

9m. Selection of Equipment, Toys, Materials & Furniture Policy & Procedure

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Policy

In order to support educational objectives, an individualized program of services, and to show respect for children and families, our program matches equipment, toys, materials and furniture to the developmental levels, interests, temperaments, languages, cultural backgrounds, and learning styles of children.

Policy Complies with Head Start Performance Standard 1304.53 (b) (1)

Procedure

Equipment, toys, materials and furniture that are safe, durable, age appropriate, accessible, attractive and inviting to children are selected and maintained by the program to support:

- Specific educational objectives;
- Cultural and ethnic backgrounds of children;
- The abilities and developmental level of each child, with adaptations, if necessary, for children with disabilities;
- A variety of learning experiences and to encourage each child to experiment and explore;

In addition, equipment, toys, materials and furniture are stored in a safe and orderly manner by using the following techniques:

- Each activity area has its own storage space;
- As much space as possible is reserved for children's use by storing materials in locations not used by children;
- Bookcases and other shelves cannot be pulled over by children;
- Storage space for all adaptive equipment for children with disabilities is provided;
- Adult materials and equipment, such as scissors, staplers, electrical appliances, and knives, are inaccessible to children;
- Outdoor equipment, such as tricycles, balls, and sand tools are stored in a shed or other enclosed storage space to protect these items, as well as to keep the outdoor area free of clutter.