

early childhood

FURNITURE

a buyer's guide



GREEN PRODUCTS:

a closer look at buying safe & smart!

Educated Today for Safer Learning Tomorrow



**>> be familiar
with government
imposed safety
standards <<**

Child Safety is top priority in any and every learning environment and it starts with those making purchasing decisions. Parents put their child's safety in the hands of both educators and schools, making it more crucial than ever that educators are aware and educated about industry safety standards and recent federal laws that have been passed to protect children.

Being familiar with government imposed safety standards can increase buyer awareness; thus ensuring children are learning with the highest quality and safest products available. Become educated today for safer learning tomorrow.

**look for
this logo to
guarantee
product safety**



German TUV Rheinland Group Laboratory



CPSIA certified products must be tested at a 3rd party, independent laboratory that is CPSC certified. Without CPSC certification, a laboratory's testing documents are not deemed credible nor will they be accepted as compliant evidence for the CPSIA federal safety law.

Industry leading manufacturers turn to the same laboratory for product testing and with over 140 years of company history and industrial experiences, German TUV Rheinland Laboratory is the largest and most credible independent testing laboratory in the world.

Having one of the most comprehensively equipped United Kingdom Accreditation Service (UKAS) accredited facilities in Europe; TUV is recognized for independently testing and certifying product compliance for a diverse range of international standards. TUV Laboratory currently holds over 100 accreditations and approvals to its resume.

Ask your current or future supplier(s) which 3rd party, independent laboratory they use for product testing and whether it's CPSC certified. If it is not or they are not certain, the testing documents they provide their customers are illegitimate and not recognized by the federal government.



Child Safety: the Consumer Product Safety Improvement Act (CPSIA)



In a strong effort to further protect and create awareness amongst today's child products consumers, the U.S. government passed the Consumer Product Safety Improvement Act (CPSIA-HR4040) under the Bush presidency in 2008. This federal law targets consumer products used by children under 12-years old and was placed in effect to:

- Improve Product Safety
- Increase Manufacturer Accountability
- Enhance Data & Record Keeping

The CPSIA protects children by limiting total lead content (by weight) within a child product's material composition, substrate(s) and paint or surface coatings. Manufacturers, importers, distributors and retailers of children's products are all subject to the same stringent guidelines and regulations:



Total lead content must be under 300 parts per million (ppm) and under 100 ppm by August of 2011.



Paint or Surface Coating lead content must be under 90 ppm



Phthalate (industrial chemicals used to make plastics) concentrations must be under 0.1%



Toy Safety Standard, ASTM F963-07 is mandatory and third party testing reports are required for proof of compliance



Only Consumer Product Safety Commission (CPSC) accredited 3rd party, independent laboratories can issue authorized testing reports

Know Your Suppliers

In today's market, saving money on any purchase is always the ideal situation and outcome. However, at what and **who's** cost are you willing to save and purchase furniture from discounted vendors? Saving a few dollars on today's furniture purchase may have adverse effects on a child's long-term health and well-being.

Be familiar with the supplier whom you are using to furnish your classroom to ensure their full compliance with all federal safety laws and regulations. Discounted vendors are able to offer products at industry low prices because they do not sustain expensive laboratory testing fees nor set up costs of quality management systems at their manufacturing facilities.

Keep in mind that not all companies will actively list their products' compliance with federal laws and should be questioned and/or avoided entirely! Stay alert and ask your supplier if they:

- Are aware of and comply with the CPSIA HR4040?
- Can provide sufficient and acceptable proof of law compliance?
- Meet the standards of accredited third party testing laboratories and if so, can they provide testing report numbers for tracking purposes?

“ be familiar with the supplier whom you are using ”

If they cannot provide you sufficient answers or documentation to any of the questions above or if they are unsure, stop purchasing from them immediately! Any company that fails to provide legitimate laboratory testing reports will be prohibited from importing and/or selling their products in the U.S. market, thus affecting you and your children directly!

Conduct the necessary research to better educate yourself about potential suppliers because when furnishing your classrooms, you aren't investing in only your classroom but child safety.



Ready. Educated. Go!

Be confident that a company meeting the CPSIA HR4040 regulation guarantees their furniture products are child safe and suitable for your home or classroom. They promise that the products being offered possess legally limited lead content, promoting safe and healthy learning!

Next time you're ready to purchase early childhood furniture products for your home or classroom, use this simple check off list to make sure your products are SAFE!

- Check for CPSIA HR4040 conformity
- Request General Certificates of Conformity (GCC) as proof of 3rd party, independent laboratory testing
- Confirm the laboratory is CPSC certified and that tracking information is available for traceable documentation

Making the Grass Greener on *YOUR* Side

Quality and Affordability have always been two of the most influential factors when it comes to purchasing early childhood furniture. However, with earth's natural resources decreasing at an alarming rate, enters the third and most responsible factor: Green.

Everyone needs to take part in keeping the planet healthy but before they can do so, they need to be aware of what buying Green products entails and how it affects them directly. Without knowing the advantages of Green products, consumers cannot take complete advantage of its long-



term effects both at home and in the classroom. Vendors and consumers need to work together in a Green global effort to manufacture and purchase products that are not only high in quality and affordability but also environmentally friendly and responsible!

