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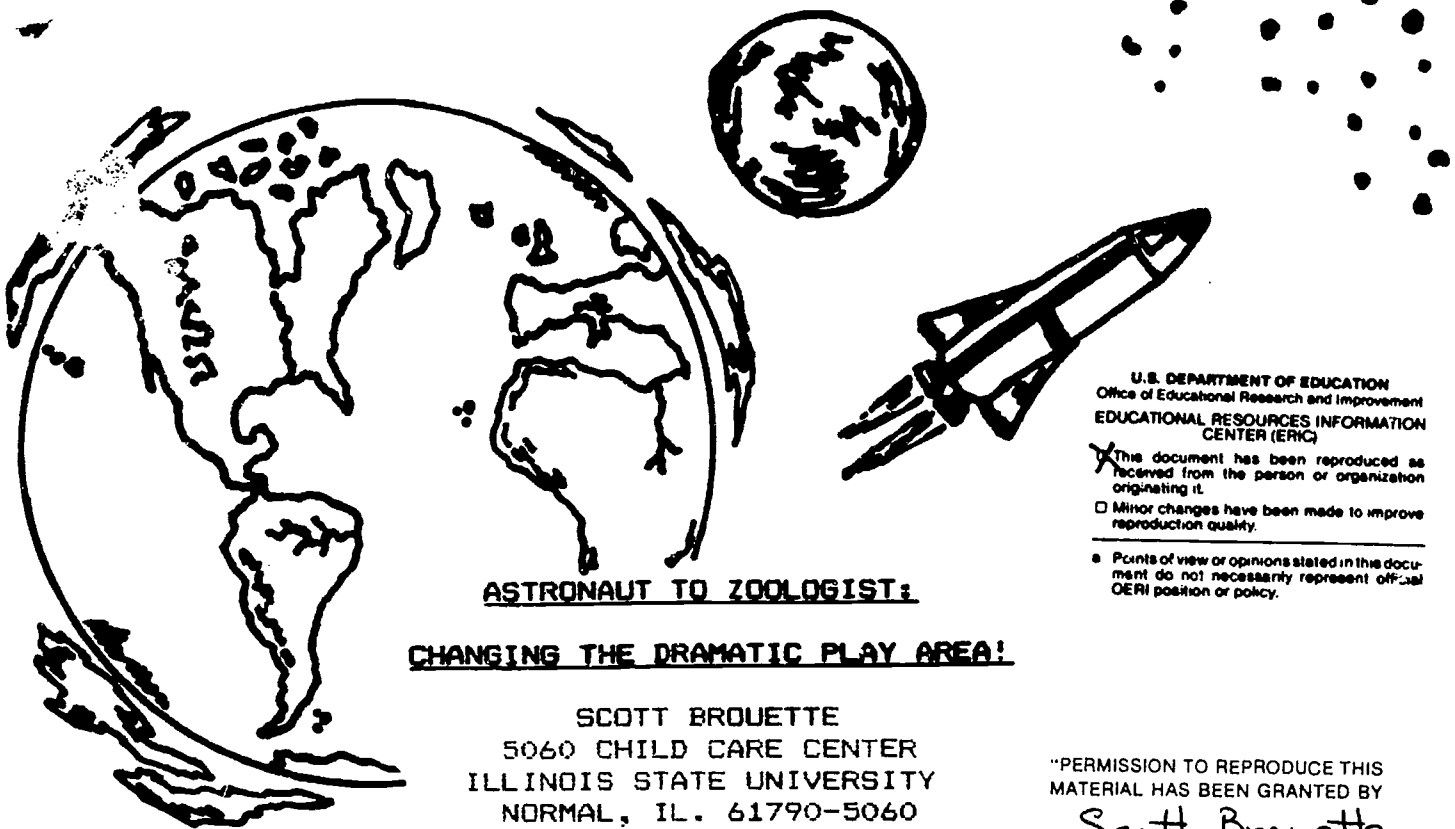
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ABSTRACT

Changing the dramatic play area in a child care setting promotes creativity and gives children the chance to experience a place they may never experience in real life. Whenever possible, the children should be involved in the process of changing the area, by moving furniture and exchanging props, as well as brainstorming ideas for changes. The dramatic play area can be changed as little as once or twice a year, or with every theme, depending on the setting and the children. When available, donated items are good and less expensive additions to the dramatic play area. Real items as well as pretend items can be used at all times, to contribute to both the creativity and the excitement of children's dramatic play. This booklet provides sketches of several dramatic play settings, including a list of possible materials. Illustrations are provided for a: (1) kitchen or restaurant; (2) office; (3) animal hospital; (4) campground; (5) rain forest; (6) space; (7) ocean; (8) beach; (9) museum; (10) theater; (11) doctor's office; (12) court room; (13) fire station; (14) police station; (15) fix-it shop; (16) beauty parlor; (17) cruise ship; and (18) box land. (AC)

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ASTRONAUT TO ZOOLOGIST:

CHANGING THE DRAMATIC PLAY AREA!

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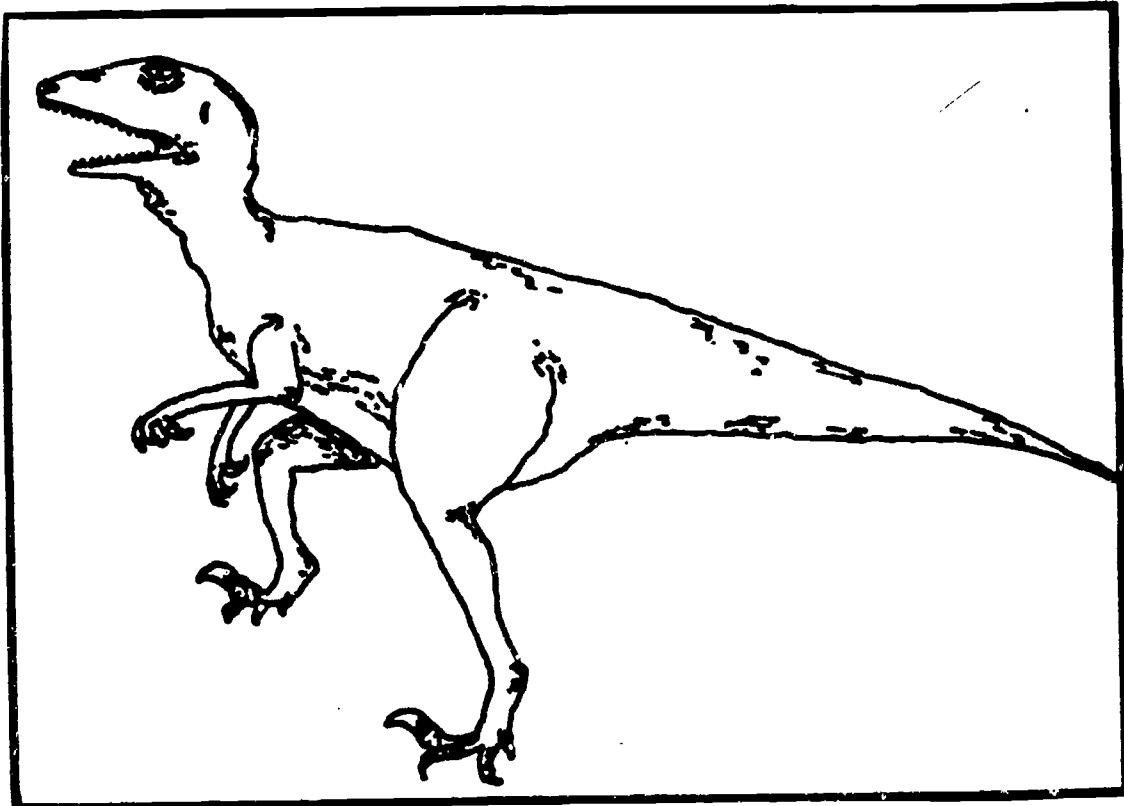
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Changing the dramatic play area can be a fun and exciting change for any child care setting. When at all possible the children should be involved in the process of the change. The children can help to physically change the area (moving furniture, exchanging props, etc.) as well as brainstorming ideas for changes in the area. The dramatic play area can be changed as little as once or twice a year, or with every theme, depending on the setting and the children. A group that does not adjust to change readily would not benefit from frequent changes to the area.

