The programming options are provided to support a range of implementation based upon library staffing and community needs. The materials and activities in the Play K curriculum are meant to support Pennsylvania's Learning Standards for Early Childhood and promote school readiness.

Playscape 6: My Colorful World

This playscape explores the theme of color and light with preschoolers. The big idea for this theme is: Physical properties help us understand and describe the world around us. Two essential questions guide the programming options: How do colors help us describe objects in our world? How can we sort and observe objects? A variety of key learning areas are reinforced as the children and parents play together and participate in the activities.

Playscape Contents & Key
Learning Areas Reinforced from
Pennsylvania's Learning
Standards for Early Childhood

Programming Option 1: Passive

Programming Options 2 & 3: **Circle Time & Storytime**

Programming Option 4: Virtual Programming

Playscape Materials

Go Away Big Green Monster Storytelling Puppet Kit

Size and Color Teddy Bear Counters & Hands-on Sorting Tray

Light and Color Table Top Blocks

Can Do! Color and Light Discovery Kit

Books

Go Away Big Green Monster by Ed Emberly

Mouse Paint by Ellen Stoll Walsh

Tabbed Board Books - My First Colors: Let's Learn Them All by DK Publishing

Color Dance by Ann Jonas

Playscape Set-Up

Working with your available space, set out and arrange all or some of the materials and books to create an attractive "play corner" for parents and children. Also, display the following parent tips:

Tips for Parents & Children

1,2,3, Play with Me!

1. Follow your child's lead while exploring the different activities and use natural opportunities to extend language and concepts. For example, if your child chooses to start playing with the Size and Color Teddy Bear Counters. "Look at all of the different colors! Let's see if we can use this tray to sort the teddy bears by what color they are. We can put all the red ones in the first row. What color should go in the second row?"

Circle Time: Playing Kindergarten!

Gather children in a circle to simulate a kindergarten experience. Tell children that storytime today will be a chance to "Play Kindergarten!"

- 1. Praise children for how nicely they are sitting with their eyes on you, and tell them that their kindergarten teacher will love to see this when they start school!
- 2. Explain that in kindergarten there will be rules to follow during Circle Time. One rule we will practice today is to raise your hand and wait to be called on when you want to say something. Assure them that you will remind them if they forget, but that you are sure they will try their best!
- 3. Go over the calendar with the children as they do in kindergarten, using the "My First Calendar" board. Talk about the day of the week,

Virtual - Play K at Home!

Arrange your space for your virtual setting to resemble a kindergarten classroom. If possible, have a large chalkboard or whiteboard for sharing purposes. Have the book you will share and materials you will use at the ready and displayed as much as possible to look engaging onscreen.

- 1. Welcome children and tell them that your program today will be a chance for them to "Play Kindergarten" at home! Tell them that even though you can't see them, you know that they are sitting up nicely with their eyes on you just like they will for their teacher in kindergarten!
- 2. Show children the calendar board (Note: You may want to use a pocket chart calendar for a virtual program) and explain that you will have them help you

Playscape Contents & Key Learning Areas Reinforced from Pennsylvania's Learning Standards for Early Childhood	Programming Option 1: Passive	Programming Options 2 & 3: Circle Time & Storytime	Programming Option 4: Virtual Programming
Book-FLIX selections Fiction: Planting a Rainbow Nonfiction: It Could Still be a Flower Technology Connection Toca Boca Apps tocaboca.com/apps Toca Mini Master Kit Materials (for Circle Time / Storytime) My First Calendar Board Activity Scarves Shatterproof Safety Mirrors	 Let your child choose one of the books for you to read aloud. As you share the book, connect the story, characters, or concepts to the materials you have been playing with together. For example, "Look, this book has tabs so you can turn to different parts! The title is My First Colors: Let's Learn Them All. We can read to see if they have all of the teddy bear colors we just sorted." Your child may also enjoy using the toys in this playscape to make up a story about colors. Build scissor skills with the theme related shapes and other cutting practice activities we have provided. Help your child and "share the scissors" as needed to keep it fun! 	the date, the month, the season and the weather for the day and allow children to take turns placing each on the board, if appropriate for the group. 4. Show a picture of a rainbow and ask children to tell you what this is. Ask, "If you were going to tell someone about a rainbow, what would you say to describe it? Depending on their answers say something to the effect of, "That's right, a rainbow has beautiful colors in it! Colors help us describe different things in our world. It helps to "paint a picture in our minds" doesn't it?" Hold up the Big Green Monster Puppet and tell children we're going to see how color helps us describe this monster and then makes him go away!	with this just as if they were here. Talk about the day of the week, the date, the month, the season, and the weather for the day as if the children were helping you select each one. 3. Show a picture of a rainbow and ask children to tell you what this is. Answer as if they told you. "Yes, it's a rainbow!" Ask, "If you were going to tell someone about a rainbow, what would you say to describe it? "You might say, a rainbow has beautiful colors in it!" 4. Say, "Colors help us describe or talk about different things in our world. It helps to "paint a picture in our minds" doesn't it?" Hold up the Big Green Monster Puppet and tell children we're going to see how
Hand Magnifiers White drawing paper	Optional Technology Extensions Load the theme-related TOCA BOCA App on a tablet for children	5. Perform a read-aloud of Go Away, Big Green Monster using the puppet and the	color helps us describe this monster and then makes him go away!
Markers	and parents to explore together. TOCA BOCA is an award-winning	removable pieces. Invite children and parents to chime	5. Perform a read-aloud of Go Away, Big Green Monster

