

Center 1: 3D Form Exploration with Blocks

Objective: Experiment with building and understanding three-dimensional forms using blocks.

Materials:

- Building blocks (wooden or plastic)
- Small figures or animals (optional, for added play)

Activity:

1. **Introduction:** Explain that the children will use blocks to build different forms and structures.
2. **Demonstration:** Build a simple structure with blocks and explain the concept of three-dimensional form.
3. **Hands-On:** Allow the children to use blocks to build their own structures. Encourage them to think about how they can create different forms (e.g., towers, bridges).
4. **Discussion:** Have a group conversation where children can share their structures and describe the forms they created. Ask questions like, “What shapes did you use?” and “How did you make your structure stand up?”

Center 2: Form Discovery with Natural Materials

Objective: Explore forms in nature through tactile experiences.

Materials:

- Natural materials (e.g., leaves, pinecones, rocks, sticks)
- Paper
- Crayons or colored pencils

Activity:

1. **Introduction:** Show the children various natural materials and discuss their different forms and textures.
2. **Demonstration:** Demonstrate how to make a texture rubbing of the natural materials by placing paper over them and rubbing with crayons or colored pencils.
3. **Hands-On:** Let children choose natural materials to create their own rubbings. Encourage them to notice and describe the different forms and textures.
4. **Discussion:** Have children share their rubbings and talk about the forms they discovered.

VAPA Standard Alignment:

- **Visual Arts:** 2.0 Creating, Performing, and Participating in the Arts (Create artwork inspired by natural forms and textures.)

Center 3: 3D Form Building with Recyclables

Objective: Create three-dimensional forms using recyclable materials.

Materials:

- Recyclable materials (e.g., cardboard tubes, bottle caps, egg cartons, paper rolls)
- Glue
- Scissors (for teacher use)
- Markers or paints

Activity:

1. **Introduction:** Explain that the children will use recyclable materials to build three-dimensional forms.
2. **Demonstration:** Show how to assemble different recyclable materials to create simple 3D forms (e.g., a tower made from cardboard tubes).
3. **Hands-On:** Allow children to choose materials and build their own 3D structures. They can use glue to attach pieces and markers or paints to decorate.
4. **Discussion:** Ask children to describe their creations and the forms they used. Discuss how different materials can be combined to create new forms.

VAPA Standard Alignment:

- **Visual Arts:** 3.0 Historical and Cultural Context (Explore three-dimensional forms using various materials.)

Center 4: Playdough Form Sculptures

Objective: Explore three-dimensional forms using playdough.

Materials:

- Playdough in various colors
- Plastic shape cutters (e.g., circles, squares, triangles)
- Rolling pins
- Plastic tools for shaping and cutting

Activity:

1. **Introduction:** Discuss what three-dimensional forms are and show examples using playdough.

2. **Demonstration:** Demonstrate how to roll out playdough and use shape cutters to create different shapes. Show how to combine these shapes to build a simple sculpture (e.g., a snowman with round shapes).
3. **Hands-On:** Allow children to use playdough to create their own sculptures. Encourage them to use shape cutters and tools to experiment with different forms.
4. **Discussion:** Have children describe their sculptures and the different forms they used. Ask questions like, “What shapes did you use to build your sculpture?” and “How did you make your sculpture stand up?”

VAPA Standard Alignment:

- **Visual Arts:** 1.0 Perceiving and Responding – Artistic Awareness (Identify and describe the forms created with playdough.)