

Managing Large and Small Groups

In the pre-K environment, classroom management plays a critical role in children's meeting their learning goals. The curriculum in *Splash into Pre-K* provides a flexible model for balancing large-group and small-group instruction by including options for both types of activities throughout the instructional plan. Here are some examples:



LARGE-GROUP ACTIVITIES

Meeting Time

- The whole group is introduced to the theme and to the daily content focus through the Big Idea.

Story Time

- Stories read aloud, especially the first reading of a new book, are presented to the whole group.

Play and Learn, Connection Time, and Good-bye Time

- Indoor and outdoor physical activities and cross-curricular mini-lessons are designed for large-group participation and interaction. In addition, reflection on the day's activities enables all children to demonstrate understanding of the learning goals.



SMALL-GROUP ACTIVITIES

Literacy Time and Math (or Science) Time

- Small-group lessons provide opportunities to observe children demonstrating their understanding of math and literacy skills, and to apply adaptations, as necessary.

Centers

- The small-group hands-on activities in the Math and Literacy Centers provide practice, as well as extensions of the concepts. Individual responses to the Reflect questions can help determine whether scaffolding is needed.

