



Course Education  
Section: Early Childhood Classroom Assistant Teacher



James Rumsey  
Technical Institute

# Build Your Dream Classroom

## What You Will Do

Design your own preschool classroom by choosing learning areas and deciding how children will use them.

## Materials You Will Need

- Posterboard or large sheet of paper
- Pencil or pen
- Ruler
- Colored pencils or markers (optional)
- Scissors
- Tape or glue
- Internet connected computer and printer (optional)

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## Planning the Space

Designing a preschool classroom requires creating clearly defined, safe, and engaging learning centers. It also needs to be decorated and stocked with materials that encourage creativity, curiosity, and responsibility.

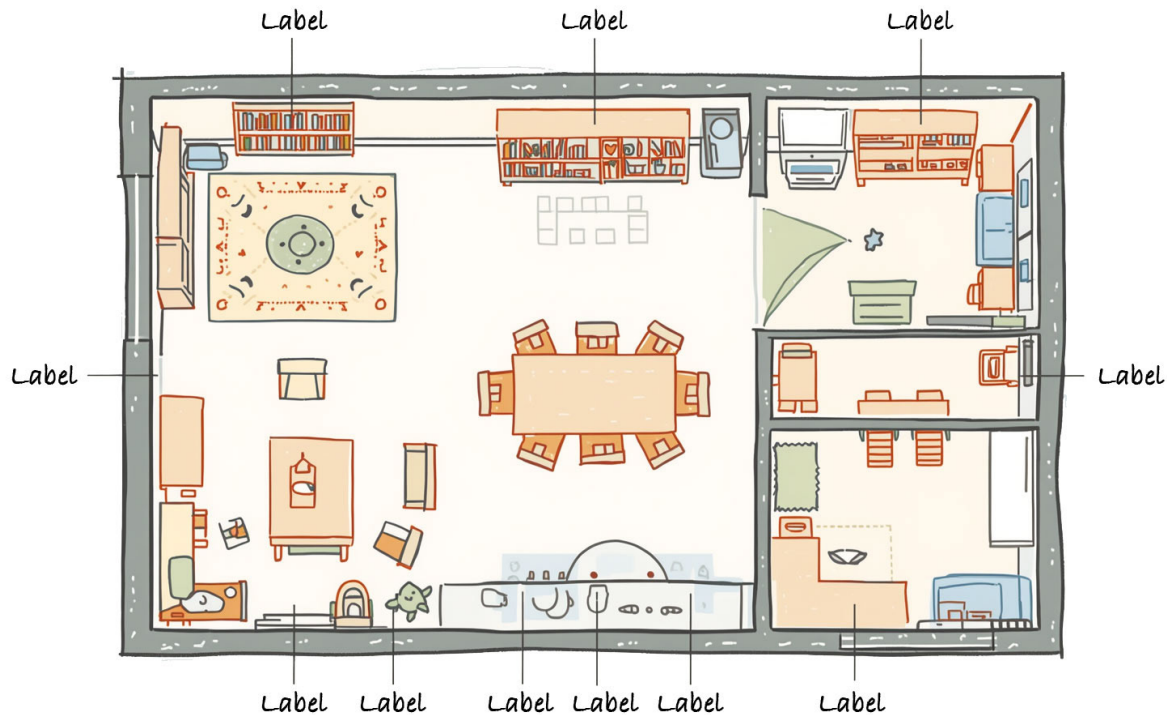
## Important Considerations

- **Learning Centers** – Areas in the room set up for specific activities. Example learning centers include art, reading, blocks, dramatic play, sensory, music, and science.
- **Key Zones** – Think about how the class will use the room when working as a group and independently.
  - Group time will need a large area that is carpeted or has a rug for sitting on the floor.
  - Quiet spaces are necessary for when an emotional or misbehaving child needs to be apart from others.
  - Art should be done in an area near a sink since these activities tend to get messy.
- **Safety** – Clutter is a safety hazard. The space needs to be organized to ensure the safety of the children. This includes:
  - Using child-accessible storage so that the children can independently retrieve items and store them out of the way when not in use.
  - Using flexible furniture so that spaces can be rearranged easily to suit the current activity.
  - Reducing large open areas to prevent running.
  - A place to store personal items like jackets and bags to prevent a tripping hazard.

## Floor Plan

Draw a floor plan for your classroom. Indicate each learning center area and key zone. These spaces can be named in your classroom. Include those names on your floorplan. For example, you might have an area dedicated to learning about animals filled with picture books and toys of animals. If you want the children to refer to this area as “The Zoo”, include that title on your drawing.

Indicate what the students will learn in each area and include one rule they must follow in each area.



## Mood Board

Graphic designers collect images that have elements such as fonts, colors, and mood or style that they want to replicate in one of their projects. This collage is called a “mood board” and helps stimulate their creativity.

You should do something similar. Find images in magazines or on the internet that match the mood and style you want for your classroom. Cut them out and glue or tape them around your floor plan.