When available donated items are great (as well as less expensive) additions to the dramatic play area. Real items as well as pretend items can be used at all times, both contribute to the creativity and the excitement of children's dramatic play.

The following illustrations are one way to create fascinating and creative settings for the dramatic play area. By no means are they the only way. Each year the settings change as the children change, ideas are different and the play is different from day to day and year to year.

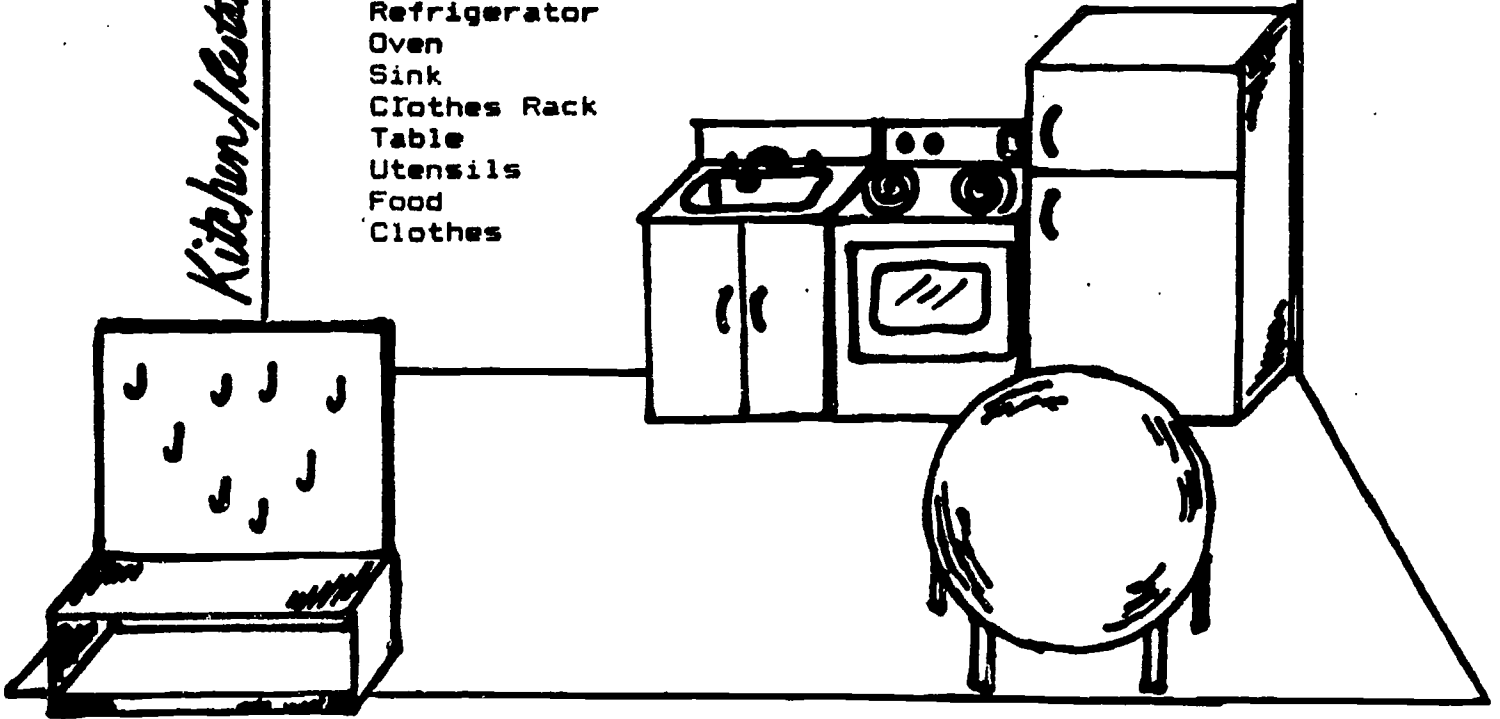
The purpose of changing the dramatic play area is to promote creativity and to give the children the chance to experience a place they may never (but, hopefully will) experience in real life!

