



WEEK 5

Art Studio: Sorting Beautiful Stuff
 Children sort and organize recycled and natural materials.

Big Ideas	<p>We each make contributions to the community.</p> <p>We all have ways of communicating.</p>
Guiding Questions	<p>How can we each contribute to our community?</p> <p>How can we communicate our ideas?</p>
Vocabulary	<p>collection: a group of things of the same type</p> <p>natural: coming from nature, not made by humans</p> <p>recycled: already used and being reused as something new</p> <p>sort: to organize according to characteristics</p>
Materials and Preparation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● clear plastic containers, such as recycled salad boxes ● trays ● collection of Beautiful Stuff materials ● Beautiful Stuff visuals <p style="padding-left: 40px;">Make a copy and edit the visuals according to available materials.</p> <p>Pile a limited quantity of materials in the center of the table within children’s reach. More materials can be added as children sort. Place a tray at each workspace, and arrange empty, clear containers around the materials.</p> <p>Make space on the Art Studio shelf for where the materials will be stored.</p> <p>Bring a collection of Beautiful Stuff and a few trays and containers to the Intro to Centers meeting.</p>
Intro to Centers	<p><i>We are calling these natural and recycled materials “Beautiful Stuff.” I collected these so that we can use them to create different things in the Art Studio.</i></p> <p><i>This week, you are going to sort and organize the Beautiful Stuff.</i></p> <p>Show the materials.</p> <p><i>What do you notice about these materials?</i></p>

	<p>Harvest a few responses.</p> <p><i>You noticed that some materials are _____ [color, shape, etc.] and others are _____. How might we sort these materials into groups? Which ones would we put together?</i></p> <p>Harvest several responses, organizing materials onto trays and/or into containers according to the attributes children suggest. Acknowledge that a single material might fit into more than one group. For example:</p> <p><i>We might put all of these materials that are round together, in this container. We also have a blue pile. What do we do with this object that is both round and blue?</i></p> <p>Indicate the sorting trays and containers.</p> <p><i>There are many ways to sort materials. I am curious to see how you do it. Once you have sorted some materials into containers, we can put them on the Art Studio shelf.</i></p>
During Centers	<p>Support children, in small groups, to organize and sort the materials by shape, color, texture, size, etc. Puzzle with the children through making groups that include all the materials, encouraging children to talk about their ideas.</p> <p>Add more materials as the initial collection dwindles.</p>
Differentiation ideas	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Provide children with a container with only two different types of materials (i.e., bottle caps, shells).
Facilitation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● How are you sorting the materials? ● What makes you think these materials belong together? ● What words can you use to describe this object? ● What is similar or different about these objects? Think about how they feel and look. ● Do you all agree about how the materials are sorted?
Extension	<p>Children may be interested in making labels for the containers of sorted materials or a Beautiful Stuff sign for the shelves.</p>
Standards	<p>APL2. The child will demonstrate eagerness and curiosity as a learner.</p> <p>APL4. The child will demonstrate creativity in thinking and use of materials.</p> <p>SL.PK.1. Participate in collaborative conversations with diverse partners during daily routines and play.</p>

Image citations

collection: photo by Marina Boni
 natural: photo by Louisa Penfold
 recycled: www.rubicon.com/blog/what-can-be-recycled/
 sort: <https://keeptoddlersbusy.com/toddler-shape-activities/>

Art Studio: Sorting Beautiful Stuff

Facilitation prompts:

- How are you sorting the materials?
- What makes you think these materials belong together?
- What words can you use to describe this object?
- What is similar or different about these objects? Think about how they feel and look.
- Do you all agree about how the materials are sorted?



collection



natural



recycled



sort

Children are learning to...

- sort materials in collaboration with their friends.
- think creatively about recycled and natural materials.