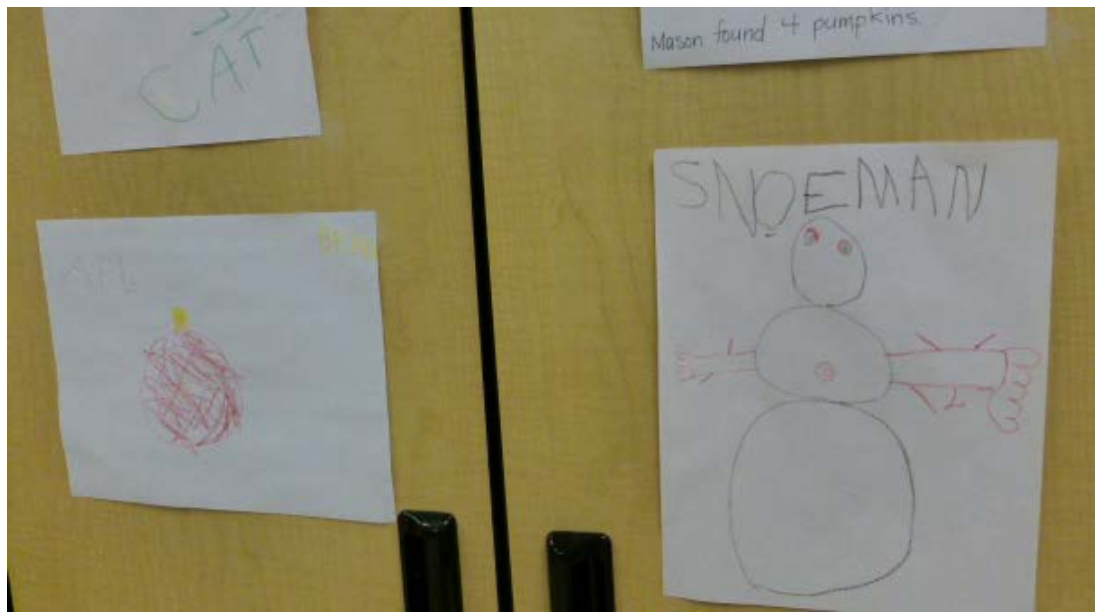
So many choices for creative expression, and all of them are clearly labeled.





Art Center

Labels are located on the tub, on the shelf, and on the back of the shelf for matching and easy clean-up for the children.



Art Center

Posters and occupation photos continue the theme throughout the classroom. An area to display children's creations helps to build confidence in young artists.





Art Center

A visual prompt paired with print supports children's independence in this center.



Art Center

Photos of families and children are displayed on the back of this shelving unit at eye level. Children visit this display often, engage in conversations about their families, and use their names in print as models when signing their art projects.



Snack Center

In this classroom snack is a choice during center time. Children decide when they want snack and, using print and pictures, serve themselves. Two to four chairs at the table offer an opportunity for children to engage in conversation while they eat. An adult can join in to support language and appropriate social interaction, as needed.