MATERIALS
BOLD=TEACHER/CHILD MADE

Kitchen/Restaurant

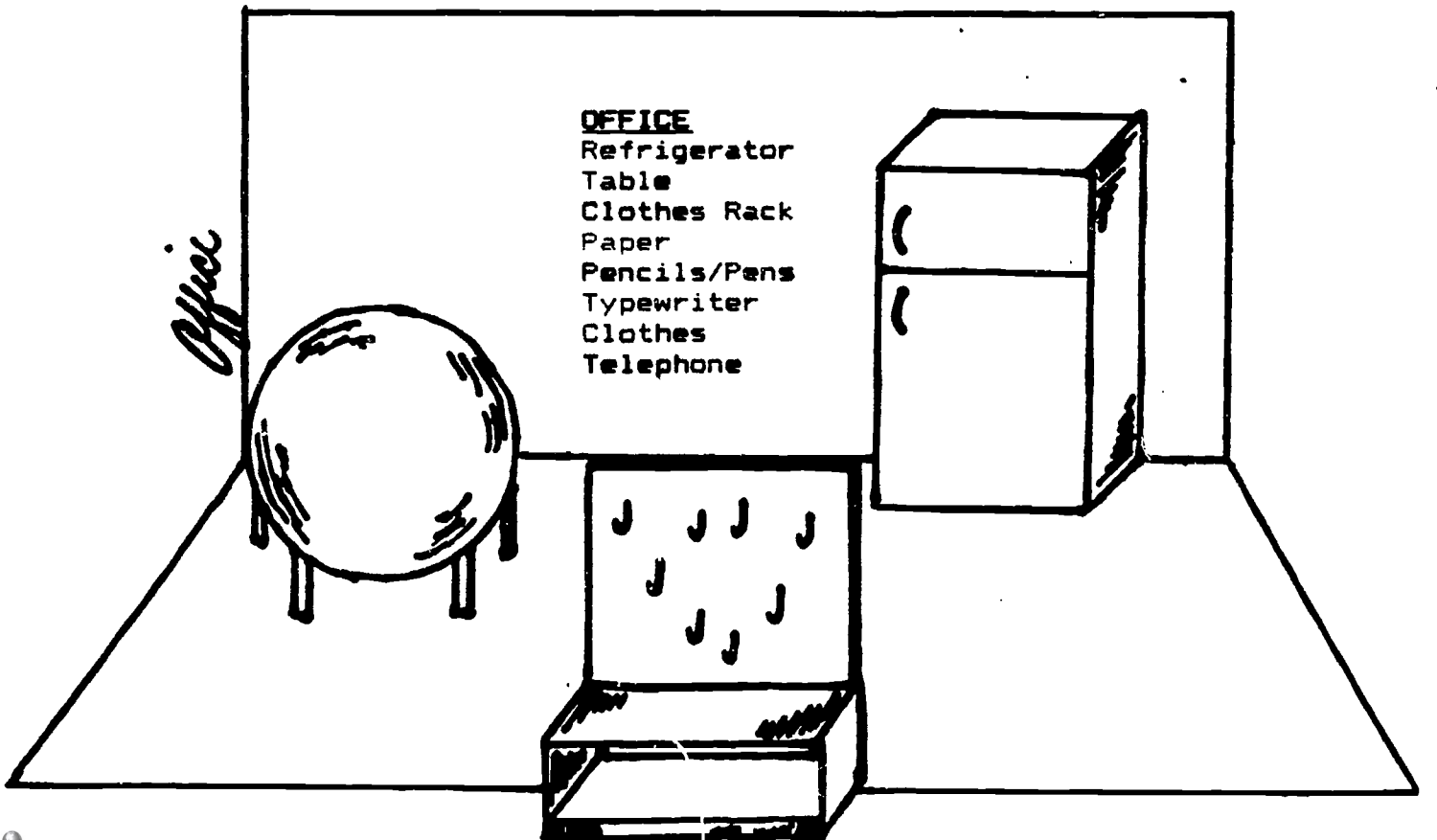
KITCHEN/RESTAURANT

- Refrigerator
- Oven
- Sink
- Clothes Rack
- Table
- Utensils
- Food
- Clothes



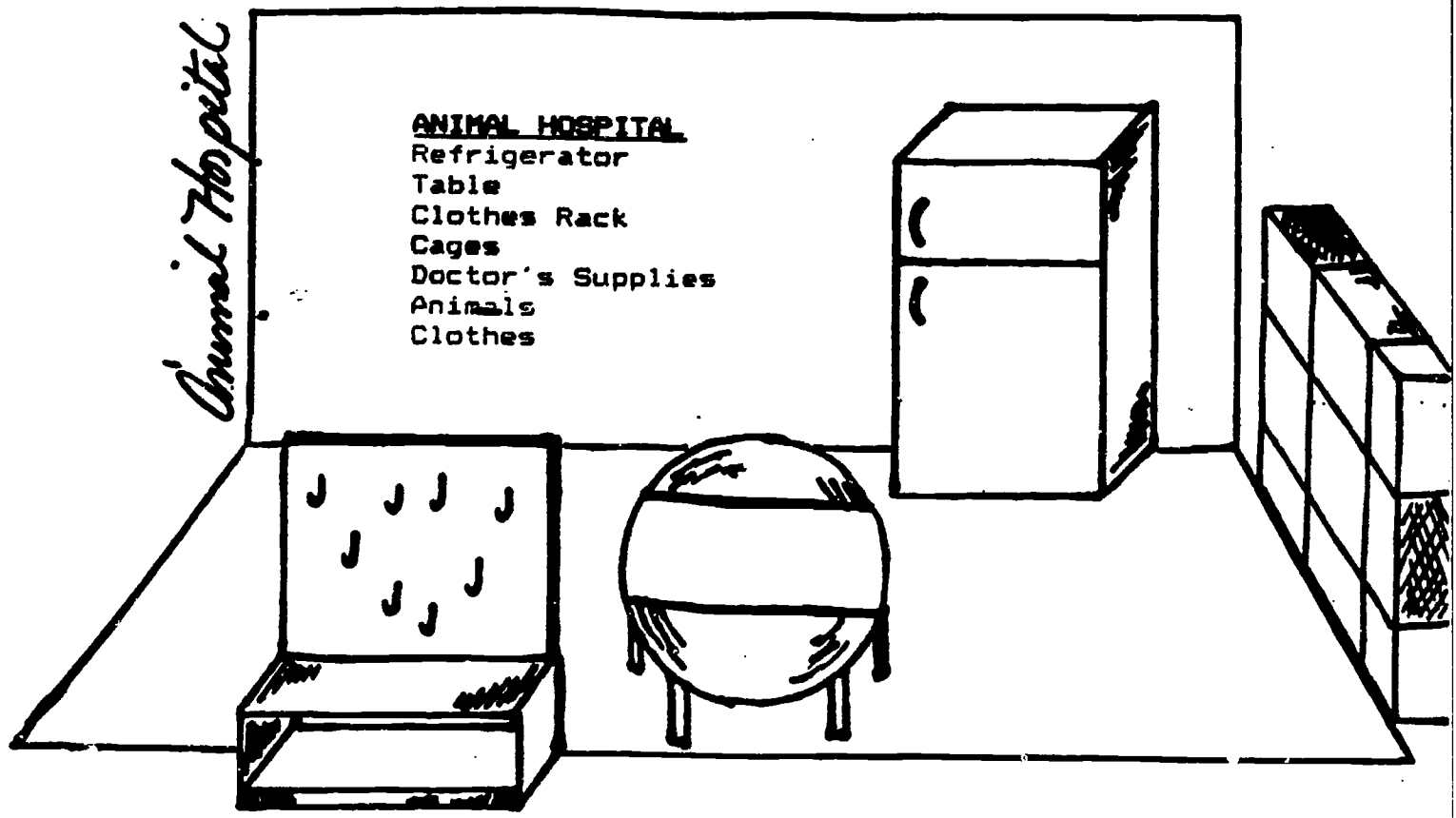
- OFFICE**
- Refrigerator
 - Table
 - Clothes Rack
 - Paper
 - Pencils/Pens
 - Typewriter
 - Clothes
 - Telephone

Office



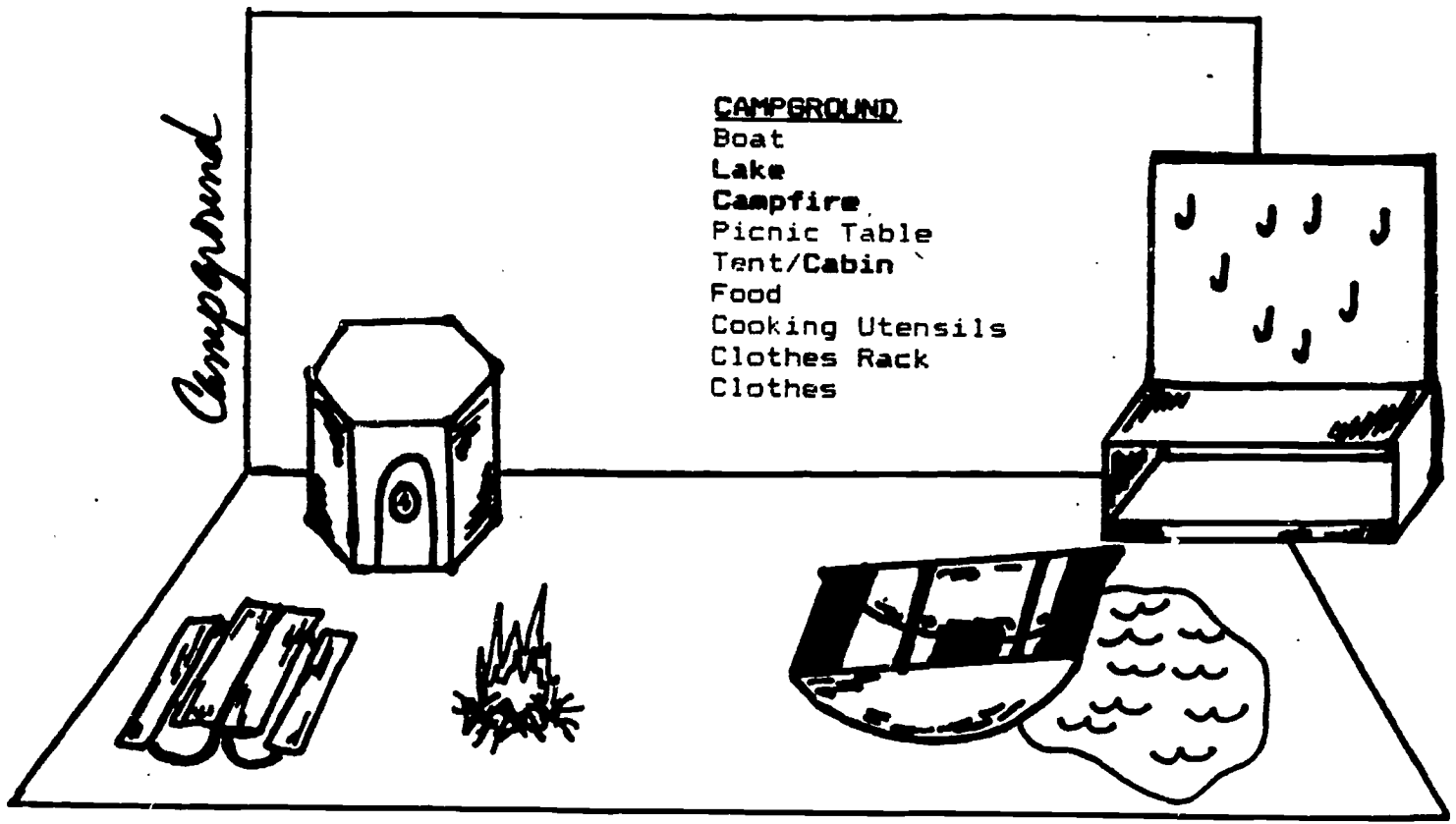
Animal Hospital

- ANIMAL HOSPITAL
- Refrigerator
- Table
- Clothes Rack
- Cages
- Doctor's Supplies
- Animals
- Clothes

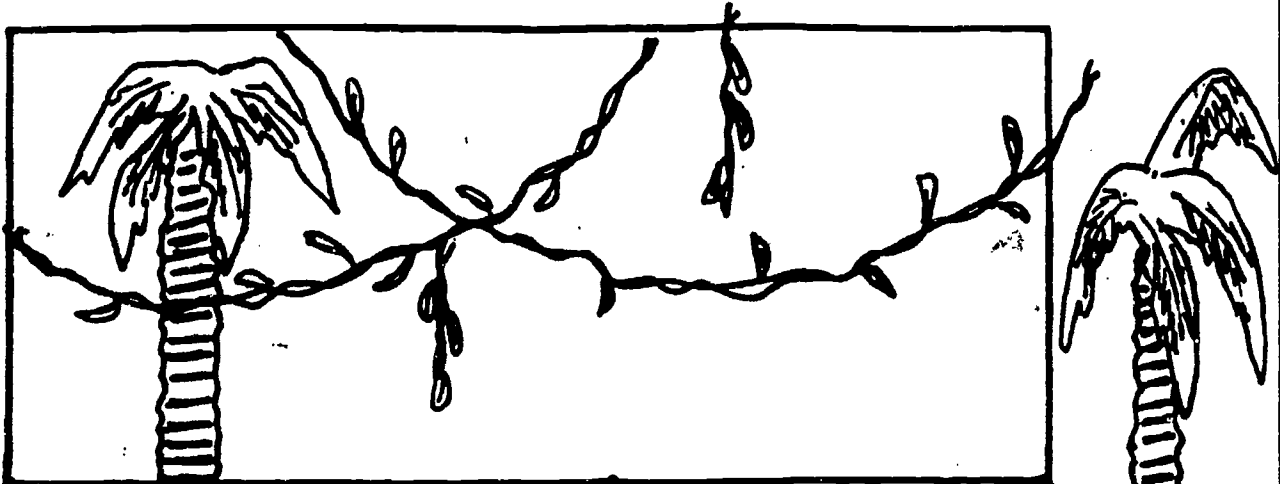


Campground

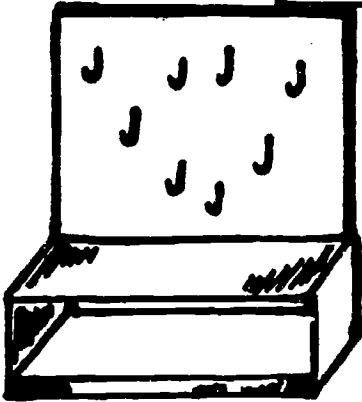
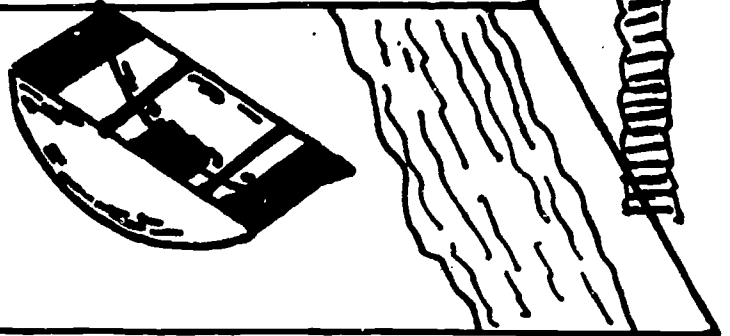
- CAMPGROUND
- Boat
- Lake
- Campfire
- Picnic Table
- Tent/Cabin
- Food
- Cooking Utensils
- Clothes Rack
- Clothes



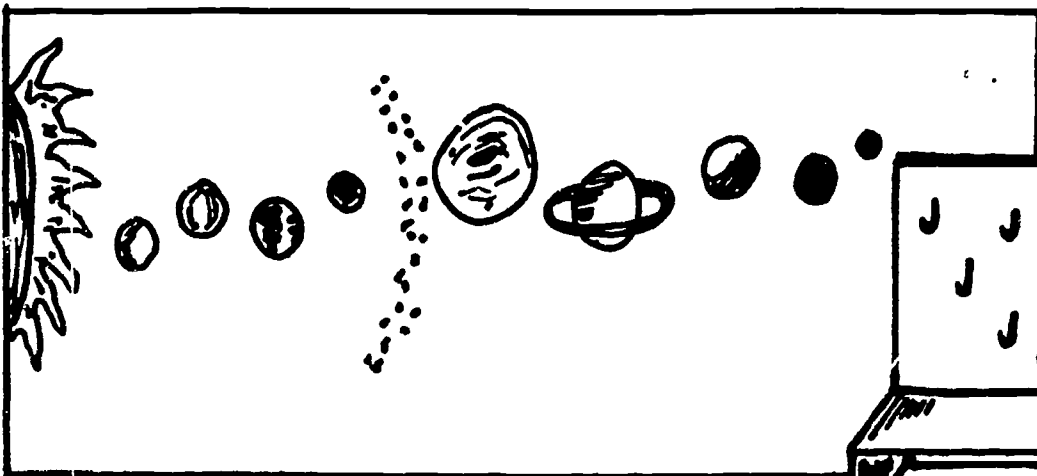
Rain Forest



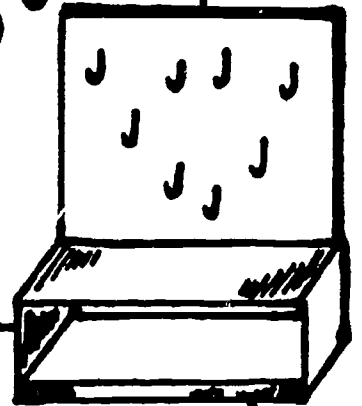
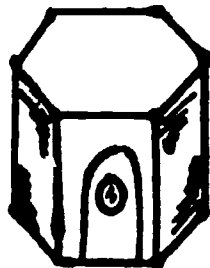
RAIN FOREST
Trees
Vines
River
Boat
Clothes Rack
Clothes
Animals

