

Hobble Creek Learning  
Preschool Centers

Centers	When children do this:	They are learning to:
Blocks	<p>Use blocks and wooden people to create rooms in their home,</p> <p>Make bridges for cars</p>	<p>Make maps of their world (social studies, math)</p> <p>Use shapes to build (math)</p> <p>Plan ahead (study skills)</p> <p>Recreate structures they've seen (geography, problem solving)</p>
Dramatic Play	<p>Use a stethoscope to examine a doll and write a prescription.</p> <p>Pretend to be a fire fighter</p>	<p>Pretend with objects (abstract thinking)</p> <p>Write for a purpose (literacy)</p> <p>Recall what they know about workers in their community (social studies)</p> <p>Act out roles (the arts)</p>
Games and Toys	<p>Finish and Alphabet puzzle</p> <p>Group pictures that are the same</p>	<p>Complete a task (study habits, self confidence)</p> <p>Learn about the alphabet (literacy)</p> <p>Match and classify (math)</p>
Art	<p>Gather paper, scissors, and glue for a project</p> <p>Draw a picture of their family</p>	<p>Plan and carry out a task (study habits independence)</p> <p>Use symbols to represent their ideas (literacy)</p> <p>Gain and understanding of what "family" means (social studies)</p>
Discovery	<p>Plan seeds and measure each seeds growth</p> <p>Use eyedroppers to ad colors to containers of water</p>	<p>Measurement (Math)</p> <p>Plant life cycle (science)</p> <p>Mix colors (science)</p> <p>Small muscle development (writing)</p>

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Sand and Water	<p>Pour water into water wheels to set them in motion</p> <p>Discover how many cups of sand fill a pail</p>	<p>Cause and effect (science)</p> <p>Coordinate eye-hand movement (writing)</p> <p>Count and measure volume (math)</p>
Library	<p>Scribble on paper using some letters and tell what the scribble says</p> <p>Listen to a story and talk about what happened</p>	<p>Communicate (literacy)</p> <p>Make a connection between letters and the sounds they make (literacy)</p> <p>Love books, remember details, and express ideas) language development, literacy)</p>
Music and movement	<p>Sing or do a finger play with other children and the children</p> <p>Create different sounds by putting more (or fewer) beans in cans and shaking them</p>	<p>Participate cooperatively in a group (social skills)</p> <p>Recognize rhymes (phonological awareness, listening)</p> <p>Explore cause and effect (science, logical thinking)</p>
Cooking	<p>Follow directions in a recipe that calls for adding ingredients by teaspoons, cups etc.</p> <p>Watch bread dough rise or melt butter</p>	<p>Understand measurement (math)</p> <p>Read a recipe (literacy)</p> <p>Understand that foods can change their physical states (science)</p>

Adapted from The Creative curriculum for preschool by Diane Trister Dodge