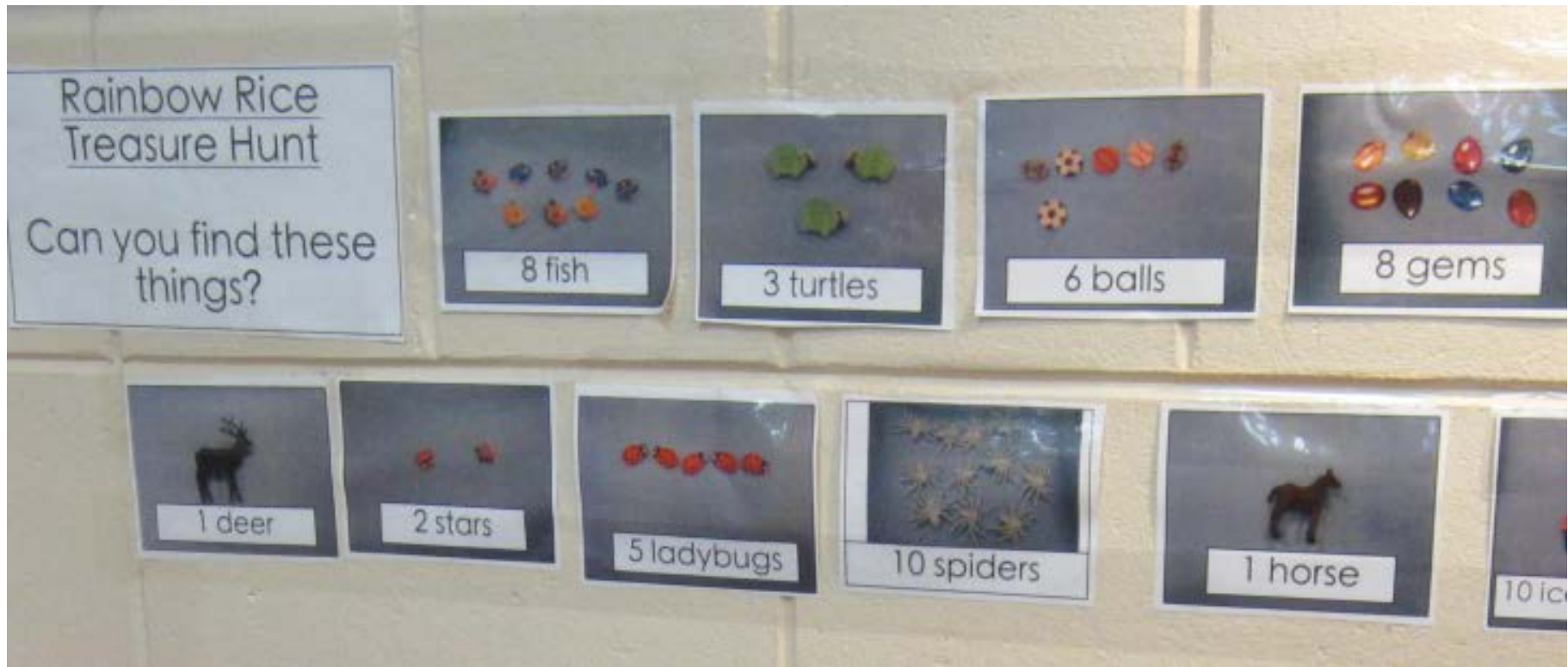
Sand and Water Center

An informational poster adds print and pictures to this center. The center's label is described in two languages to reflect the children's home cultures.



