

CLASSROOM FOR EIGHT INFANTS

HVAC, PLUMBING, ACOUSTICAL AND ELECTRICAL REQUIREMENTS

Design temperatures should range between 68-78 °F, measured at the children's level, 1 to 3 ft. above the floor. Additional humidification should be provided. Buildings that are too hot or cold can create problems at an otherwise smoothly running center. An adequate ventilation system, with provisions for fresh and exhaust air, is critical to the health of the children. Stagnant air filled with bacteria can contribute to the spread of illness, which is one of the major problems associated with child care centers.

Hot and cold water should be provided in each classroom; however, hot water to child accessible fixtures should not exceed 110°F. Drinking water should also be provided in each classroom.

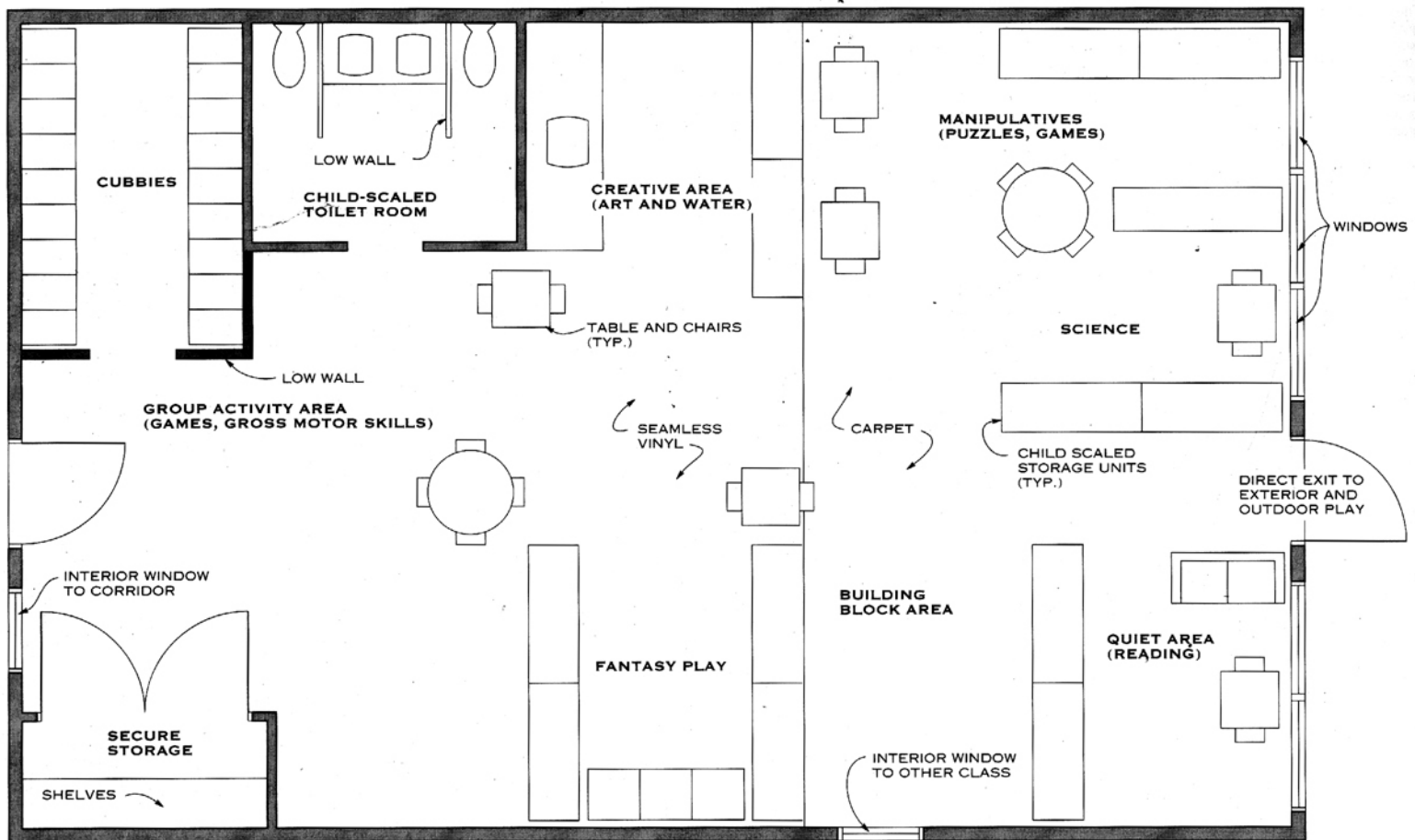
Noise is a major concern. Classrooms, infant napping areas, and offices should be sound insulated from one another. Finishes that absorb sound should be selected.

Lighting should be a combination of natural, fluorescent and incandescent to provide developing eyes with a full spectrum of light. Windows, both to the exterior and to other classroom are necessary to help the children learn about the world. Receptacles should be either installed above the children's reach, or be of a type which can only be activated when turned or twisted.

SCALE AND FINISHES

All furniture, fixtures, and equipment should be sized to accommodate the children and to promote self-esteem learning, and independence. Building materials should be selected to relate to the children's scale, i.e., small panes of glass instead of picture windows.

Finishes are important and variety in their selection encourages interest and promotes learning. Basic colors should be neutral to offset the intense and often hectic activities of the children, their equipment, and their artwork. However, accent colors could be provided. Finishes should also be selected for their acoustical properties and ease of maintenance. Both carpeting and seamless vinyl flooring should be provided in the classrooms to support different activities.



CLASSROOM FOR TWENTY, THREE- TO FIVE-YEAR-OLDS

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