

Create Centers and Stations that Support Learning



NC NTSP 2016 Fall Institute

Presenters



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Icebreaker



Take 3 minutes to introduce yourself to someone you don't know. Each person must share for 1 ½ minutes. Share with them one center activity that you have done, would like to do, or have seen and explain it to them. Be sure to write each other's ideas down.

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Reflect



When are Centers worth the work?



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Participant Outcomes



- Analyze effective uses of centers in the classroom
- Reflect on the importance of routines and procedures before implementing centers in the classroom
- Develop a better understanding on how to effectively create meaningful centers for your students.

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Routines and Procedures



It is important to build a community of learners so that students will be able to work independently at centers since you will be engaged with other students during this time.

When introducing Centers for the first time it is important to:

- Communicate clear, explicit, high expectations and develop a few non-negotiable rules established jointly by both you and your students.
- Make sure students know what to do if they complete an activity at a center.
- Students should be aware of what is expected of them if they need help and you are working with a group of students.
- Have a plan for students that are off task at centers. Make sure students are aware of what is expected of them.

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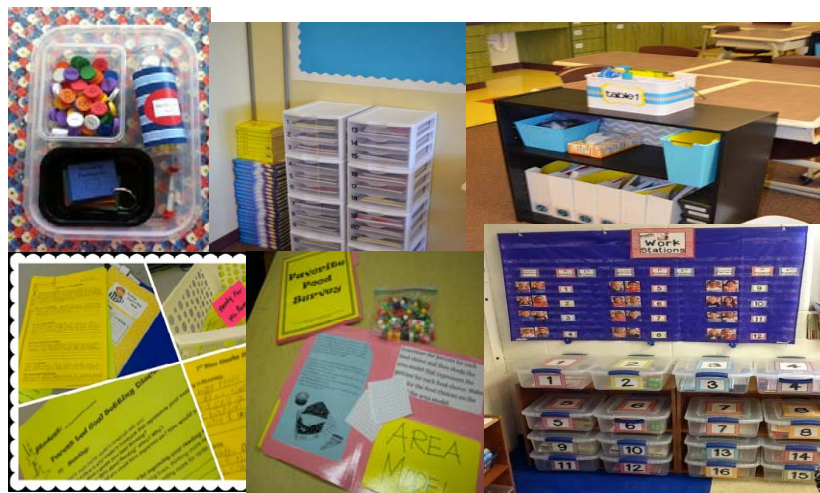
Expectations



- Establish a clear system for making choices and moving through centers and teach it to students.
- Use planning board or choice chart for students to make choices of centers.
- Establish procedures for students and teachers to keep track of students choices.
- Vary the materials in centers to keep students interested.
- Observe students at work; if a center is not working well, talk with students and encourage them to help determine changes.
- Ensure that there is room in each center for 3 – 5 students (depending on the center).

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Center Ideas



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Problems and Solutions



Problems	Solutions
1. Students complete work at center.	
2. Students continuously ask you what they are supposed to do at their center.	
3. The same students are off task each day during centers.	
4. There are not enough materials at one of the centers.	
5. Students are tired of working on the same centers each week.	

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Station Exploration



Use the station exploration station sheet and explore the stations provided around the room. Take your time and explore as many stations as you would like until the timer chimes.



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Resources



1. www.k-5teachingresources.com
2. www.pinterest.com
3. www.teacherspayteachers.com
4. www.prekinders.com
5. <http://www.literacystationinspiration.com/>
6. **Task Cards- Over 100 Task Cards.**http://www.hpc.rcs.k12.n.us/teachers/killenm/Unseen's%20Task%20Cards2_072611.pdf
7. **Middle School Stations-**
http://www.blevinsenterprises.com/Learning_Stations_Handout.pdf
8. **Middle /Secondary Station ideas**
<http://www.literacystationinspiration.com/2015/04/word-mover-station.html>
9. **Technology station ideas**
<http://quizhub.com/quiz/quizhub.cfm>
10. **Activity stations for diverse learners**
manoa.hawaii.edu/.../Hilberg_et_al_2003.
11. **Station Rotation Blended Learning Model**
<http://www.dreambox.com/blog/thoughts-implementing-blended-learning-model>
12. **Math Stations(PPT attached)**
<http://www.montgomeryschoolsmd.org/curriculum/enriched/staff/classroom-strategies/stations-math.aspx>
13. **Classroom Learning Centers**
<http://k6educators.about.com/od/lessonplanheadquarters/a/How-To-Set-Up-Classroom-Learning-Centers.htm>
14. **Classroom Centers**
<http://www.mrsmcdowell.com/centers.htm>
15. **Secondary Writing Center**
<http://www.edutopia.org/blog/start-a-great-writing-center-david-cutler>

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Closure



On a sticky note answer the following questions and put your answers on the ticket out of the door poster.

- **What do you feel you will be able to do differently with the content in your classroom as a result of learning centers?**
- **What will you do differently in your classroom as you implement learning centers?**

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