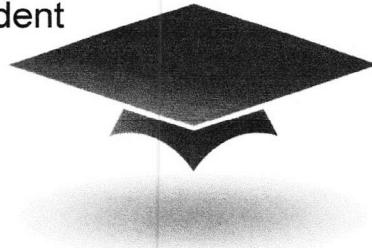# What Are Learning Centers?

A.K.A.—Interest or Activity Centers.
Learning Centers are tools made up of diverse elements, can be simple or complex, and are usually designed around a theme for the purpose of encouraging student initiative, interaction, and learning, with or without the presence of a teacher.

Why Use Learning Centers?

• Focus is on student learning and application.
• Teachers have opportunities to closely observe students.
• Provide maximum classroom time.
• Offer multiple learning options for students.
• Allows for self-direction and self-expression of students.

Why Use Learning Centers?

- Designed to appeal to different learning styles.
- Encourage meaningful play.
- Can be used to enlist the help of responsible students.
- Can be adapted to your specific teaching situation.
- Can be recycled.

Characteristics of Learning Centers

- Fit it to the size of the room and number of students.
- Designed to be interacted with at student height/eye level.
- It should have room for several students.
- It should fit with the theme of the lesson or unit.
- It should have a take-home component for interested students.
- It does not have to be complicated to be meaningful.

Principles for Developing Learning Centers

- *Creativity is crucial.*
- *Update quarterly.*
- *Staff with teachers and teacher assistants.*
- *Older students should be involved in design and suggestions.*
- *Quality over Quantity.*
- *Learning Centers should not overshadow other class time.*

Types of Learning Centers

- Arts/Crafts Center
- Books/Puzzles Center
- Computer Center
- Game Center
- Home Center
- Memory Center
- Missions Center

Types of Learning Centers

- Music Center
- Nature Center
- Dress Up Center
- Story Center
- Welcome Center
- Workbook/Activity Center
- Video Center

What is Simulation Learning?

Simulation strives to involve the learner
in an activity that models reality and illustrates a
spiritual truth. A simulation requires that the
learner be active, the activity resemble
real life, and that the mind; emotions;
and will of the learner be engaged.
**The most effective ingredient is attaining the
highest degree of learner participation
and involvement.**