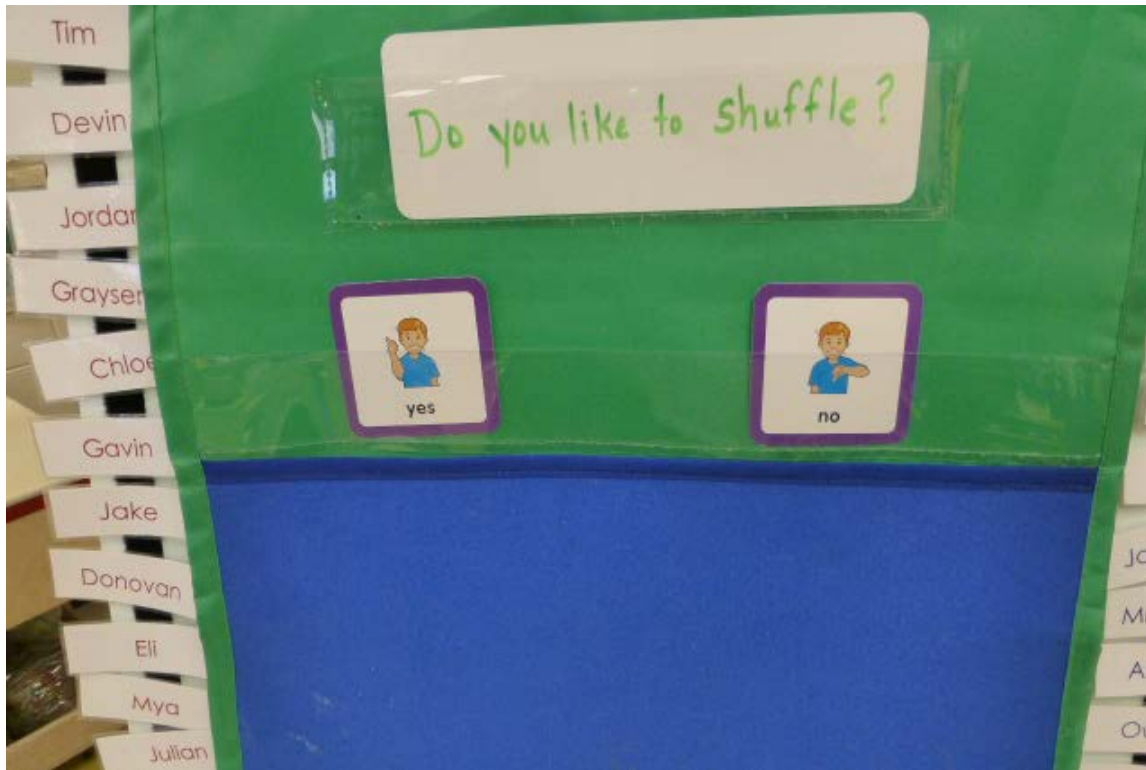
Sand and Water Center

This table holds buried small objects and a variety of hand tools for children to use. Note the visual directions provided above the table.



Sand and Water Center

This is a close-up of the directions and display - with words, photos, and numerals - posted above the sensory table from the previous slide.



Check-in with Daily Question

As children arrive they respond yes/no to the daily question by placing their name tag in the corresponding column. This question reinforces a new vocabulary word introduced the day before. During large group, the data is used to reinforce mathematical concepts, too.



Classroom Print / Prompts

Children learn independence and functional use of print when they are provided with instructional prompts such as this one for dressing to go outside.



Classroom Print / Prompts

Children independently use this "solutions" display board to help resolve social conflicts.



Large Group Area

A job chart with print and visual prompts, a weather chart, class rules poster, “calendar”, and daily schedule display set the stage for morning meeting.



Large Group Area

Evidence suggests traditional “calendar time” practiced in early childhood classrooms might not be the most effective use of instructional time. This teacher supports children’s understanding of time by limiting her focus to a 7-day week and relating time passage to school and home activities.



Large Group Area

A daily schedule is posted at children's eye level and in a left-to-right reading format. Changes to the day are referenced in relationship to this visual during group time. Children can use it independently during the session, too, as a reminder of the time and sequence of the day.



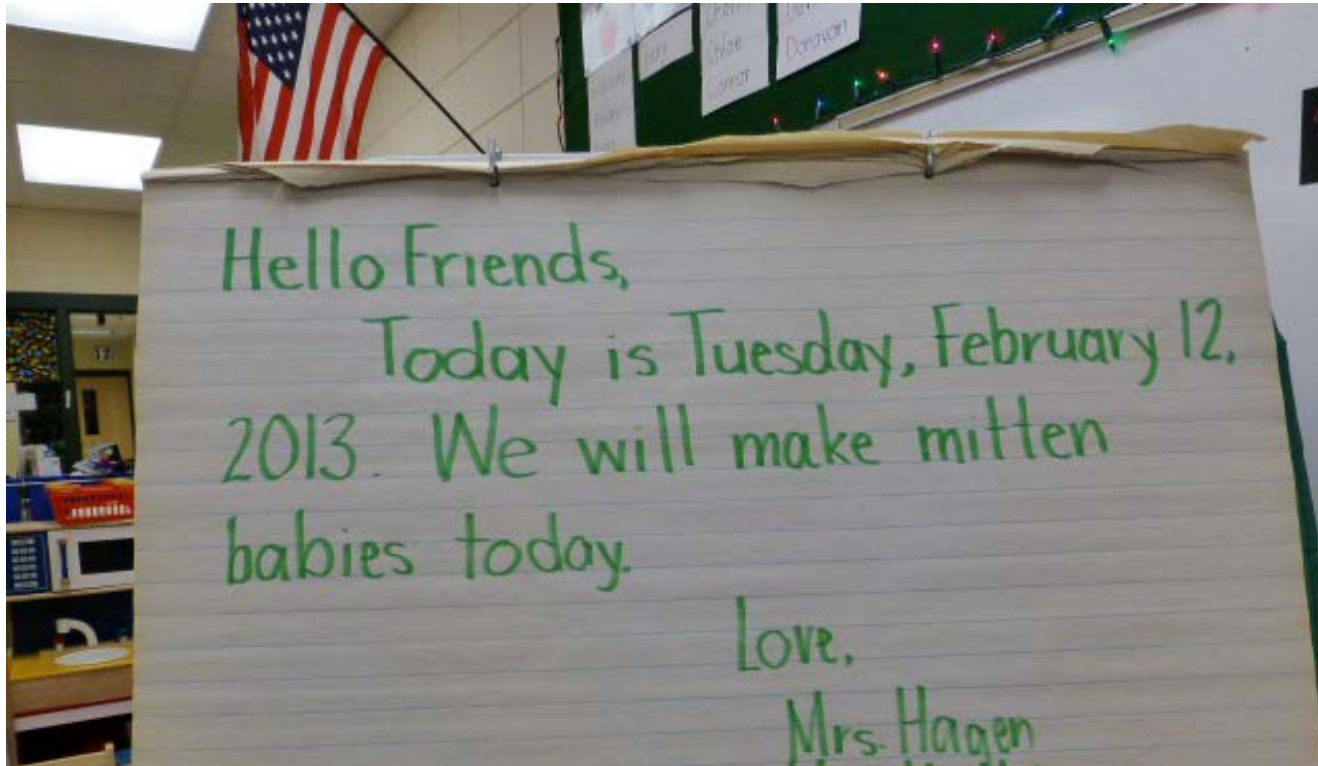
Large Group Area

Evidence suggests connecting names and sounds of alphabet letters to children's names is an effective way to introduce the alphabet.



Large Group Area

Here is another way to display children's names with a focus on initial letters and sounds.



Large Group Area

Morning message is read aloud during large group time and used to target literacy concepts of print.



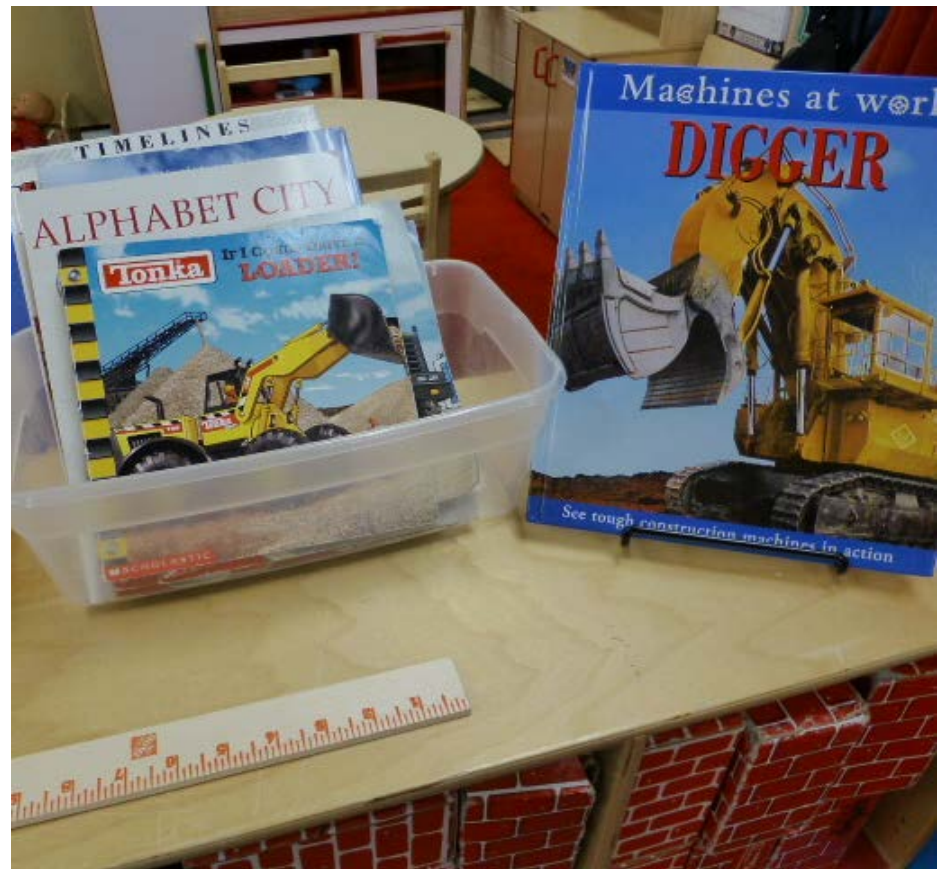
Large Group Area

This teacher adds 'interest' as she prepares to read "A Bad Case of Stripes" aloud to the class.



Blocks Center

Books, toys, and other tools add play possibilities in this well-labeled block area.



Blocks Center

Math and literacy are supported in this center.



Above all, learning should be FUN for young children. They love to tell and re-tell stories, using their imaginations and costumes as they develop social, language and literacy skills. Their teacher serves as an appropriate role model!



Special thanks and appreciation go to Tracy Hagen, 4K teacher, School District of Onalaska, for sharing her classroom for this presentation.