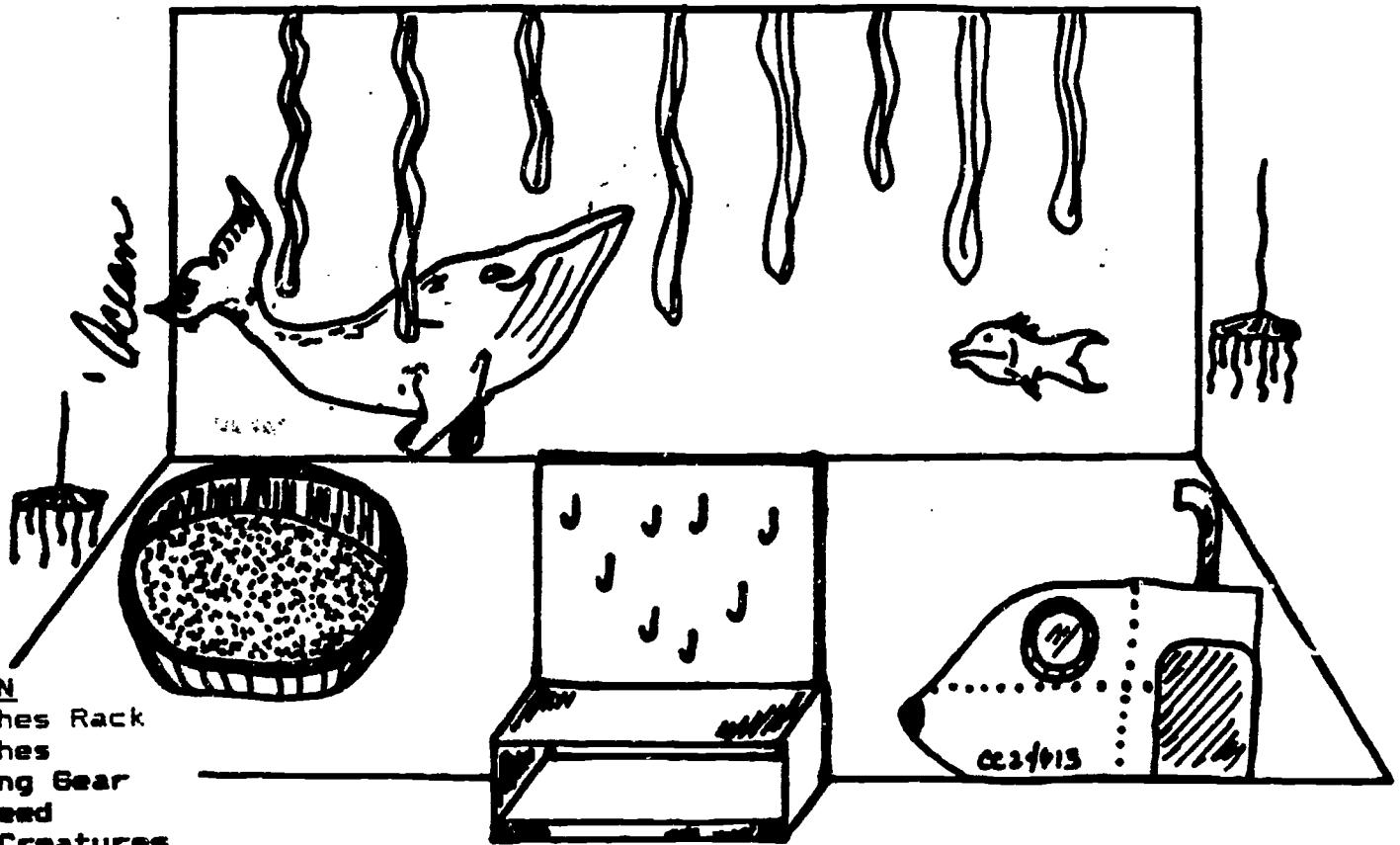


Space

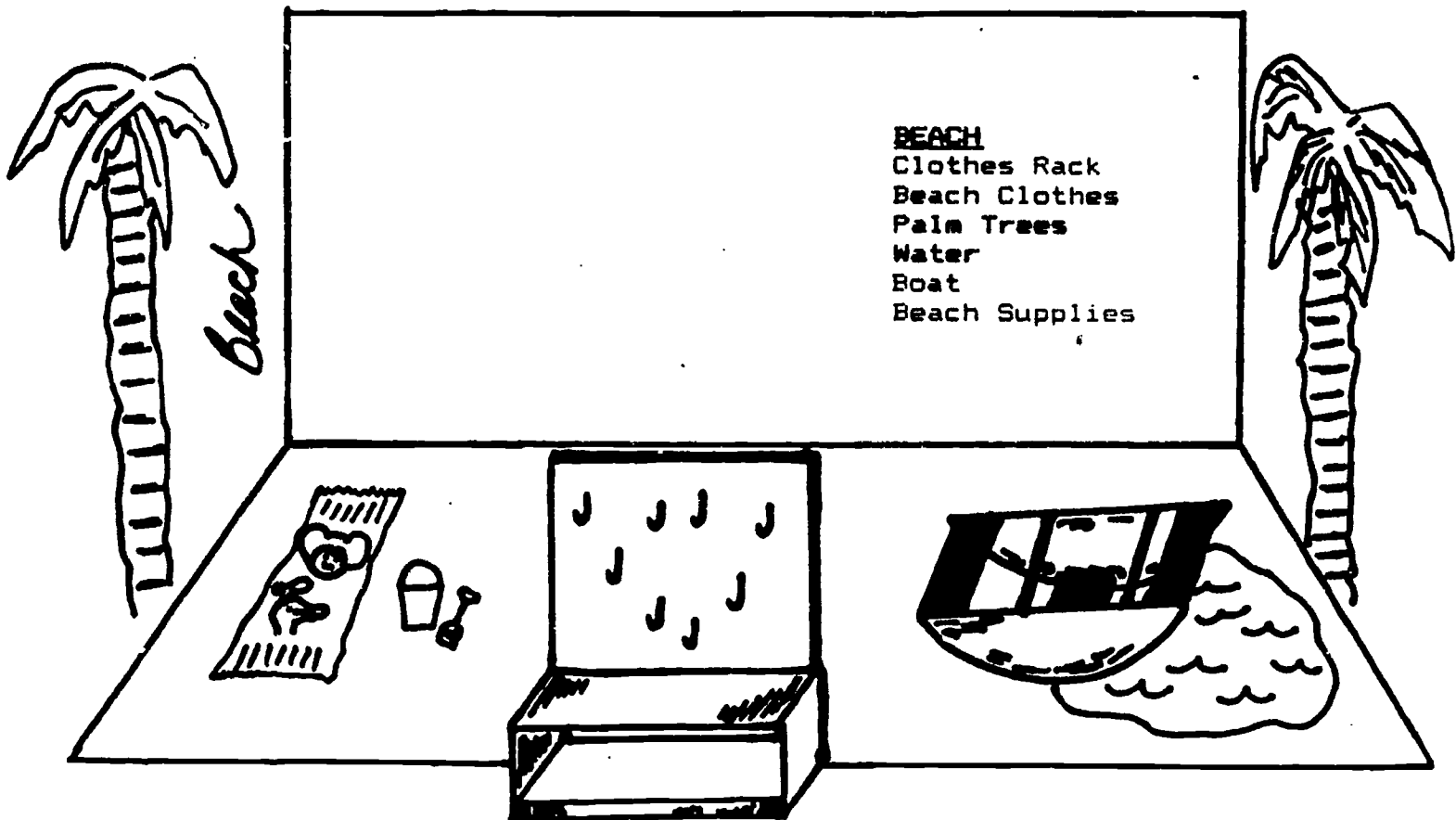


SPACE
Clothes Rack
Clothes
Oxygen Tanks
Planets
Space Ship



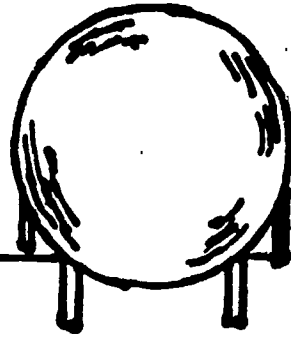
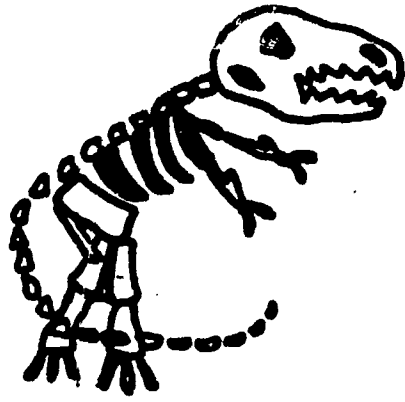


OCEAN
 Clothes Rack
 Clothes
 Diving Gear
 Seaweed
 Sea Creatures
 Submarine
 Sand

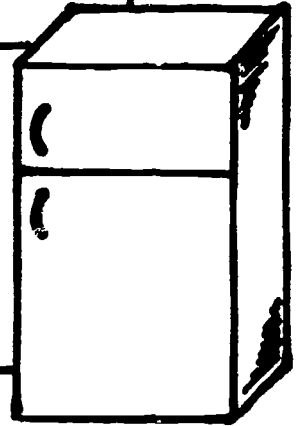
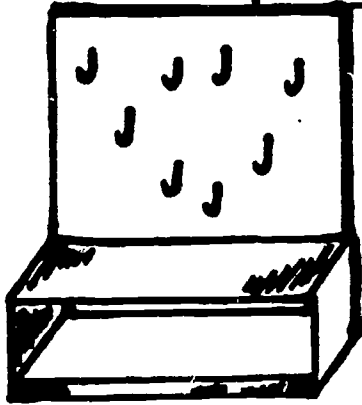


BEACH
 Clothes Rack
 Beach Clothes
