

Mastery:

Learning new skills and being successful at one's own level

ENCOURAGE MASTERY

- Children learn by doing. Minimize standing around.
- Use loose material and large formats for younger children to work with, so detail isn't necessary for things to look good.
- Simplify rules and modify games so that younger children can succeed.
- Use positive reinforcement; never shame or mock a child.
 - Provide challenges that are developmentally appropriate and praise children when they succeed.
 - Stress personal best and team improvement rather than winning.
- Find something that each child can be successful at and give him or her the opportunities to demonstrate this mastery.
- Recognize each child's uniqueness and build on his or her strengths.

A Caring Adult:

A leader or coach who shows warmth and genuine interest in the children

BECOME AN ADULT WHO CARES

- Learn each child's name. Get them to all tell you something about themselves to help you remember each name.
- Greet each child at the start of each day and say goodbye to each child as he or she leaves.
 - Look every child in the face when they talk to you and listen to what they have to say. Squat down to get to their eye level.
- Have a little conversation with each child every day. Be available to hear problems or give advice.
- Smile at each child when you talk to them.
- Talk to your supervisor if a child in your group is coming to the program in obvious distress.

HIGH FIVE TIP CARDS

What | hear, | forget.
What | see, | remember.
What | do, | understand.

Friends:

Opportunities to make and build
friendships

HELP EACH CHILD TO MAKE FRIENDS

- Introduce the kids to each other and new kids to the rest of the group.
- Ask the children to use a person's name when they are talking to someone.
- Do not tolerate name calling, razzing, scapegoating, personal vendettas or sarcasm and never use those yourself.
- Organize games and activities where people change partners and form groups with kids they wouldn't usually choose.
- Support and celebrate the diversity of cultures within a group.
- Challenge the group as a whole to solve problems or work together for a common goal.

Friends

Mastery

A Caring Adult

Participation

Play

Participation:

Fair opportunity for everyone to participate

ENCOURAGE PARTICIPATION

- Involve children in planning, carrying out and evaluating activities.
- Give children choices about what they can do, make, or play.
- Respect children's views and ideas.
- Encourage peer teaching and leadership among your group.
- Make sure that all children have the opportunity to participate, regardless of their abilities.
- Be an advocate for children's rights.

Play:

Just having fun!

MAKE PLAY THE CENTRAL PART OF YOUR PROGRAM

- Give children enough time to do things in the way they want to.
- Try to build play into structured activities.
- Encourage imaginative, self-directed play.
- Keep an active sense of humour and have fun!
- Keep in mind how children in middle childhood view games. All children in this age group are naturally fascinated by rules and will test the leader to find out where the boundaries are.
- Be fair. All children in this age group have a keen sense of justice. If you are seen as unfair, you will lose the respect of the whole group.