



Kindergarten set up ideas

Storage is a key. Use clearly labelled containers with lids.

The room set up needs to have spaces where children can choose an activity. In free choice time, they should not all be doing the same thing at the same time. Notice in the picture, some children are at one activity and some at another. You can set up activities on small tables with 2 or 3 chairs, but as well, you could set up a tablecloth or ground sheet on the floor for an activity. You can leave the activities up for the whole week.



Ground sheet

Picture story books

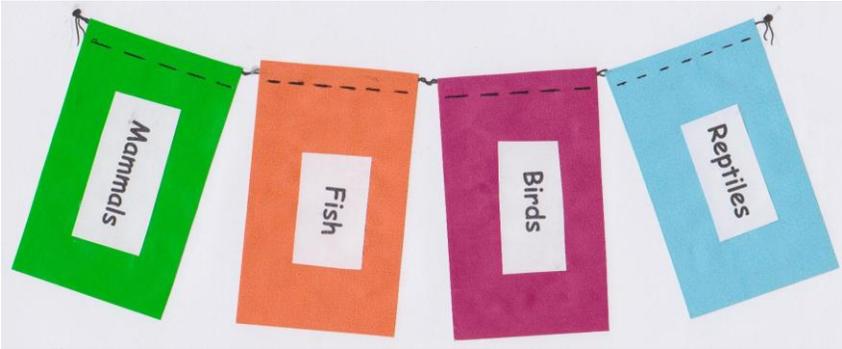
There needs to be a dedicated kindergarten book space – not kindergarten books in the communal library. What ever books suitable for kindergarten you have, pull them out and put them in a book stand. The face of the book must be facing outwards to inspire children. The books must have plenty of pictures and simple language.





Making your own big books
 – These hand-made books are called ‘big books’ because the writing at the bottom of the page (written BY THE TEACHER) is BIG enough to read from a distance. The children draw the pictures, one per page. They write their name at the top.

Storage of hand-made big books on a string along the wall:



Music

All songs listed in the curriculum are free downloads from the Beacon Media website

www.beaconmedia.com.au – See primary Music
<https://beaconmedia.com.au/beaconmedia/primary/music/primary-music/>

Make home-made percussion instruments so that children can keep the beat to the songs, e.g., rice shakers, clapping sticks. (Wooden building blocks also make a good sound when two are clapped together to the beat.)



Kindergarten set up ideas



Playdough

Provide equipment for the children to use with playdough such as plastic knives and forks, cookie cutters.



Find small plastic pieces to use for construction and counting in mathematics.



Jigsaw puzzles

Use commercial ones or make your own.



Paint

Have pots of pain with screw top lids so you don't waste any if there's still some left at the end of the session. Note that there should be ONE colour brush per pot, e.g., the red brush goes on the red pot, the green brush goes in the green pot. There should be no washing of brushes in between use of colours.



Building blocks. If these are too expensive, ask a builder for some wood offcuts and make your own.



Construction with cardboard boxes and other recycled materials.

Buy a very large tall laundry basket to have in the corner. Get families to bring along small empty boxes and egg cartons and start collecting.



Small plastic animals



Home centre, where children can pretend to make meals.

Provide plastic plates, cups and cutlery – they can be real. (They don't have to be small toy sets.)

Also add some bowls, wooden spoons and cooking pots. Provide string, beads or anything that can be used as 'pretend' food.



Collage tray

(Collage means sticking things on to paper to make a picture.)

You may need glue brushes and liquid glue for this rather than glue sticks.

Collect anything that will stick, e.g. pre-cut shapes of fabric or coloured paper, leaves, pieces of ribbon, pasta, small sticks, pre-cut pieces of corrugated cardboard



Restaurant

Children can play at serving customers. A waiter finds out what the customers want to order. They prepare the meal and serve it. The customer pays.



Cars

Boys need things with wheels. You can make your own car mat.



Dolls and Puppets

Provide pieces of fabric so that the children can wrap or dress their dolls; cardboard box for a bed.

You can make your own puppets from paper bags, cardboard tubes or cut outs on sticks.

