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**UNIT:** Curriculum Planning**LESSON:** Room Arrangement

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**COMPETENCIES:**

1. Demonstrate the importance of correct physical characteristics in a classroom: lighting, tile, carpet, paint, temperature.
  2. Discuss various arrangements of tables and chairs for maximum learning in the child care facility.
  3. Define the correct space ratios that enhance learning.
  4. Plan a room arrangement to incorporate four different learning centers.
  5. Discuss how to adapt a room arrangement to meet the needs of children with disabilities.
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**OVERVIEW/SUMMARY:**

The physical arrangement of the child care facility and the learning centers play an important role in the education of young children.

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**MOTIVATOR:**

Before the students come into the classroom, set up an obstacle course for them to go through while coming into the classroom. For example, put a desk and chair near the door so they have to walk around it. Put their desks close together so they have to squeeze through the aisle to get to their seat. Make the room cooler or warmer than usual. After they are seated and class has begun, discuss how they felt coming into the classroom today. Ask them if it was easy to get in the room and to their seat. Ask the student if the environment is conducive to learning. Begin discussing how important it is to have a physical environment that is conducive to learning and that is problem free, especially for young children.

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**LESSON OPTIONS/SUPPLIES:****OPTION 1--CDA I**

**ROOM ARRANGEMENT OVERVIEW:** Review the basic rules and suggestions of room arrangement using the information, "Rules for Room Arrangement".

**OPTION 2**

**A HOME ARRANGED FOR LEARNING:** Have students read the pamphlet and answer the corresponding questions.

**OPTION 3**

**ROOM ARRANGEMENTS:** Have the students plan room arrangements for various lesson plans. Review them as a class and make suggestions on changes that should be made.

**OPTION #4**

**OBSERVATION:** Visit a local preschool lab and evaluate the room arrangement for its effectiveness (use "Room Arrangement Evaluation Form").

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**RESOURCES:**

The Creative Curriculum for Early Childhood, by Diane Trister Dodge,  
ISBN 0-934362-27-0