

## Learning Environments

The VLS Core Content was designed to align across tracks, which means a significant portion of each track's content is relevant for all direct care staff. This document identifies unique age-specific content, activities, and resources by lesson, and it can be used as a guide for review if a staff member moves to care for a new age-group. For example, direct care staff who move from an infant and toddler to a preschool classroom should consult the Preschool track to be aware of age-specific material that resides in that track. Use this document as a guide and remember to work with your trainer to help identify content areas in the VLS where you may need extra review and support to be knowledgeable about best practices for all children in your care.

LESSON 1		
<b>Infants &amp; Toddlers</b> Learning Environments: An Introduction	<b>Preschool</b> Learning Environments: An Introduction	<b>School Age</b> Learning Environments: An Introduction
<p><b>*Consult Entire Lesson:</b></p> <p>If you are moving to this track and you have already covered this course in another VLS track, you should still consult this lesson in its entirety because it contains significant, unique content specific to infant and toddler children.</p>	<p><b>*Consult Entire Lesson:</b></p> <p>If you are moving to this track and you have already covered this course in another VLS track, you should still consult this lesson in its entirety because it contains significant content specific to preschool children.</p>	<p><b>*Consult Entire Lesson:</b></p> <p>If you are moving to this track and you have already covered this course in another VLS track, you should still consult this lesson in its entirety because it contains significant content specific to school-age children.</p>

## LESSON 2

### Infants & Toddlers

The Indoor Environment: Designing and Organizing  
Infants & Toddlers



1. **Section:** *Arranging the Indoor Learning Environment*
2. **Section:** *Places for Group Experiences*
3. **Section:** *Places and Ways to Support Adults*
4. **Video:** *Designing Spaces for Learning*
5. **Video:** *Infants & Toddlers: Cultivating Spaces for All Learners*



6. **Video:** *Organizing Materials for Play*



7. **Bulleted List:** Priorities to consider when arranging an IT classroom



8. **Attachment:** *Our Indoor Learning Environment*



9. **Attachment:** *Indoor Room Design Activity*
10. **Attachment:** *Organizing Materials Checklist*

### Preschool

The Indoor Environment: Designing and Organizing  
Preschool



1. **Section:** *Places for Group Experiences*
2. **Video:** *Designing Spaces for Learning*
3. **Video:** *Cultivating Spaces For All Learners*



4. **Video:** *Organizing Materials for Play*



5. **Bulleted List:** Priorities to consider when arranging a classroom



6. **Video:** *Organizing The Space For Engagement*
7. **Attachment:** *How to Better Organize or Prepare*



8. **Attachment:** *Tools to Use: Designing Your Preschool Classroom*

### School Age

The Indoor Environment: Designing and Organizing  
School Age



1. **Section:** Initial Know paragraphs
2. **Section:** *Places for Group Experiences*



3. **Video:** *Indoor Environments*



4. **Bulleted List:** Priorities to consider when arranging a classroom



5. **Attachment:** *Improving the Indoor Environment*



6. **Attachment:** *Tools to Use: Designing Your School Age Classroom*

## LESSON 3

### Infants & Toddlers

The Outdoor Environment: Designing for  
Engagement Infants & Toddlers

**\*Consult Entire Lesson:**

If you are moving to this track and you have already covered this course in another VLS track, you should still consult this lesson in its entirety because it contains significant, unique content specific to infant & toddler children.

### Preschool

The Outdoor Environment: Designing for  
Engagement Preschool

**\*Consult Entire Lesson:**

If you are moving to this track and you have already covered this course in another VLS track, you should still consult this lesson in its entirety because it contains significant, unique content specific to preschool children.

### School Age

The Outdoor Environment: Designing for  
Engagement School Age

**\*Consult Entire Lesson:**

If you are moving to this track and you have already covered this course in another VLS track, you should still consult this lesson in its entirety because it contains significant, unique content specific to school-age children.

## LESSON 4

### Infants & Toddlers

The Environment: Materials



1. **Section:** *Selecting Materials*
2. **Section:** *Developmentally Appropriate*
3. **Section:** *Linked to Children's Interests*
4. **Section:** *Open-Ended Materials*
5. **Section:** *Linked to Developmental Goals*



6. **Video:** *Making the Most of Materials in an Infant Learning Environment*



7. **Attachment:** *Selecting Materials*



8. **Video:** *Activity: Materials that Support Learning*
9. **Attachment:** *Child's Play: Materials*



10. **Attachment:** *Meeting Infants' and Toddlers' Needs: Developmentally Appropriate Materials*
11. **Attachment:** *Developmentally Appropriate Materials for Infants and Toddlers attachment*

### Preschool

The Environment: Materials



1. **Section:** *Developmentally Appropriate*
2. **Section:** *Linked to Children's Interests*
3. **Section:** *Varied Toys and Activities*
4. **Section:** *Linked to Learning Goals*



5. **Video:** *Materials, Toys, and Games that Support Learning*



6. **Video:** *Activity: Materials that Support Learning*
7. **Attachment:** *Child's Play: Toys and Games*



8. **Attachment:** *Child's Play: Toys and Games for Learning Goals*

### School Age

The Environment: Materials



1. **Section:** *Developmentally Appropriate*
2. **Section:** *Linked to Children's Interests*
3. **Section:** *Linked to Learning Goals*



4. **Video:** *Developmentally Appropriate*
5. **Video:** *Cultural Relevance*



6. **Attachment:** *Creating Developmentally Appropriate Activities*



7. **Attachment:** *Developmentally Appropriate Materials: Scenario*
8. **Attachment:** *Store Room Inventory List*

## LESSON 5

### Infants & Toddlers

The Environment: Schedules and Routines  
Infants & Toddlers

**\*Consult Entire Lesson:**

If you are moving to this track and you have already covered this course in another VLS track, you should still consult this lesson in its entirety because it contains significant content specific to infant and toddler children.

### Preschool

The Environment: Schedules and Routines  
Preschool

**\*Consult Entire Lesson:**

If you are moving to this track and you have already covered this course in another VLS track, you should still consult this lesson in its entirety because it contains significant content specific to preschool children.

### School Age

The Environment: Schedules and Routines  
School Age

**\*Consult Entire Lesson:**

If you are moving to this track and you have already covered this course in another VLS track, you should still consult this lesson in its entirety because it contains significant content specific to school-age children.