Green and You

What makes a product Green? How can you determine whether or not it's truly making a difference today for a healthier tomorrow? Although there are no firm classifications for Green products, they are generally viewed as a product that:

- Saves Energy
- Conserves Water
- Contributes to a Safe, Healthy Indoor Environment
- Protects Natural Resources
- Reduces a Buildings' Impact on the Community

A Green product doesn't have to meet every ideology as any and every contribution, big or small, helps preserve the planet. Being able to identify Green products is the first step in making a difference and now that you know, it's time to start searching for these products.

{ be aware of how GREEN products affect you }



Going Green Guide

Buying Green products is easier said than done but by doing the necessary research and homework, one can identify different product attributes, material compositions and production methods to determine which contributions are being made to preserve the environment.

Here are some helpful product characteristics and certifications to look for when deciding your next purchase of Green early childhood educational furniture:

Eco-Friendly Materials

Furniture materials and production methods often contribute to or deter the Green effort but probe deeper and the product's component composition can further disclose how Green the product really is.

FSC Certified Woods:



Make sure the product is made from Forest Stewardship Council (FSC) approved lumbers. Products carrying the FSC logo are independently certified to guarantee consumers:

- Woods used during production originate and are responsibly harvested from managed forests
- Forests are being maintained and their precious eco-systems preserved
- Harvesting sources are verified to meet the social, economic, and ecological needs of present and future generations

CARB Certified Board:



The federal government, along with the California Air Resources Board (CARB), has established a set of standards to further protect children and their long-term health in classrooms.

Products manufactured from non-CARB certified boards normally contain higher formaldehyde and VOCs that can cause:

- Cancer
- Conjunctival Irritation
- Liver and Kidney Damage
- Harm to the Central Nervous System and Loss of Coordination

Products manufactured from CARB certified board helps minimize health hazards to human bodies, but also promotes:

- Reduced formaldehyde emissions into the air and classroom environments
- Healthier and cleaner air quality
- Minimizes harmful, VOC content
- Reduction in VOCs directly decreases ozone by-products which cause pulmonary disease agitation and increased rates of asthma attacks

Recyclable Woods:



Green furniture is not only produced from Green materials but can also be turned into them! Products that can be easily disassembled at the end of its use can be recycled as well, allowing its valuable content to be used towards the production of a new product.

Non-Toxic, Water-Based Finishes:



Look for furniture that utilizes non-toxic, water-based finishes instead of traditional oil-based finishes. Traditional oil-based finishes such as UV, PU, or NC based often contain lead or other heavy metal content, usually non-recyclable and emit high levels of Volatile Organic Compounds (VOC) during application processes. Water-based finishes is the ultimate Green choice in product finishes:

- Non-Toxic
- Readily Biodegradable
- Recyclable Friendly
- Eliminates the toxic off-gassing of Volatile Organic Compounds (VOCs)
- Significantly reduces risk of:
 - Cancer
 - Conjunctival Irritation
 - Asthma
 - Liver and Kidney Damage
 - Damage to the Central Nervous System
- The most technologically advanced coating process and highly recommended by the European Union and US Government

Organic Glues:



Traditional wood glues contain harmful chemicals that yield formaldehyde by-products when produced. Toxic glues poorly adhere to wood and often chip or flake, thus making it very easy for children to swallow or digest these harmful elements. Organic glues are the clear and best choice for child furniture products because:

- All natural and produced from plant derivatives
- Does not contain chemicals and formaldehyde by-products like traditional wood glue
- Drastically decreases air contaminant exposure, providing healthier air quality

Stainless Steel Metal Accessories:



Screws and other metal fasteners play a very important role in enhancing a product's structural integrity. Stainless steel offers superior strength, thus maximizing classroom durability over traditional copper and lead components.

- 100% Recyclable for use in the production of other products
- Stain, corrosion and rust resistant
- Highly durable to extend product life, cutting down on the use of raw materials to produce more parts



**>> buying GREEN
can be easier DONE
than SAID <<<**

Option for the Greener Good

Leading manufacturers in the 21st century are making the transition to offer furniture products produced from Green and equally durable materials, such as Australian Pine Fiberboard (APF). The use of APF in children's furnishings has steadily increased as consumers have become educated of its advantages.

Australian Pine Fiberboard (APF)

APF is man-made from 100% recyclable wood fibers, which are often the byproducts of "Trim Off Waste" from plywood manufacturing processes. The USDA Forest Service reports that APF products contain approximately only 34% virgin wood, meaning that minimal trees are used during its "Shred & Impact" production process.

It is evident that there are considerable amounts of waste inherent in plywood manufacturing given that only 50-75% of the usable volume of wood in a tree is converted into plywood. A lot of waste occurs in the preparation of tree logs for production:



- Trim Off Waste – Shavings incurred during sizing of the log, removal of defects and natural voids.
- Veneer Bolts – "End Pegs" that are used, and ultimately discarded of, to accommodate stains, end checks and lack of log "squareness."
- Rounding Waste – Waste involved while turning unsymmetrical veneer blocks into cylinders for "peeling." Bark components are shredded and removed, making many small scraps of little use and thus, wasted.

APF contributes to the minimization of wood waste, thus directly limiting deforestation and the need for landfills. Its significantly lower rate of production errors limits the number of trees and other natural resources required for production. APF is the clear choice of Green manufacturers as it saves natural resources now for healthier living later.

	QTY.	Australian Pine Fiberboard		Solid Plywood	
		# of Trees per Item	Total Trees Used	# of Trees per Item	Total Trees Used
Four Space Locker	6	0.15	0.90	0.38	2.28
3'x 4' Shelf	8	0.08	0.64	0.20	1.60
24" x 24" Square Table (24" Ht.)	7	0.03	0.21	0.08	0.56
12" Chair	26	0.01	0.26	0.03	0.78
Total Trees:			2.01		5.22

* Figures based on 1 tree = 10 (9 ft x 4 ft) sheets of materials used.

** APF uses ~ 2.5x less the amount of trees than solid plywood.

Green Certifications

The Green movement has prompted for many non-profit organizations to form and issue certifications for those products and manufacturers that make strong efforts to preserve the environment. These third party organizations identify low-emitting materials, finishes and products for indoor environments.

U.S Green Building Council:



A Washington, D.C. - based nonprofit organization committed to a prosperous and sustainable future of the nation through cost-efficient and energy-saving Green buildings. The organization monitors the way buildings and communities are designed, built and operated, enabling an environmentally and socially responsible and healthy environment that improves the quality of life.



FSC Certified Lumbers:

The World's leading independent, non-governmental, not-for-profit organization to promote the responsible management of the world's forests.

FSC certified lumbers represent the greenest woods on the market and available for furniture production. Products carrying the FSC logo guarantee lumbers were harvested ethically from properly and responsibly managed, sustained forests. These products directly contribute to the reduction of global deforestation and preservation of the world's ecosystems.

ISO 14001 – Environmental Management Standards:



ISO 14001 is the global specification for an Environmental Management System (EMS). Manufacturers who impose this industry standard have met stringent requirements for establishing an environmental policy; determining environmental aspects and impacts of products/activities/services; planning, implementation and operation of programs to meet objectives and targets; and management review.

Manufacturers implement a proficient EMS to establish an organized approach and strategy to systematically and effectively reduce the impact of the environmental aspects that are controllable.

**invest in green products
when upgrading your
classroom furnishings**



Green Certifications

Invest in Green furniture products the next time you are ready to replace or furnish your classroom. With everyone's conscious effort, we can make a difference in the conservation of valuable natural resources to promote healthier learning and living. Make sure your future furniture products incorporate these Green attributes:

- FSC Certified Lumbers
- CARB Certified Boards
- Reduces Harmful VOCs and Formaldehyde By-Products
- Eco Friendly & Green Materials
 - Water Based Finishes
 - Organic Glue
 - Stainless Steel Components
- US Green Building Council Member
- FSC Member
- ISO 14001: Environmental Management Standard

With a better understanding and more knowledgeable approach to the purchasing of Green products, join the Green global effort! You can create a better and healthier learning environment for children because Green products promote safer and more responsible learning.



Pre-Assembled
(Company A)

Knock Down
(Company B)

Average Classroom Pkg.	Quantities	Cubic Ft. Per Item	Cubic Ft. Per Pkg.	Cubic Ft. Per Item	Cubic Ft. Per Pkg.
Four Space Locker	6	32.0	192.0	6.0	36.0
3' x 4' Shelf	8	23.0	184.0	6.0	48.0
24" x 24" Square Table (24" Ht.)	7	3.0	21.0	1.0	7.0
12" Chair	26	4.0	104.0	1.0	26.0
Total Cubic Feet Per Classroom Package:			501.0	117.0	
Total Cubic Feet Per School (~ 6 Classes):			3006.0	702.0	

* A classroom package from Company A takes up ~4 times the amount of packaged space than Company B
 ** Company A would require 3 additional truck deliveries (x 60 Gallons of Fuel) and 180 additional gallons of fuel!

Knock Down Furniture: Flattening Pollutants and Wasted Materials

Often overlooked but a major contributor to Green products is packaging efficiency. Pre-assembled furniture may be convenient to you now but it is not advantageous to the preservation and long-term health of the environment.

Knock Down (KD) furniture is non-assembled and drastically reduces wasted packaging materials and "empty" carton space. It is the most efficient and Green form of product delivery but also significantly reduces shipping fees, thus saving you money!

To make it easier to understand the significant impact you can have on the environment when purchasing KD furniture, refer to the chart above outlining wasteful consumption you can avoid.

