

SOCIAL DISTANCING IDEAS

The following ideas are from Licensing Specialists throughout Colorado to help programs with ideas for social distancing and activities during the COVID-19 crisis.

Learning Centers

Art areas set up in small spaces for one

Children use clip boards instead of shared tables. They can go to designated areas and use their clip board to draw/write on

Make the child's handprint on a piece of felt, have them decorate it and put their name on it. Then make a collage out of all of them. Stitch them together with yarn and write at the top We are in this all together!

Individual supply bags so each child only uses their own items such as crayons, scissors, glue sticks, workbooks, etc.

Set up "Dirty" buckets for children to drop shared materials in after each use if they do not have access to enough materials for individual supplies

Circle Time

Circle time rug with x's on it so the kids are spaced 6 feet apart.

Telling still stories aloud as a group. One person/teacher starts the story, and then you switch to another child who continues the story, and then keep it going.

Have puppets tell stories to the children.

Outdoors

Small book area outside

Art easels for one child outside

Sprinkler play with the kids 6 feet apart

Add magnifying glasses outside so children can look at nature close up (make sure these are sanitized after each use)

Jump roping outside

Bring art outside! Painting, spray bottles of watercolors for sidewalk painting, chalk

Animal reenactment/charades from designated areas of the classroom/outside. Have students guess what animal you're acting out and then they act it out. Get creative and active!

Individual Sensory Play

Sensory tubs for one (i.e. small plastic tubs or shoeboxes – can get at dollar stores)

Playdough for one - throw away after played with

Non-toxic shaving cream for one

Gross Motor Activities

Parachute the child are spaced 6 feet apart

Obstacle course for with gross motor equipment 6 feet apart include items such as balance beams, jump ropes, hopscotch, hopping over small items

Kids Yoga (Cosmic Kids Yoga: <https://www.youtube.com/user/CosmicKidsYoga>)

Movement activities. Jumping jacks in place, push-ups run in place etc. Anything with music and dancing! Go on a bear hunt, bop 'til you drop etc.

You could play a game of Mother May I, but instead of touching the person (Mother) they could touch a pole or object.

Music songs like Do your ears hang low, the hokie pokie. where they can interact with the song

Chalk Line/Tape obstacle courses: draw/tape down lines in zig zags, curves, swirls, etc. Can make multiple courses 6ft apart so that more than one child can go at a time

Indoor Spaces

Create smaller spaces - Cozy area

Writing tables for one

More spaces for privacy such as books and recorded story areas

Individual activity rugs like those used in Montessori curriculum for individual workspace

Set up 6-foot grids by using different colored tape. In each grid you could have a different activity, or the grids could also be used for each child's personal space. Give Josh a blue object and his grid is blue tape. Ann gets a red object and her space is red tape, etc. Children don't understand what 6 feet is and this would make it easier for them to stay in their area. It makes it easier for us to see the six feet area as well.

Misc. Activities

Scavenger Hunt

Hula Hoops

Playing games such as "Eye Spy" where all children can participate, but do not have to physically engage. Other examples, "Do you hear what I hear?" A listening game you can play outside/inside

Freeze Dance

The "Mirror Game". Stand across/6feet from another child and copy their moves like a mirror

Have a talent show, sing dance, tumble, tell jokes, make weird sounds. Doesn't matter what you do just have fun doing it.

Have the children act out a story, you can read it to them, or they can make one up. They could incorporate their own drawings or paintings to tell the story.