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ENVIRONMENTAL CHARACTERISTICS AND BEHAVIOR

I. Light

Warm, soft light = coziness and quiet conversation
Bright, indirect light = active play and creativity
Natural Light is best.

II. Sound

Soft Background music
Soft textures absorb noise
Separate active play and rest/quiet play areas

III. Ventilation

Fresh air
Circulate air

IV. Temperature

Slightly cool

V. Openness

Wide areas encourage faster movement and louder voices
Enclosed areas encourage relaxation and increased focus

VI. Accessibility

Place materials where children can see them and access them on their own
Use barriers to deter children from areas they are not permitted
Direct traffic flow using signs and creating entrance and exit-ways in centers