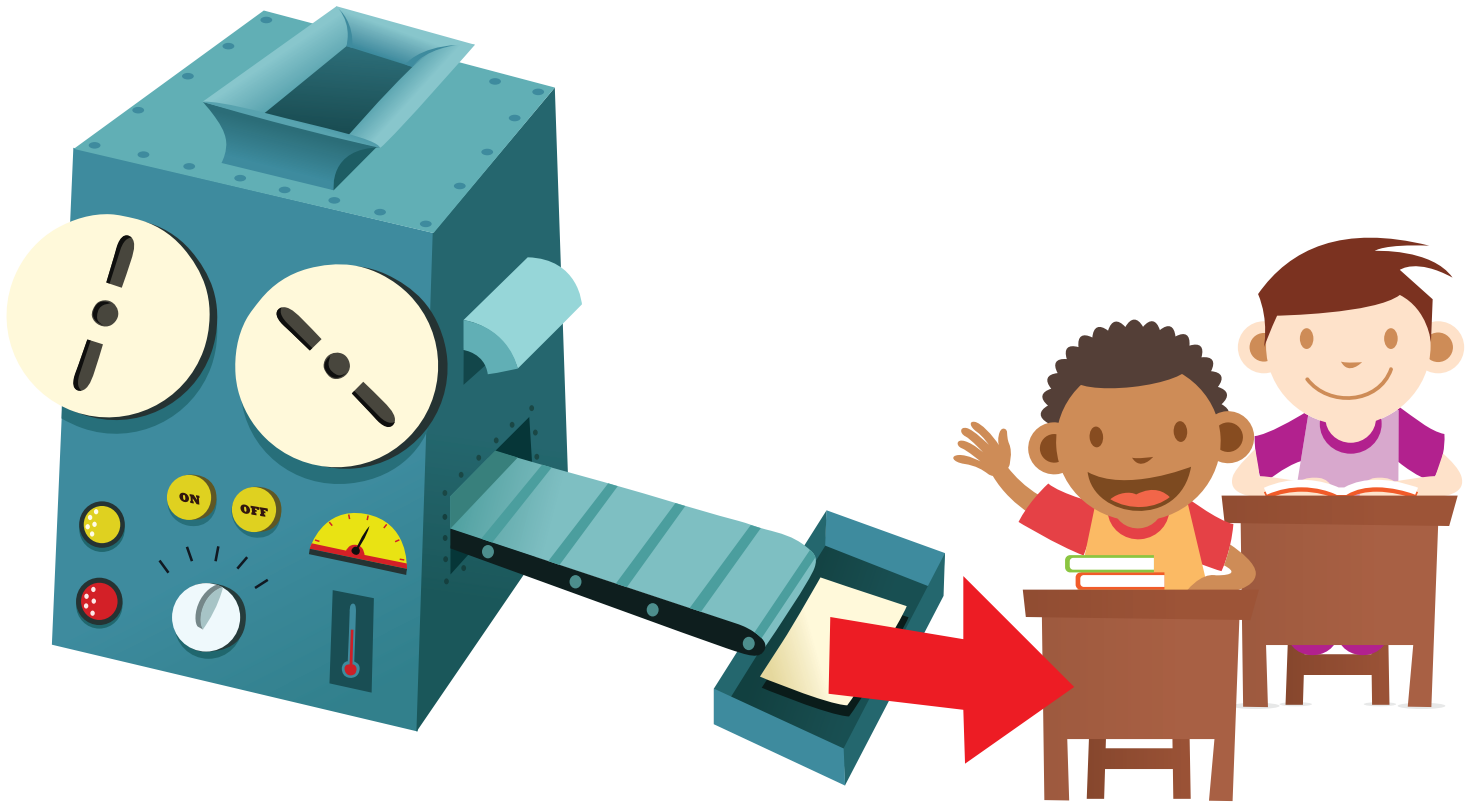
Pre-Assembled: Company A requires almost 350% more product packaging and shipping space than required by Knock Down: Company B. Company A consumes more raw materials for product packaging and additional gasoline for each and every delivery, releasing more pollutants into the air and directly contributing to global warming.

KD Furniture is favored among educators looking for Green products and holds many advantages over pre-assembled products:

- Save money on product costs by self assembly
- Products ship flat, significantly reducing shipping fees
- Eliminate wasted product packaging and "dead" carton space
- Cut down on the number of delivery trucks required
- Decrease consumption of natural resources and fossil fuels
- Drastically reduce the amount of toxic pollutants released into the atmosphere

Green Decisions:

Choosing the Greener option can play a significant role in the preservation of earth's natural resources. Know the different options that are available to you and how they may benefit or harm the environment. Consumer knowledge is crucial and with this new information, you can make a difference!



Quality Products and Processes: In and Outside of the Classroom

Manufacturers whom take pride in their production methods, factory ethics and impact on the environment seek to achieve both domestic factory industry standards and global recognition and accreditation.

The U.S. and European governments, along with other international organizations, have established industry standards that production facilities can apply for and become accredited to confirm their commitment to safe and quality manufacturing with effective quality control systems in place.

Factories that are certified for meeting global industry standards further cement their position as a global production facility; increasingly supporting the claim that quality and safe furniture products can be manufactured in *any* region of the world.

**>> quality & safe
products can be
manufactured in
any region <<<**

The Organizations Behind the Standards


Any organized body may develop industry standards and criteria but in order to hold validity, they must be upheld and outlined by credible sources. The International Organization for Standards (ISO) and United Kingdom Accreditation Service (UKAS) are two of the most respected organizations for establishing and implementing manufacturing standards.

International Organization for Standards (ISO):

 This non-governmental organization is the world's largest developer and publisher of International Standards. It forms and establishes a connection between the public and private sectors. ISO is a network of the national standards institutes of 160 countries (one member per country) and is centralized in Geneva, Switzerland.

The organization's member institutes are part of the governmental structure of their respective countries or are mandated by their government. The ISO network allows a consensus to be established regarding solutions and criteria that meet both the requirements of business and the broader needs and expectations of society.

United Kingdom Accreditation Service (UKAS):

 The UKAS is the sole national accreditation body recognized by the European Union to assess organizations that provide factory certification, testing, inspection and calibration services; thus confirming the organization's efforts to implement safe and responsible factory processes.




