



Resources for Fostering Critical Thinking and Problem-Solving Skills in Young Children

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Websites

- Odyssey of the Mind** is an international program that offers creative problem-solving opportunities for students from kindergarten through college. Teachers help students form teams so they can work together to solve simple to complex problems. They can bring their solutions to competition at the local, state, and international levels. The website includes sample problems and classroom activities. www.odysseyofthemind.com
- Project Construct** is a constructivist approach to learning based on the idea that children develop knowledge by interacting with their environment. Through hands-on experiences, children gain understanding in content areas and learn to work collaboratively with other children and adults, helping them become lifelong problem solvers. The Project Construct website provides links to professional development opportunities facilitated by educators with experience in research-based teaching practices. www.projectconstruct.org
- Project Zero** is a nonprofit research organization at the Harvard Graduate School of Education, and home to research and application of the multiple intelligences theory of Howard Gardner and other projects related to critical and creative thinking. The website includes research findings, an online bookstore, and information about Project Zero symposia and workshops. www.pz.harvard.edu

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A Message from the Center for Environmental Health



Lead in Your Older Turf? Free Lead Screening of Artificial Turf for Child Care Centers and Schools

Some older varieties of artificial turf (also called synthetic turf, synthetic lawn, or indoor/outdoor grass) were made with lead, a chemical that is well known for its potential to harm children's health.

If children at your preschool, child care center, playground, or school play on artificial turf, the nonprofit Center for Environmental Health (CEH) offers free lead screening. To request free screening and learn more, contact CEH at 510-655-3900, or turf@ceh.org.



Visit CEH at www.ceh.org/turf

A project in association with the California Department of Justice and the Public Health Trust