 Palm Trees
 Water
 Boat
 Beach Supplies

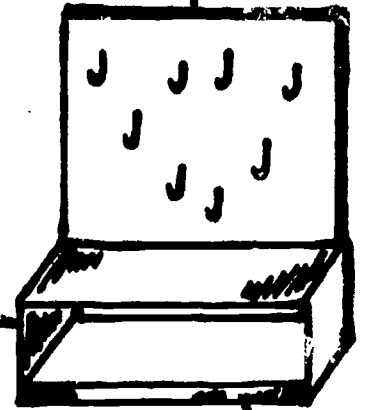
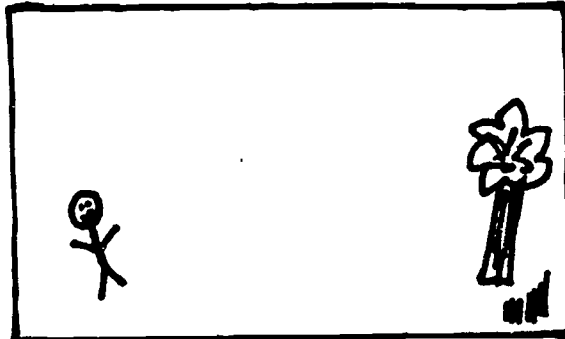
Museum



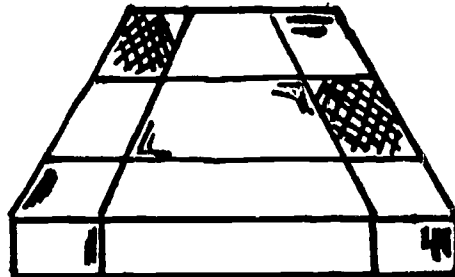
MUSEUM
Clothes Rack
Refrigerator
Table
Office Supplies
Wall Skeleton
Floor Skeleton
Clothes



Theater

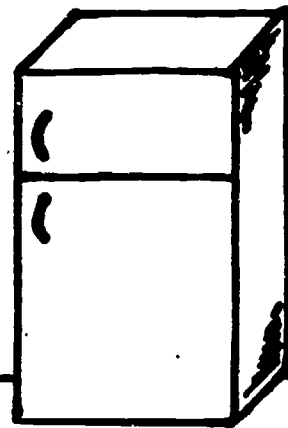
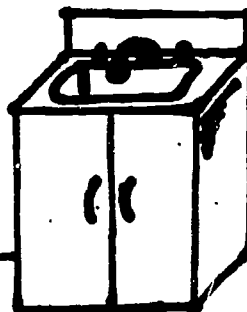
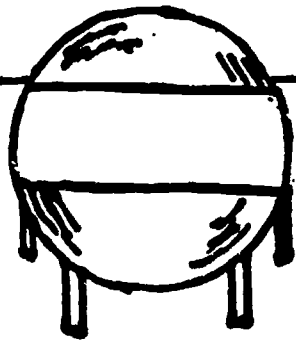
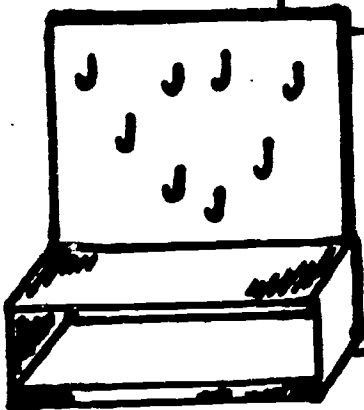