“ Industry standards guarantee consumers that products are being manufactured ethically, responsibly and in good quality. ”

The Standards


To ensure consumers that they are investing in all-around quality products, manufacturers can obtain industry recognition from accreditation bodies such as the ISO and UKAS for their implementation of factory management systems. Industry standards guarantee consumers that products are being manufactured ethically, responsibly and in good quality.

ISO 9001 – Quality Management Standard:

 An early childhood furniture manufacturer with an effective Quality Management System (QMS) in place will typically meet educator's expectations and children's needs better than a company whose QMS is futile or lacking.

ISO 9001 is a series of documents regulated by the ISO that defines requirements for the QMS standard. A company deciding to implement ISO 9001, be audited and certified by accredited bodies wants to guarantee their customers that they offer high integrity and quality products due to an effective QMS.

ISO 14001 – Environmental Management Standard:

 Quality furniture products are durable and responsible as manufacturers are aware of the impact and long-lasting effects their production processes have on the environment.

ISO 14001 is the global specification for an Environmental Management System (EMS). Manufacturers who impose this standard have met stringent requirements for establishing an environmental policy; determining environmental aspects and impacts of products/activities/services; planning, implementation and operation of programs to meet objectives and targets; and management review.

Manufacturers implement a proficient EMS to establish an organized approach and strategy to systematically and effectively reduce the impact of the environmental aspects that are controllable.



FSC Chain of Custody Certification (COC)



Recognized by the United Nations and many environmental organizations (eNGOs), FSC is the world's leading organization to continuously improve the standards of forest management.

A manufacturer whose products depict the FSC label has obtained the FSC Chain of Custody Certification (COC). The FSC COC certifies a factory's entire production process – from the forest to the consumer, including all successive stages of processing, transformation, manufacturing and distribution.

The FSC COC is a guarantee that a manufacturer incorporates Green production processes and is doing its part to protect the environment.

Quality from Start to Finish

Quality and safe furniture products are the foundation and building blocks for any classroom setting. Make sure your classroom and children's learning experiences start off on the right foot with trustworthy products. Feel comfortable knowing that your products have been manufactured with quality and safety in mind when they have met these industry, manufacturing standards:

- ISO 9001: Quality Management Standards
- ISO 14001: Environmental Management Standards
- FSC COC: Chain of Custody Certification (COC)



Quality You Need & Deserve

Many child furniture suppliers offer comparable products but do not be deceived by similar designs and claims. Not all furniture products are created equal.

The component parts used during the assembly process along with functional features can determine a product's quality and durability. Although a low price tag is very appealing, know exactly what you're purchasing and if it is a worthwhile investment. Children's furniture needs to possess great durability and strength to withstand the everyday wear and tear of the classroom.

Remember, a quality product is from start to finish: structural and functional design, to sourcing of raw materials and production processes, into your classroom and hands of children.

Dependability and Structural Strength

Child furnishings are designed to withstand the natural wear imposed by children on a continuous and daily basis in the classroom. Premium furniture manufacturers design and produce their products in order to sustain profuse amounts of stress while heavily focusing on long-term durability.

Products incorporating these features into their overall designs are favorable to endure the most rigorous classroom conditions:



Dowel Pinned Joints:

- Increases structural strength and promotes product longevity
- Dowels are made from birch, beech or sugar maple woods and consist of long, tough fibers to withstand heavy shearing loads.
- Stronger than dado joints



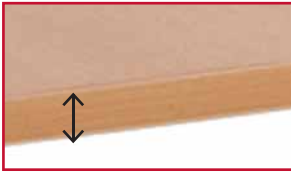
ABS Plastic Shelf Supports:

- Reinforces shelf joints to maximize strength
- Prevents shelf flexing and sagging
- Non-toxic and highly durable



15" Shelf Depths:

- Provides maximum storage space and use
- Increased depth maximizes contact between the shelf base and floor
- Drastically improves shelf stability



5/8" - 3/4" Board Thickness:

- Prevents shelf sagging and/or warping
- Maximizes shelf content load
- Prolongs durability and shelf life



Organic Glue:

- All natural and produced from plant derivatives
- Natural composition better adheres woods; increasing joint strength
- Eliminates chemical and formaldehyde by-products



Stainless Steel Components:

- Superior strength over traditional copper and iron parts
- Stain, corrosion and rust free
- Can be recycled and remade into other products



Water Based Finishes:

- Non-toxic and readily biodegradable
- Coats and protects a product's natural aesthetic and sheen
- Does not contain lead or other heavy metals like traditional, oil-based finishes sheen

Every parent and educator is concerned with children's safety in the classroom and whether or not the furniture will hold up over years of teaching and use. These structural features are tops in the industry and eliminate any need to fret over the safety and durability of your furniture products.



Furniture Features

Look for furniture products that serve their purpose but also incorporate different functional features to make classroom life easier on you. Leading suppliers have conducted necessary classroom research to design and offer products that address key concerns of educators and parents. Make sure that your next furniture purchase integrates a fully operational system of user-friendly, functions and features.



ABS Thermo Fused Edge Banding:

- Stronger and more durable than traditional T-Molding
- Minimizes edge gaps; thus eliminating dirt and germs
- Will not split or show gapped edges after minimal classroom use



Anti-UV Finish:

- Anti-Ultra-Violet Finish eliminates potential UV ray damage
- Water and chemical resistant, making products easy to maintain
- Increases product strength and longevity



Round Corners and Edges:

- Eliminates sharp points
- Fully rounded corners and edges promote safer classroom learning



Piano Hinges:

- Prevents finger pinching
- Full length hinges increase surface contact area, further securing swinging doors to shelf units



Kick Plates:

- Prevents small objects and toys from getting lost underneath storage units
- Contributes to shelf support and stability
- Helps prevent hands and toes from being pinched under the unit



Easy Twist Locks:

- Allows safe keeping of valuable belongings and supplies
- Made of high quality stainless steel, coated in zinc



Mobility (Caster Wheels):

- Makes rearranging classroom furniture convenient and easy
- Polyurethane wheels can withstand heavy shelf loads and eliminates "creaky" wheels during relocation
- 2" = 88 lbs / each, 3" = 155 lbs / each



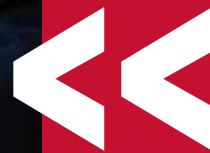
Adjustability:

- Adjustable shelves make furniture customizable to student height
- Provides custom storage space sizes for supplies and materials organization



Easy Twist, Table Legs & Gliders:

- Makes adjusting table heights quicker and effortless
- "Twist" application eliminates need for screw drivers and hardware
- Rubber gliders prevent floor scratching and are adjustable for uneven surfaces



Child safety is the key contributor to product quality. Purchasing furniture products that incorporate child safe features and functions can further guarantee that children are receiving an excellent education in a safe environment.

Product Design and Styling

As a consumer in the early childhood educational furniture market, you have multiple options and companies to choose from. Product quality and safety should be your top priorities when purchasing new furniture for your classroom; but once you have potential suppliers narrowed down, keep in mind that the classroom is ultimately yours and should represent you.

Whether you seek the traditional birch colored classroom or a contemporary beechwood feel, know that you have options. Outfit your classroom to your liking and create an individualistic environment that is both welcoming to children and aesthetically appealing. There are many furniture style options for you to choose from and here are a few that are available throughout the industry:

Birch:

- Traditional and classic
- Soft color representing camel and natural ash
- Most recognizable color amongst child educational furniture

Beechwood:

- Contemporary and stylish
- Warm and vibrant, honey color
- Modern European influence and appeal
- Widely accepted in Europe

Multi-Colored:

- Strong and bold presentation
- Solid, primary and secondary colors
- Brightens classroom décor and offers color variety

Eco- Tones:

- Neutral color for subtle appearance
- Environmental and natural-based, earth tones
- Influenced by Green product manufacturing and depicts resources in their natural colors

Whichever furniture style you choose; make sure it is safe and fit for your classroom. Have fun when purchasing new classroom furniture. Design and furnish a learning environment that suits children's and your own needs while giving it your own personal touch!

Warranty Length

When researching potential furniture products for your classroom, a very telling factor is product warranty and the length the manufac-

turer is willing to offer. Be sure to compare and contrast multiple warranty offerings to see if your potential supplier stands behind their product.

Avoid products that have very short (1-5 years) warranty lengths or do not offer them at all. Target and focus on early childhood furniture suppliers whom offer consumers from 10 years to lifetime warranty.

You deserve the peace of mind knowing your furniture investments are protected and warranted.

Furniture for Now and the Future

Quality education starts with a quality, learning environment. Early childhood educational furniture products are the building blocks of the classroom and directly enhance a child's learning experience.

Research potential suppliers before you make your next purchase to ensure you are getting products that are of premium quality and dependability.

■ Superior Structural Integrity and Strength

- Dowel Pin Joints
- ABS Plastic Shelf Supports
- 15" Shelf Depths
- 5/8" - 3/4" Board Thickness
- Organic Glue
- Stainless Steel Components
- Water-Based Finishes

■ Full of Functional Features

- Thermo Fused Edge Banding
- Anti-UV Finishes
- Round Corners & Edges
- Full Length Piano Hinges
- Kick Plates
- Mobility
- Adjustability
- Easy Leg Assembly

■ Reliable Warranty Length

- 10 Years
- Lifetime Warranty

Invest in furniture products that will make a difference in your child's learning and will last the duration of their classroom experiences.

**>> introducing
exclusive features that
have been developed
with you in mind! <<**



Early Childhood Educational Furniture

As one of the world's leading childhood educational furniture developers, manufacturers and distributors, Kohburg is committed to the educational needs and health of children.

Kohburg dedicates itself to provide educators and parents affordable, Green furniture products of preeminent quality to enhance and aid children's learning experiences. We offer some of the safest products throughout the industry while incorporating technologically advanced, fully functional features and contemporary designs to our classroom furnishings.

Our world renown manufacturing facility in Shanghai, China holds numerous global industry accreditations which confirms our factory's superior quality control and responsibility to the environment. As one of the top premium furniture manufacturers in the world who implements the toughest quality and safety control standards throughout our entire production processes, we've successfully proven to the world that premium furniture products can be produced in any region of the world as long as quality designs are implemented, safe and Green resources used and superior production processes are enforced.

