Early Learning Classroom—Older Toddler

The Need for Older Toddler Classrooms

Older Toddler classrooms should employ learning stations that support a wide variety of activities for children. Play stations let children envision themselves in a variety of real-life and imaginary scenarios. Stations that emphasize fine motor skills help children foster independence as they learn to use writing tools or work with buttons, zippers, snaps and laces. Reading stations let children work on the foundations of language and vocabulary. Storage and furnishings need to be low enough to allow teachers to observe all children, wherever they are in the room.

Requirements for a Great Older Toddler Classroom

For **students**, an ideal toddler classroom should help them advance through developmental milestones and begin preparing them for kindergarten. Stations should be positioned within close proximity, so students can easily move from one learning area to another. Furnishings should be appropriately sized for early-learners, so they stay comfortable throughout the day.

For **teachers,** the toddler classroom should feature furnishings with a low profile, to ensure all children can be seen at all times, no matter where they are in the room. Teachers should be able to easily move between stations as they observe children or oversee lessons and activities. Shelving, carts and locking storage units keep classroom materials organized and out of reach.

For **administrators,** the best toddler classroom features intelligently-selected furnishing that meet the requirements of their space. All products should be available at the time they are needed, and orders must arrive correctly and on time. Installations must be quick and efficient.

Older Toddler Classroom Solutions from School Outfitters

School Outfitters' research and development team designed a toddler classroom with furnishings that ensure children's safety and encourage them to participate in activities that support milestone development. The**Project Area**, **Stations Area**, and **Storage Area** are designed to work together to create a stimulating environment that's perfect for early learners.

The **Project Area** makes it easy for teachers to get students organized into small and large groups for classroom activities. This area includes:

- **Activity tables**
- **Chairs**

Activity tables can seat several students small group work or pushed together into groups in order to accommodate larger projects. Laminate desktops easily wipe clean so they're sure to look great for years.

Sturdy **chairs** keep children comfortable and secure as they work. Low seat heights allow young students to enter and exit their seats without assistance.

The **Stations Area** is comprised of a variety of areas that accommodate all the needs of a toddler classroom - from changing, feeding and resting to reading and active play. This area includes:

- **Reading station**
- **Active station**
- **Sensory station**
- **Changing station**
- **Resting station**

The **reading station** provides children with a place to look at story books individually or with a small group. A kid-sized **bookstand** makes reading material easily accessible. A soft **classroom rug** and **floor pillows** offer a cozy place where children can relax with their books.

The **active station** encourages children to climb, play, socialize and explore during active playtime. **Climbers** help young children work on dexterity and motor skills as they climb stairs and use slides. **Active playsets** allow toddler to work on their fine motor skills as they stack blocks or crawl through foam tunnels. **Pretend playsets** give children the opportunity to use their imaginations as they use pretend appliances, dress up costumes or dolls to act out play scenarios.

The **sensory station** allows children to experiment with hands-on projects or engage in sensory play. The **sensory table** allows children to play with sand, water or manipulatives and an **exploration table** is perfect for early learning science projects or group activities.

The **changing station** ensures caregivers can offer little ones a safe and comfortable place for changing. **Changing**

tables keep children secure during changes. A vinyl pad on the table keeps little ones comfortable, and **diaper storage** keeps changing supplies close at hand.

A **resting station** with **cots** gives toddlers a cozy place to nap. The cots feature a one-piece construction making them are easy to stack and clean, and heat-sealed seams that prevent fraying.

The **Storage Area** keeps your young toddler classroom organized. Low profile storage units ensure caregivers can see all areas of the room at all times. This area includes:

- **Lockers**
- **Teacher's cabinet**
- **Classroom storage**

Lockers store infants' coats, hats and other outdoor wear so caregivers can quickly get little ones ready for outdoor playtime or to go home for the day.

The **teacher cabinet** keeps caregivers' personal belongings secure and out of the way.

Classroom storage organizes classroom supplies, project components or toys. Low profile units make it easy for toddlers to access what they need without help.

Choosing your Older Toddler Classroom Solution

School Outfitters makes it easy to outfit the older toddler classroom at your early learning facility or daycare center. Choose the option that best fits your budget and needs, and with just one click, you get an itemized quote for this classroom, including all three of our specially designed stations. Our helpful representatives are happy to answer any questions about our stations and how you can put them to use in your older toddler classroom. Just give us a call 1-800-260-2776.