

Independent Work Cycle — Extended Period with Journal Reflection

Base Sheet

The child completes an extended independent work period choosing four works, then writes a brief journal reflection about their experience. This prepares them for the longer work cycles of elementary.

What You Need:

- Prepared work shelves
- Work mats
- Journal or lined paper with drawing space
- Pencil and colored pencils
- Timer (set to 40 minutes)

Steps:

1. 'Today is an extended work period. You will choose FOUR works and take your time with each one.'
2. Set a gentle timer for 40 minutes.
3. The child works independently, choosing, completing, and returning works.
4. After the work period, provide a journal page: 'Draw or write about your favorite work today. What did you learn? What was easy? What was hard?'
5. The child completes the journal entry.
6. Share and discuss the journal entry together.

Work Space:



