

Notes



Early Childhood Classroom Interests Tool

How To Use This Tool To Identify Children's Interests:

This form provides an easy way to pinpoint interests that are shared by groups of young children. You can use the results as a guide for developing activities that will appeal to the group's interests. In this way you can help the children in your program experience creative, interest-based learning activities that they will find truly engaging, beneficial, and fun!

Follow These Easy Steps:

1. Look, listen, and observe your students. Focus on what the children are doing and saying. Try to look beyond the obvious to discover what materials or activities capture the children's imaginations.
2. Read through the sample interest activities printed in the chart on the following pages. In the blank boxes write additional interests you've observed among the children in your class. Then, while thinking of one child in your class at a time, write his or her first name in three boxes under the three activities you believe hold the greatest interest for him or her. Repeat this process for each class member, writing their first names in the boxes with their three top interests or assets.
3. After indicating all of your class members' greatest interests, consider the chart as a whole. Which activities have the most children's names under them?



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CELL Scales

Date:

Teacher:

Program Name:

Class Members:

Top Class Interests:

Playing with alphabet letters/ letter stamps	Acting out stories	Listening to and talking about favorite stories	"Writing" and reading on computers	Using recipes, menus, etc., in the cooking area
Coloring pictures	Dictating stories about friends, activities, dreams	Having "conversations" with dolls/stuffed animals	Drawing with crayons or markers	Dressing up in costumes and making up stories
Using finger paints	Doing fingerplays	Looking at books	Making signs for the classroom and class activities	Listening to and saying nursery rhymes
Making books of pictures or photographs	Looking at picture books	Playing games (for example, board games, word games)	Using play dough, silly putty	Telling stories with puppets
Making up rhymes, songs, etc.	Writing and drawing with sidewalk chalk	Singing songs	"Writing" notes, letters, or journals	Telling stories with a storyteller
"Writing" or scribbling on paper	"Drawing" maps for trucks, buildings, treasure hunts	Reading signs when taking walks	Other:_____	Other:_____