

6 by 6 Interactive Spaces – LITTLE CLOUD

Guidelines:

There may be more than 1 activity or sign under each skill area.

Signs should be brief, but explain what to do and why it's important.

Skill area - **Talk, Talk, Talk**

1. Activity –Mystery Bag- Put shape blocks (or attribute blocks) in a bag. Child puts hand in the bag and picks a shape. The child attempts to identify the shape without looking at it. Have them justify the guess before removing the shape from the bag.
 - Sign(s): (with toucan graphic)
 - What shape do you feel? Can you describe it to me? Does it have corners or is it round? How many corners can you count? Is it big or small?
 - Vocabulary is knowing the names of things and concepts, feelings, and ideas. Encourage your child to talk to you and to be descriptive in their conversation. Just Talk, Talk, Talk!
 - Supplies: Mystery bag with wooden shape pieces (circles, triangles, squares, rectangles).
2. Activity – Blue Cloud stories – Children ‘fingerpaint’ in the white & blue-goo sky-bags. (At Antioch these were taped clear side out onto the white magnetic board surface.)
 - Signs – Encourage your child to describe how the blue-goo feels and what they’re making.
 - Supplies - Two large heavy duty Ziploc bags reinforced with contact paper containing blue/white fingerpaint

Skill area – **Look for Letters Everywhere**

1. Activity – Shape Walking- Cut out different shapes from foam. Place them on the floor and have the children “cross the river” only walking on triangles or squares or another specified shape.
 - Sign(s): (with peacock graphic)
 - Shapes are all around us, just take a look!
 - Cross the river by only stepping on the squares, triangles, circles, etc. Can you step on a square and reach over to touch a triangle with your hand?
 - Before children learn actual letters, they are aware of shapes. Before they have the coordination to hold a pencil and write they need to develop gross motor skills. Help your child develop these skills through play.
 - Supplies: Foam or foam sheets to cut out large shapes/letters.
2. Match the letter
 - Sign – Match the letter to its outline
 - Supplies – letter shapes and laminated cloud pictures

Skill Area – **Notice Print All Around You**

1. Activity –Read to Me!
 - Sign(s): (with kangaroo graphic)
 - READ TO ME!

- Print Awareness includes knowing how to handle a book and noticing print around us. As you read to your child, encourage your child to hold the book and see if they hold it correctly. When you read the title or a phrase run your finger under the words occasionally. This helps children understand that you are reading the text and not the pictures.
- Supplies: Cozy chair to sit in with child, and the book Little Cloud.

Skill Area – **Tell Stories About Everything**

3. Activity – Pictures from the book for sequencing.
 - Sign(s): (with turtle graphic)
 - What happened to Little Cloud? Put the pictures in the correct order.
 - Practice telling and retelling stories. The ability to retell stories, is one of the early literacy skills children need to understand what they read.
 - Supplies: Laminated and magnetized pictures from the book.
4. Activity – Look up!
 - Look up! Retell the story by looking at the clouds on the ceiling.

Skill Area - Take **Time to Rhyme, Sing & Play Word Games**

1. Activity –Rhyming Pictures—children sort pictures of things that rhyme, the word of each object could be written under the picture...to include Notice Print skill. Pictures of rhyming objects for the children to sort:
 Words that rhyme with sky...pie...fly...eye...necktie
 Words that rhyme with shark...dark...bark...ark...park
 Words that rhyme with tree...bee...key...sea...tea
 Words that rhyme with hat...cat...bat...rat...mat
 - Signs(s): (with goat graphic)
 Rhyming Words.
 Match the pictures that rhyme.
 Rhyming is not only fun, but it is one way that children learn to hear the smaller sounds in words.
 - Supplies: Pictures of various objects laminated onto small cards so children can sort them.

Overall skill area – **Have Fun With Books**

1. Activity—Cottony Scenes—Art activity...with cotton balls and shapes...create scenes from the book...could use either glue sticks or sheets of paper with wax..have die cuts of various shapes cut out to create scenes from book.
 - Signs: (with monkey graphic)
 Have Fun With Books

 Supplies: Waxed paper ½ sheets, cotton balls, fiberfill
2. Activity – Cloud scenes –

- Sign - Create your own Little Cloud story using these supplies.
- Supplies: dark blue construction paper, white chalk

LITTLE CLOUD KIT #
EARLY LITERACY KIT CONTENTS

Included: (supplier)	Returned
Large bin	
___ Box with 2 blue-goo bags; large Ziploc reinforced with contact paper	___
___ (2) Not-for-checkout paperback books	___
___ Thick foam shapes; 3 or 4 each, square, rectangle, triangle	___
___ Mystery bag with assorted wooden shape pieces; circles triangle, squares	___
___ White letters for matching to laminated cloud shapes with letters (6) (letters from Hobby Lobby)	___
___ Waxed construction paper ½ sheets	___
___ Cotton balls and/or fiberfill for cottony scenes	___
___ Dark blue construction paper ½ sheet for chalk scenes	___
___ Chalk	___
___ Rhyming cards / sequencing pictures	___
___ Signs – 2 sets	___
 Portfolio	
___ Featuring easel-sign	___
___ Thin foam shapes; 3 or 4 each, circle, rectangle, triangle, square	___
___ Laminated cloud shapes for display	___
___ Laminated cloud shapes with letters for matching	___
___ Cloud shapes on blue cellophane for ceiling	___

What you need to provide:

Magnetic tape if you choose to use sequencing that way
 Containers

Your comments – what worked, what didn't, your suggestions:

