

Independent Activity Center Worksheet

(For Staff use in planning theme-based activity centers for independent work and play)

(Excerpted from R. Newman. *I.D.E.A.s – Integrated Developmental Enhancement Activities*. Cape Charles, VA: Newroads Media, 2005.)

Theme/Focus for the Center: _____

1. Where could I set up a special center for this activity? What kinds of furniture and equipment will I need? _____

2. What kinds of supplies will I need? How can I make them accessible to kids?

3. If I need to set up the center and put it away each day, what kinds of bins or other portable containers could I use to make the task easier? _____

4. What could I put in the area to spark children's interest in this independent activity? Posters? Photographs? Displays of interesting materials for use in the activity? Posted questions or lists of ideas for getting started? Other items to make the area appealing, comfortable, and visually attractive? "Mood music" related to the activity to draw kids to the area?

5. What community resources could enhance this activity? (field trips, sites, organizations, experts, speakers, performers, etc.) _____

6. Will kids need special materials or a special place to store ongoing work related to this activity? Notebooks? File boxes? Plastic storage tubs? Designated display shelves? Bulletin boards for kids to display “products” or “news items” related to this activity? Other? _____

7. How can I get kids involved in helping create and manage a center for this activity? _____

8. What else could I do to create an inviting center for this independent activity?
