

CLASSROOM ENVIRONMENT CHECKLIST

Classroom Materials Inventory

Complete an inventory of the materials you have for the "Exploring Water" exploration by filling in the middle column of this chart. In the right column, list what you need to obtain. Refer to the resources section for a more complete list of recommended materials.

Item	Inventory	Needs
Water table (21" x 45")		
Large plastic tubs		
Long-sleeved water smocks		
Clear plastic containers in a variety of shapes and sizes		
Turkey basters		
Clear flexible tubing (three sizes)		
Clear plastic funnels (three sizes)		
T- and Y- tube connectors (three sizes)		
Wire water wall (plastic-coated closet shelving)		
Pegboard		
Velcro		
Clear plastic cups or bottles with holes		
Eyedroppers		
Surfaces on which to explore drops: rigid plastic plates, waxed paper, aluminum foil, fabric scraps		
Clear plastic containers, at least 8" deep		
Sink and float objects		
Clear plastic rigid tubes, end caps		
Materials for making boats: Styro-foam trays, aluminum foil, wood, cardboard, masking tape		

Set Up the Classroom

Complete this chart to help you plan how your space will reflect your study of water. Use the check column on the right to note your accomplishments. See step 3 of “Getting Ready” for specific recommendations.

Recommendations	Plans	✓
Water table area that accommodates four or more children		
Water center area to accommodate four or more children		
Wall space		
Book space		
Accessible water materials		
Storage for clean-up materials such as sponges, towels, and a mop		
Storage for wet smocks and extra dry clothes		

Plan the Schedule

Two special times for inquiry are recommended in step 6 of “Getting Ready”: choice time and science talk. Use the following chart to assess your needs and plan necessary changes to your daily schedule.

Time	Current Schedule	Change in Schedule
Choice time 45–60 minutes of choice time at least three times per week		
Science talk 10–15 minutes as a whole group at least once per week		

Figure 8.1