THEATER
Clothes Rack
Clothes
Microphones
Stage
Back Drop
Chairs



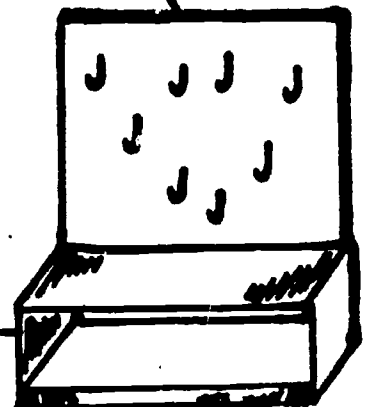
Doctor's Office

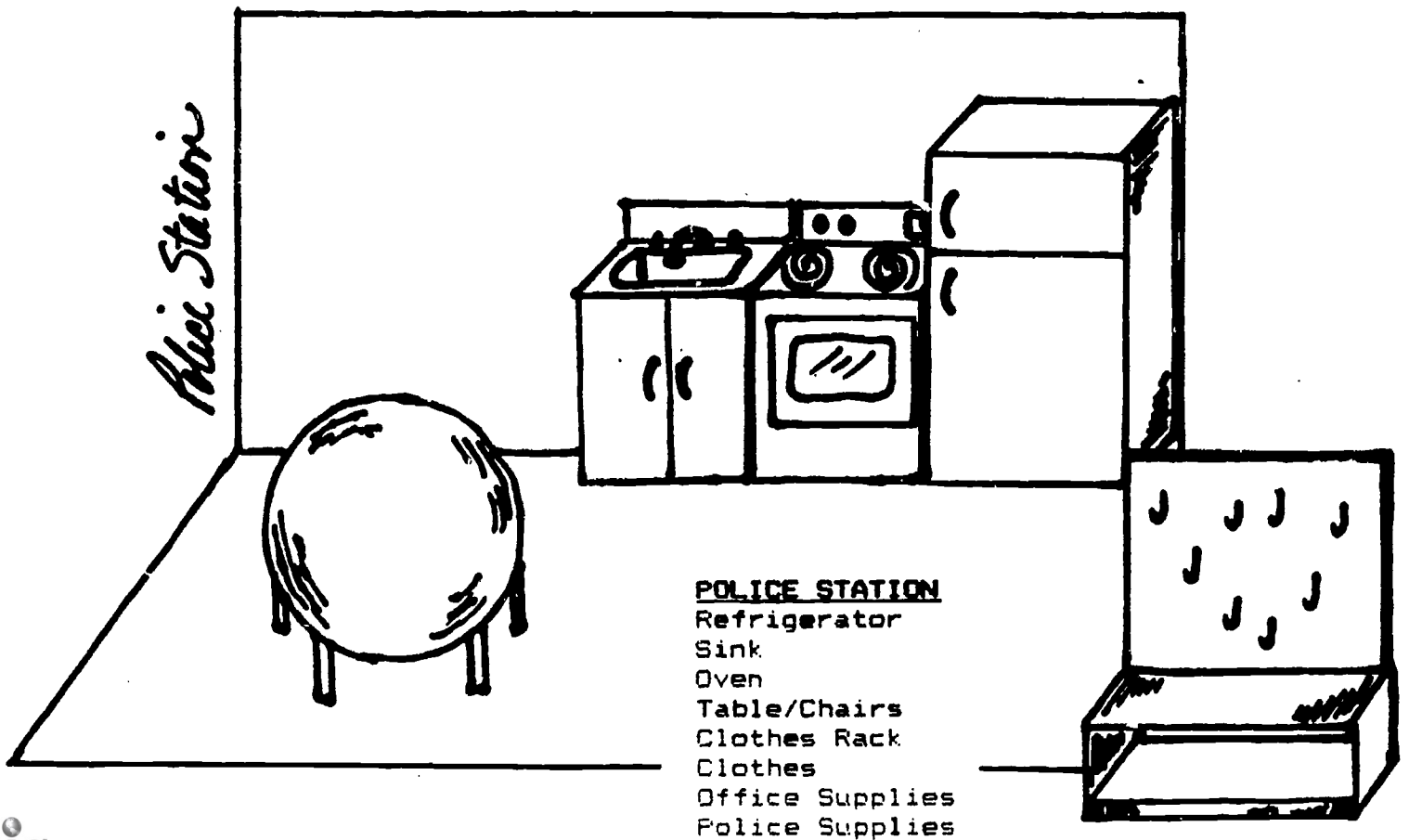
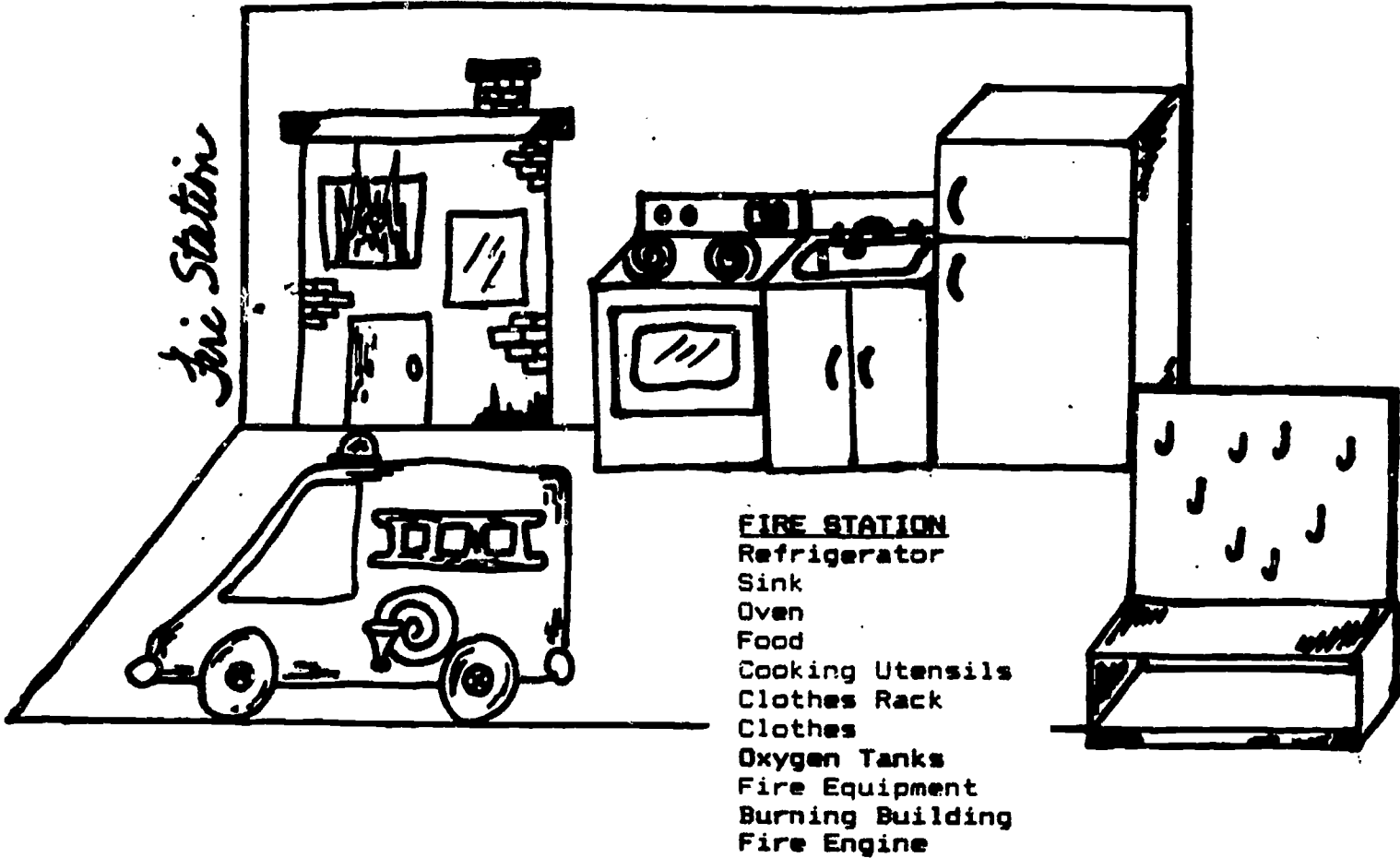
- DOCTOR'S OFFICE
- Clothes Rack
- Refrigerator
- Sink
- Cot/Bed
- Medical Supplies
- Clothes



