



August 10, 2022

Addressing Environmental Challenges in Family Child Care Programs

Meaningful Makeover Viewer's Guide

This viewer's guide gives you ideas for addressing common challenges in the family childcare learning environment. The reflection questions help you think about ways to incorporate ideas from the webinar into your own program. Helpful resources can be found in the Resources section of this guide.

Room Arrangement



- Step up the environment as a third teacher
- Define learning spaces
- Allow more space for noisy or activity play
- Separate loud and quiet spaces
- Consider supervision and safety

Write down some of the strategies you'd like to try for creating safe and defined learning spaces in your program.



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Connections to the ELOF

- Cognition: Exploration and Discovery
 - Infants and Toddlers: Goal IT-C 1. Child actively explores people and objects to understand self, others, and objects.
- Cognition: Mathematics Development
 - Preschool: Goal P-MATH 10. Child explores the positions of objects in space.
- Perceptual, Motor and Physical Development
 - Infants and Toddlers: Goal IT-PMP 7. Uses hands for exploration, play, and daily routines.
 - Preschool: Goal P-PMP 1. Child demonstrates control, strength, and coordination of large muscles.

Use the space below to make your own connections to the ELOF.

Infants and Toddlers



- Communicate with clear soft-spoken words and songs
- Promote responsive engagement at the children's level:
- Place visuals at children's eye level
- Add low seating for adults and children
- Place materials on low open shelves



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Write down some of the strategies you'd like to try for creating safe and engaging spaces for infant and toddlers.

Connections to the ELOF

- Cognition: Exploration and Discovery
 - Goal IT-C 1. Child actively explores people and objects to understand self, others, and objects.
- Approaches to Learning: Initiative and Curiosity
 - Goal IT-ATL 6. Child demonstrates emerging initiative in interactions, experiences, and explorations.

Use the space below to make your own connections to the ELOF.



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STEAM Learning



- Organize materials to support independence
- Repurpose materials you already have
- Include a variety of materials, including open-ended materials
- Use boundaries for safety
- Encourage STEAM learning by adding an educator support visual with open-ended questions to ask the children

Write down some of the strategies you'd like to try for incorporating STEAM learning into your program.

Connections to the ELOF

- Cognition: Emergent Mathematical Thinking
 - Infants and toddlers Goal IT-C 9. Child uses spatial awareness to understand objects and their movement in space.
 - Preschool: Goal P-MATH 9. Child identifies, describes, compares, and composes shapes.



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Use the space below to make your own connections to the ELOF.

Books for Literacy and Beyond



- Organize books by theme and add labels
- Provide a variety of books based on children’s interest and developmental level
- Define reading area and add soft furnishing
- Display books so they are easy to see
- Make books accessible to children in low open shelving
- Minimize, store, and rotate

Write down some of the strategies you’d like to try for creating a warm and inviting reading area with accessibility to books.



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Connections to the ELOF

- Language and Communication: Literacy and Vocabulary
 - Infants and toddlers Goal IT-LC 11. Recognizes picture, symbols, signs or words.
 - Preschool: Goal P-LC 6. Child understands and uses a wide variety of words for a variety of purposes.
 - Preschool: Goal P-LIT 2. Understanding how print works.

Use the space below to make your own connections to the ELOF.

Setting up an Outdoor Environment



- Ask families to provide weather-appropriate clothing. Consider having items through community donation if needed.
- Encourage the exploration of natural materials in the environment
- Take indoor activities outside
- Create policies for safety, talk about safety with children, provide active supervision and take necessary trainings



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Write down some of the strategies you'd like to try for supporting independence and proper handwashing.

Connections to the ELOF

- Perceptual, Motor, and Physical Development: Gross Motor
 - Infants and toddlers Goal IT-PMP 4. Child demonstrates effective and efficient use of large muscles to explore the environment.
 - Preschool: Goal P-PMP 1. Child demonstrates control, strength, and coordination of large muscles.

Use the space below to make your own connections to the ELOF.



Helpful Resources

Online Resources

Interactive Head Start Early Learning Outcomes Framework: Ages Birth to Five:

<https://eclkc.ohs.acf.hhs.gov/interactive-head-start-early-learning-outcomes-framework-ages-birth-five> (English)

<https://eclkc.ohs.acf.hhs.gov/es/marco-interactivo-de-head-start-sobre-los-resultados-del-aprendizaje-temprano-de-los-ninos-desde-el> (Spanish)

Head Start Program Performance Standards:

<https://eclkc.ohs.acf.hhs.gov/policy/45-cfr-chap-xiii> (English)

<https://eclkc.ohs.acf.hhs.gov/es/policy/45-cfr-chap-xiii> (Spanish)

Family Child Care Option

<https://eclkc.ohs.acf.hhs.gov/programs/article/family-child-care-option> (English)

<https://eclkc.ohs.acf.hhs.gov/es/programas/articulo/opcion-del-cuidado-infantil-familiar> (Spanish)

