

NURSERY CREATIVITY

Creativity is when children use their imagination to express themselves in many different ways. They can manipulate materials, express themselves, explore emotions, create scripts, make plans, engage with others, try different roles and learn about the world around them. Creative play tends to involve experiences such as art, drama, music, dance and construction and takes place both indoors and outdoors.

Chart for Creativity

Concept	Description	Examples
Creates from loose parts (art supplies, nature finds, etc.)	Loose parts are materials that are open-ended and can be used over and over again in various ways (ex. recyclables, art supplies, nature materials)	<p>Create a building using recyclables (ex. egg cartons, paper towel rolls, boxes, cups)</p>  <p>RECYCLED BUILDING A SIMPLE, ECO-FRIENDLY ENGINEERING ACTIVITY</p> 
Explores with a variety of media (paint, playdough, crayons, etc.) enjoying the process more than product	Use art materials to create pictures, exploring how to use the materials, the feeling, and the experience of being creative. Encourage all children's pictures to be individual.	<p>Marble paint: Put a piece of paper on the bottom of a tray with edges. Squirt paint onto the paper and add marbles. Tip the tray to roll the marbles across the paper.</p>  <p>PAINTING with BALLS & MARBLES</p> <p>Have an art shelf in the classroom that is open all day, with various materials for children to explore on their own.</p>

<p>Invents stories</p>	<p>Children make their own stories with a beginning, middle, and an end.</p>	<p>Story bag: Gather some toys (animal figures, play food, cars etc.). Put the toys in a bag and have the children make up a story that includes all the toys.</p> <p>Create a “mini world” area (felt boards, puppets, action figures, loose parts, etc.).</p>
<p>Displays imagination. May have imaginary friends</p>	<p>Using their ability to create new things and try different roles. Having imaginary friends is common and age appropriate for preschool children as they create a world through their imagination. Children will reach various levels of imaginary play as some will create imaginary friends and some will explore worlds through making pictures.</p>	<p>Place dolls, figurines and stuffed animals in the classroom for children to play.</p> 
<p>Plays with dramatic play props. Allows objects to represent other objects</p>	<p>Children use their imagination to pretend items are different from what they see (ex. using a block as a phone).</p>	<p>Add loose parts to the dramatic play area and all areas of the classroom.</p> <p>https://www.fantasticfunandlearning.com/loose-parts-play-kids.html</p> <p>Encourage the use of objects from one area to be used in another area (ex. Block area items to be used in the dramatic play area).</p>
<p>Imitates following familiar roles/experiences</p>	<p>Reenacts familiar stories, experiences, shows, etc.</p>	<p>Place familiar children’s storybooks in all areas of the room as encouragement for play.</p> <p>Sing songs about familiar people and places (ex. Wheels on the bus, Pat a cake, The Farmer in the Dell, Where is Thumbkin)</p>

<p>Creates more complex scripts with a variety of roles</p>	<p>Children interact with one another to create and act out stories from their own imagination.</p>	<p>Have a dramatic play area with various clothes and costumes for children to use for pretend. Could rotate different themes in this area (ex. Doctor's office, Gas Station, Spaceship, House, Grocery Store).</p> <p>https://www.theempowerededucatoronline.com/2018/07/invite-dramatic-play-with-prop-boxes.html/</p>
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Article: Encouraging Children to Play Imaginatively and Creatively

<https://www.kathyeugster.com/articles/article007.htm>