Playscape Contents & Key Learning Areas Reinforced from Pennsylvania's Learning Standards for Early Childhood	Programming Option 1: Passive	Programming Options 2 & 3: Circle Time & Storytime	Programming Option 4: Virtual Programming
Handouts Shapes handout for cutting practice Basic cutting practice handouts, if needed Take-Home Sheet for parents and caregivers Key Learning Areas Approaches to Learning Through Play - Constructing, Organizing and Applying Knowledge Language and Literacy - English Language Arts Mathematical Thinking and Expression - Exploring, Processing and Problem-Solving Scientific Thinking and Technology - Exploring Scientific Inquiry and Discovery	makes popular child-friendly applications for tablets and smartphones (both Apple and Android). Go to tocaboca.com/apps and look for Toca Mini. Make the parents aware of the Book-Flix selections that support this theme.	 6. Share the Size and Color Teddy Bear Counters and model how to use the sorting tray for colors and sizes. Demonstrate a simple AB pattern, such as red, blue, red, blue with the patterning tray. Tell parents that these activities provide excellent reinforcement of beginning math skills and will be available to play with after Circle Time. 7. Briefly show the Light and Color Table Top Blocks and ask children if they notice how clear the blocks are and that you can almost see through the blocks. Tell children that the blocks are translucent. Translucent is a big word that means light can shine through. (Demonstrate with flashlight from the Color and Light Discovery Kit.) Explain that they can use the blocks to build with and then use the magnifying glasses and mirrors to observe all of the colors. (Model quickly, just so 	removable pieces. Invite children (and parents) to chime in with the story at home! 6. After reading, tell children, "All those colors really helped us describe the different parts of the monster, didn't they? Let's see if we can also use color to help us sort these teddy bears. Explain that when we sort, we group objects by how they are the same and different. Show the teddy bear counters from this playscape, and model sorting them by color with the sorting tray. Say that they are all bears but now we grouped them by their different colors. Ask children to name something else that would be useful to sort by color and answer as if they had told you. "Yes, we could sort crayons by color! And socks, too. Those are both good answers!"

Playscape Contents & Key Learning Areas Reinforced from Pennsylvania's Learning Standards for Early Childhood	Programming Option 1: Passive	Programming Options 2 & 3: Circle Time & Storytime	Programming Option 4: Virtual Programming
Creative Thinking and Expression – Communicating Through the Arts Partnerships for Learning – Families, Early Care and Education Programs, and Communities Circle Time & Storytime All of the above, plus Social and Emotional Development - Student Interpersonal Skills Health, Wellness, and Physical Development – Learning About My Body		they have the idea.) If time permits, preview the Can Do! Color and Light Discovery Kit and state that all of these materials will be available after Circle Time, also! 8. Close circle time with a song, praise the children for trying their best to remember to raise their hand today, and announce the next Play K. Storytime Option TALK Favorite Colors Most children love to talk about their favorite things, whatever they may be. As children to "turn and talk" to a partner about their favorite color. Give them a minute to think about it first. Then model with a parent volunteer before the children turn and talk to one another.	praise children for learning so much about colors today. Tell them their kindergarten teacher is going to be so happy about how well they listen and learn! Invite them to describe something in their house for their family by using color words. Note: Have the Take-Home Sheet for this playscape available as a downloadable link after the virtual program. You may want to consider providing a take-home craft that families can pick up at the library, as well.

Playscape Contents & Key Learning Areas Reinforced from Pennsylvania's Learning Standards for Early Childhood	Programming Option 1: Passive	Programming Options 2 & 3: Circle Time & Storytime	Programming Option 4: Virtual Programming
		SING: Find the Color (Tune: The Muffin Man) Sing the following song and let children point to a (color) item: Oh, can you find the color (blue), The color (blue), the color (blue)? Oh, can you find the color (blue), Somewhere in this room? (After children point, then sing) Yes, you found the color (blue), The color (blue), the color (blue), Right here in this room! (Repeat with other colors) READ: Additional books to expand the playscape theme~ Books About Colors www.prekinders.com/color-books	

Playscape Contents & Key Learning Areas Reinforced from Pennsylvania's Learning Standards for Early Childhood	Programming Option 1: Passive	Programming Options 2 & 3: Circle Time & Storytime	Programming Option 4: Virtual Programming
		Prepare little stapled books for each child with the title, <i>My Colorful World</i> . Include several pages with <i>I see (color word)</i> on each page. Provide magazines with pictures of different colored items for the children to cut out and glue to each page. Children could also draw and color something for each page, if they choose. Encourage parents to help with labeling the pictures and "sharing the pencil" for the child to write a letter or two, if appropriate.	
		PLAY: Color Hokey Pokey (Use the activity scarves to play this game.) Before playing, give each child two different colored scarves. Call out different colors, and have parents assist in helping children participate when one of their colors is called. You put red in, You take red out. You put red in And you shake it all about. You do the hokey-pokey and you turn yourself around. That's what it's all	

Playscape Contents & Key Learning Areas Reinforced from Pennsylvania's Learning Standards for Early Childhood	Programming Option 1: Passive	Programming Options 2 & 3: Circle Time & Storytime	Programming Option 4: Virtual Programming
		about! Continue with each color.	
		End with: You put all the colors in, You take all the colors out. You put all the colors in, And you shake them all about. You do the hokey-pokey and you turn yourself around. That's what it's all about!	