With the industry's strongest R&D team contributing its wealth of design and safety knowledge to each product we sell, Kohburg Early Childhood Educational Furniture both improves the aesthetic appeal of your classroom and enhances child education.

Quality Products for ANY Educational Environment

Kohburg is setting industry standards for educational furnishings. Our relentless dedication and commitment to provide superior products has allowed us to obtain the following noteworthy achievements:

- **Fashionable, Contemporary Classroom Products**
- **CPSIA HR4040 Certified**
- **All Products are Tested at German TUV Laboratories**
- **FSC & PEFC Certified Lumbers**
- **World Renown and Accredited Manufacturing Facility**
 - **ISO 9001: Quality Management System (QMS)**
 - **ISO 14001: Environmental Management System (EMS)**
- **Member of professional industry organizations**
 - **FSC**
 - **US Green Building Council**

Childhood Furniture Designed for You

Other manufacturers stress their commitment to customers but at Kohburg we let our products do the talking. We've conducted extensive and endless research to design, develop and produce a product that best suits educators and their needs in the classroom.

Kohburg is happy to provide and introduce our exclusive features that have been developed with you in mind!

Filosá™ Construction System



Our signature Filosá™ Construction System was specifically designed with educators and their classroom needs in mind. Moving heavy furniture can cause unnecessary headaches and possible injuries. We try to incorporate every feature possible to turn classroom rearrangements and adjustments from a chore to joy! Through the use of state of the art non-toxic, plastic moldings and fittings, we have been able to revolutionize the child furniture industry.



Round Corners
Eliminates sharp points and corners for safer learning and to protect children.



ABS Plastic Shelf Support Brackets
Non-Toxic support brackets prevent warping while increasing joint strength and durability



Mobility/Kick Plates

All mobile units include heavy-duty caster wheels for easy mobility and incorporate our Kick Plate technology, allowing teachers to flip skirts up and down to move and "park" the unit.



2" & 3" Polyurethane Wheels

Our movable units are equipped with either 2" or 3" polyurethane wheels to withstand large carrying loads (88 lbs., 155 lbs. respectively) and silence rolling noise without marring your floors.



Shelf Adjustments

All shelf supports are made of non-toxic ABS plastic with each and every level marked with pre-embossed numbers to make shelf placement quick and effortless.



Lamicá™ Finish

All Kohburg wooden products are protected with our exclusive Lamicá finish. Our signature finish is amongst the strongest in the industry and does more than just protect your products.

- Level – 7 Anti-UV Rating
- Protects Furniture Surfaces from UV Damage
- Enhances Product Durability
- Chemical and Water Resistant
- Makes Furniture Easy to Clean and Maintain

Lamicá protects your classroom furniture while enhancing its aesthetic appeal: a natural Beechwood appearance is our finishing touch, giving your classroom an elegant and distinguished look.



Legging System

Filosa's™ legging system offers an easy-twist installation process. We avoid screwdrivers and other hardware to make leg assembly and replacement quick, easy and hassle free.

Each table leg is made of solid Beechwood for extra strength and durability while featuring rubber gliders to eliminate floor scratching. Our gliders can be adjusted to handle uneven surfaces



TerFusá™ Edgebanding

A Kohburg exclusive, TerFusá Edgebanding offers a stronger and more dependable edging to withstand the everyday wear and tear in the classroom. Unlike traditional T-Molding, TerFusá™ Edgebanding will not split or show gapped edges after a few months' use. We use thermo fused Edgebanding technology to ensure quality and increased product safety.

- Minimizes Edge Gaps
- Eliminates Dirt and Germs
- Prevents Moisture and Saturation
- Creates a healthier learning environment



Kohburg: Making the Difference in Your Classroom

At Kohburg, child safety and Green, product quality is our top priorities. Make sure your classroom is outfitted with the premier furniture choice of educators. Our Green products, partnered with your devotion to quality education, supports children in acquiring the quality education they deserve.



www.kohburg.com



: Setting the Industry Standard

www.kohburg.com

QUALITY VENDORS

DISCOUNT VENDORS

		Community Playthings	Jonti-Craft	Wood Designs	Early Childhood Resources	ChildCraft
SAFETY & QUALITY						
Products are CPSIA HR4040 Certified	YES	Yes	Yes	Yes	N/A	N/A
Products Tested at German TUV Rheinland Laboratory	YES	No	No	No	No	No
Owns and Operates Manufacturing Facility	YES	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	N/A
Factory is ISO 9001 & 14001, UKAS Certified	YES	No	No	No	No	No
GREEN PRODUCTS						
Certified FSC Member	YES	Yes	No	No	No	No
Member of the US Green Building Council	YES	Yes	No	No	No	No
FSC Certified Lumbers	YES	Yes	No	No	No	No
CARB & FSC Certified Boards	YES	Yes	No	No	No	No
Non-Toxic, Water Based Finishes & Coatings	YES	Yes	No	No	No	No
E-Zero Organic Glue	YES	N/A	N/A	N/A	No	No
304 Stainless Steel Metal Accessories	YES	No	No	No	No	No
PRODUCT FEATURES						
Filosá™ Constructive System	YES	Yes	No	No	No	No
TerFusá™ Edgebanding	YES	No	No	No	No	No
Lamicá™ Finish	YES	No	No	No	No	No
Mobitá™ Mobile System	YES	Yes	No	No	No	No
Dowel Pinned Joints	YES	N/A	Yes	No	No	N/A
ABS Plastic Shelf Supports	YES	Yes	No	No	No	No
15" Shelf Depths	YES	No	Yes	Yes	No	No
5/8" - 3/4" Board Thickness	YES	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	No
Round Corners & Edges	YES	Yes	Yes	N/A	No	No
Functional Kick Plates	YES	Yes	No	No	No	No
Easy Twist Table Legs & Gliders	YES	Yes	No	No	No	No
PRODUCT DESIGN						
Contemporary and European Influenced Designs	YES	No	No	No	No	No
Aesthetically Classroom Enhancing	YES	Yes	No	No	No	No
Warm & Vibrant, Beechwood Finish	YES	No	No	No	No	No
Uses Australian Pine Fiberboard (APF)	YES	No	No	No	No	No
Offers Knock Down/Unassembled Product Delivery	YES	No	Some	No	Yes	No
10 Years to Lifetime Product Warranty	YES	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	No

