



Including School Age Children in Family Child Care

With the closures of K-12 schools, some Family Child Care providers will find themselves incorporating older children in their programs. If you have not spent much time with that age group, it can be hard to know where to start. While many schools have provided learning packets, it is important to understand that children may be feeling frightened by this sudden disruption to their lives. This may impact their ability to focus on assigned schoolwork. We encourage you to view their time with you as an opportunity to support their social-emotional wellbeing.

Plan Ahead

- Ask about their interests.
- Talk about setting a good example and helping with the younger children.
- Provide strategies for interacting with younger children.
- Explain your daily schedule and routines.
- Make a plan for nap-time activities.

15 Go-To Activities

1. Build a really tall block structure
2. Do a puzzle
3. Draw a picture of something in the room
4. Help a younger child do a puzzle
5. Make a collage
6. Make playdough
7. Observe a younger child and write some notes about what you saw
8. Paint a picture of something you see outside
9. Plan an outdoor scavenger hunt
10. Plant a garden
11. Play in the interest areas
12. Play outside
13. Put on a puppet show
14. Read a book alone
15. Read a book to a younger child
16. Start a research project
17. Use found materials to build something

20 Kid-Pleasing Materials

1. Blocks and accessories
2. Books
3. Calculators
4. Collage materials
5. Costumes
6. Craft sticks
7. Geo-Boards
8. Legos
9. Lincoln Logs
10. Musical instruments
11. Paper and Envelopes
12. Pattern blocks
13. Play dough
14. Play kitchen
15. Puzzles
16. Rulers
17. Sand and water table
18. Stamps
19. Stickers
20. Writing materials