Meaningful Makeover: Overcoming Challenges in the Family Child Care Setting

<https://eclkc.ohs.acf.hhs.gov/video/meaningful-makeover-overcoming-challenges-family-child-care-setting>

Meaningful Makeover full length episodes:

<https://cultivatelearning.uw.edu/meaningfulmakeover/>

Meaningful Makeover: Makeover Minutes:

<https://cultivatelearning.uw.edu/meaningfulmakeover/makeover-minutes/>

Learning Environments

<https://eclkc.ohs.acf.hhs.gov/learning-environments> (English)

<https://eclkc.ohs.acf.hhs.gov/es/entornos-de-aprendizaje> (Spanish)

News You Can Use: Environment as Curriculum for Infants and Toddlers

<https://eclkc.ohs.acf.hhs.gov/learning-environments/article/news-you-can-use-environment-curriculum-infants-toddlers> (English)

<https://eclkc.ohs.acf.hhs.gov/es/entornos-de-aprendizaje/articulo/hablemos-de-el-medio-ambiente-como-parte-del-curriculo-para-bebes> (Spanish)

Little Scientists: Building Early STEAM Skills

<https://eclkc.ohs.acf.hhs.gov/publication/little-scientists-building-early-steam-skills> (English)

<https://eclkc.ohs.acf.hhs.gov/es/publicacion/pequenos-cientificos-como-adquirir-habilidades-tempranas-de-steam> (Spanish)



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News You Can Use: Early Science Learning for Infants and Toddlers

<https://eclkc.ohs.acf.hhs.gov/school-readiness/article/news-you-can-use-early-science-learning-infants-toddlers> (English)

<https://eclkc.ohs.acf.hhs.gov/es/preparacion-escolar/articulo/hablemos-de-el-aprendizaje-temprano-de-las-ciencias-para-los-bebes-y> (Spanish)

Research on the Go Podcast-Check out the STEAM episodes!

<https://eclkc.ohs.acf.hhs.gov/school-readiness/article/research-go>

Teacher Time: Little Scientists: Exploring STEAM, Birth to 5

<https://eclkc.ohs.acf.hhs.gov/school-readiness/teacher-time-series/little-scientists-exploring-steam-birth-5>

News You Can Use: Take It Outside

<https://eclkc.ohs.acf.hhs.gov/learning-environments/article/news-you-can-use-take-it-outside> (English)

<https://eclkc.ohs.acf.hhs.gov/es/entornos-de-aprendizaje/articulo/hablemos-de-salgamos-afuera> (Spanish)

Supporting Outdoor Play and Exploration for Infants and Toddlers

<https://eclkc.ohs.acf.hhs.gov/learning-environments/supporting-outdoor-play-exploration-infants-toddlers/supporting-outdoor-play-exploration-infants-toddlers> (English)

<https://eclkc.ohs.acf.hhs.gov/es/entornos-de-aprendizaje/supporting-outdoor-play-exploration-infants-toddlers/fomento-de-los-juegos-y-la-exploracion-al-aire-libre-para-los-bebes-y> (Spanish)

News You Can Use: Outdoor Spaces

<https://eclkc.ohs.acf.hhs.gov/learning-environments/article/news-you-can-use-outdoor-spaces> (English)

<https://eclkc.ohs.acf.hhs.gov/es/entornos-de-aprendizaje/articulo/hablemos-de-espacios-al-aire-libre> (Spanish)

Read It Again! Benefits of Reading to Young Children

<https://eclkc.ohs.acf.hhs.gov/publication/read-it-again-benefits-reading-young-children> (English)

<https://eclkc.ohs.acf.hhs.gov/es/publicacion/leelo-de-nuevo-beneficios-de-leerles-los-ninos-pequenos> (Spanish)

News You Can Use: Foundations of School Readiness: Language and Literacy

<https://eclkc.ohs.acf.hhs.gov/school-readiness/article/news-you-can-use-foundations-school-readiness-language-literacy> (English)

<https://eclkc.ohs.acf.hhs.gov/es/preparacion-escolar/articulo/el-desarrollo-del-lenguaje-y-la-lectoescritura-emergente-y-su-relacion> (Spanish)

Mobile Apps

- ELOF2GO Mobile App (available in English and Spanish)

<https://eclkc.ohs.acf.hhs.gov/school-readiness/article/elof2go-mobile-app>



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- ELOF@HOME Mobile App
<https://eclkc.ohs.acf.hhs.gov/teaching-practices/article/mobile-tools-home-visitors>
- Head Start Resources
<https://eclkc.ohs.acf.hhs.gov/professional-development/article/head-start-resources-app>
- Ready DLL Mobile App
<https://eclkc.ohs.acf.hhs.gov/culture-language/article/ready-dll-mobile-app>
- Text4Teachers
<https://eclkc.ohs.acf.hhs.gov/teaching-practices/article/text4teachers>

Online Communities

- MyPeers
<https://eclkc.ohs.acf.hhs.gov/about-us/article/mypeers-collaborative-platform-early-care-education-community>
 - Early Head Start Child Care Partnership Community
 - Teacher Time



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