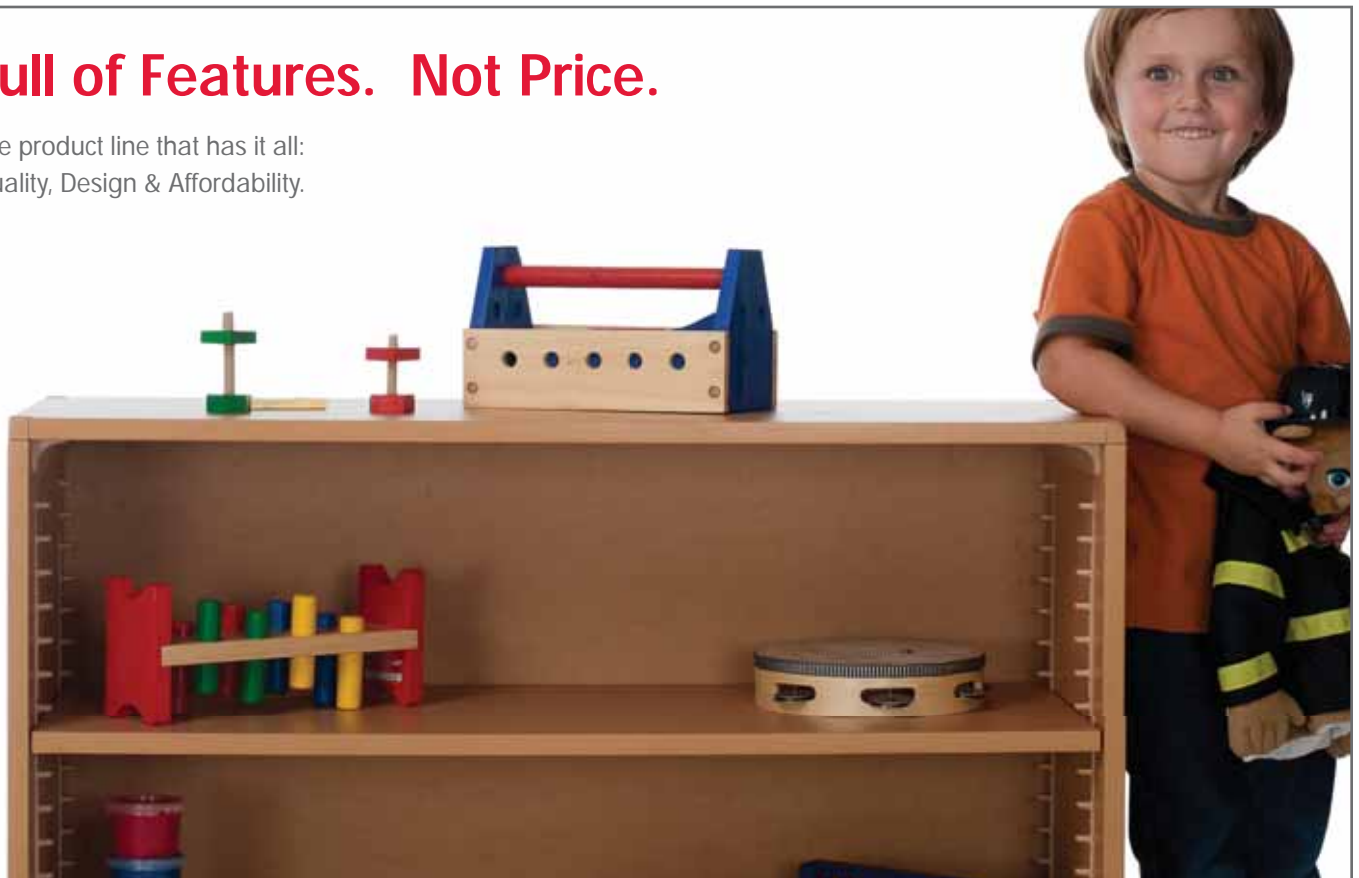


Kohburg, Inc.
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Pomona CA, 91768

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FPM INC.

Full of Features. Not Price.

The product line that has it all:
Quality, Design & Affordability.



www.kohburg.com

- Green Early Childhood Educational Furniture
- Safe & Quality Products
- Contemporary European Design
- Exclusive Beechwood Color