Court Room

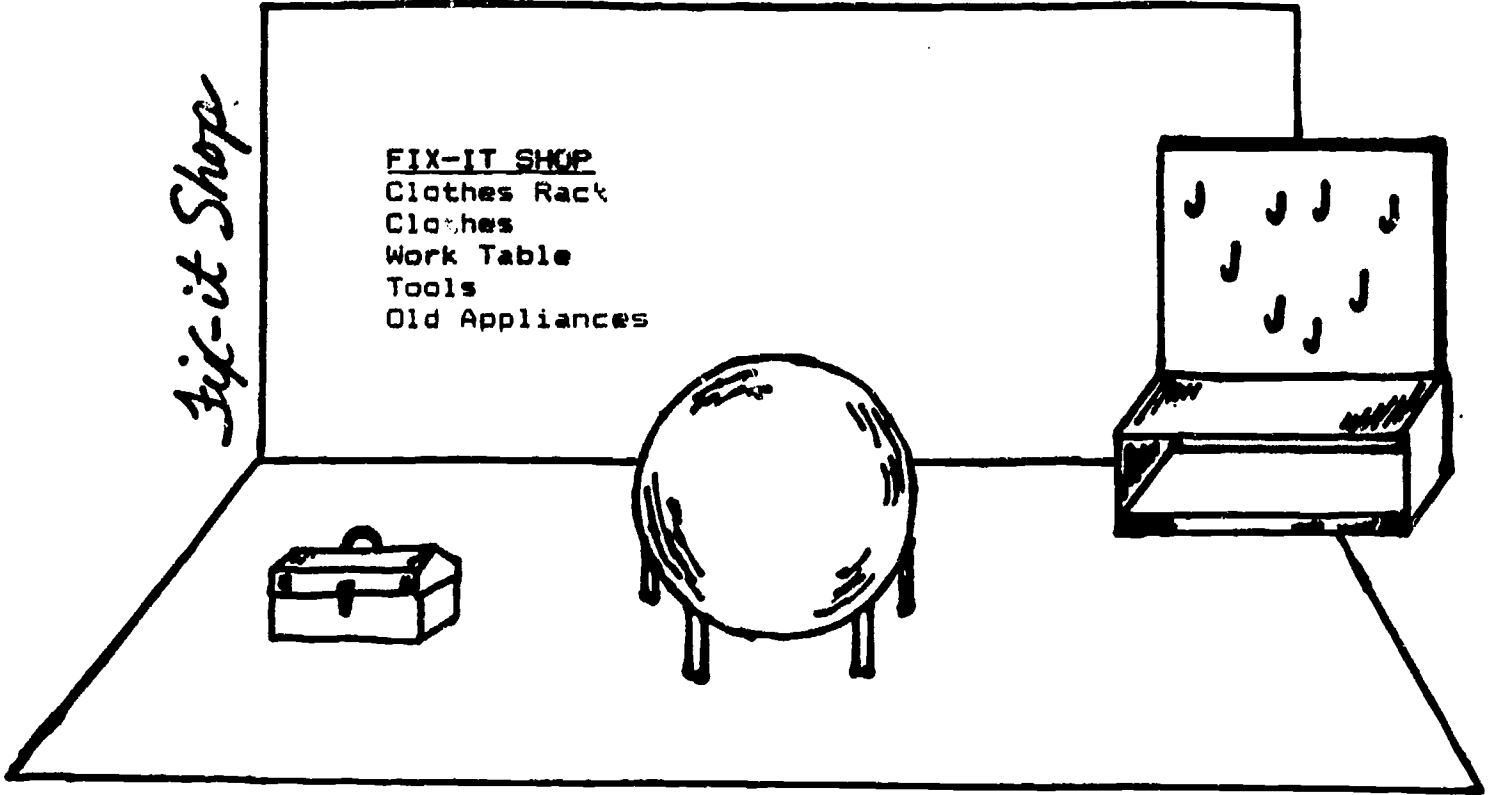
- COURT ROOM
- Clothes Rack
- Table
- Chairs
- Gavel
- Office Supplies
- Clothes





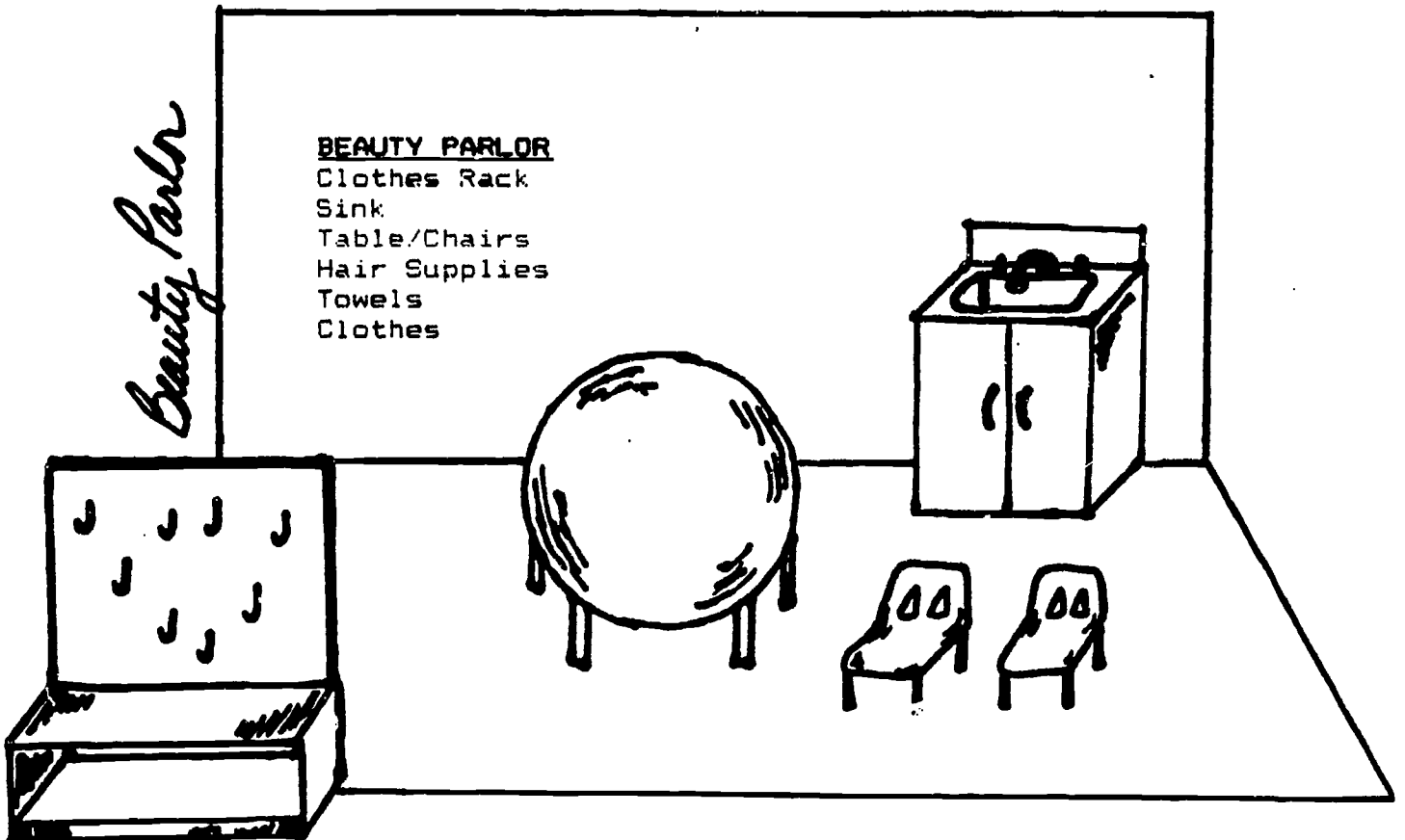
Fix-it Shop

FIX-IT SHOP
Clothes Rack
Clothes
Work Table
Tools
Old Appliances

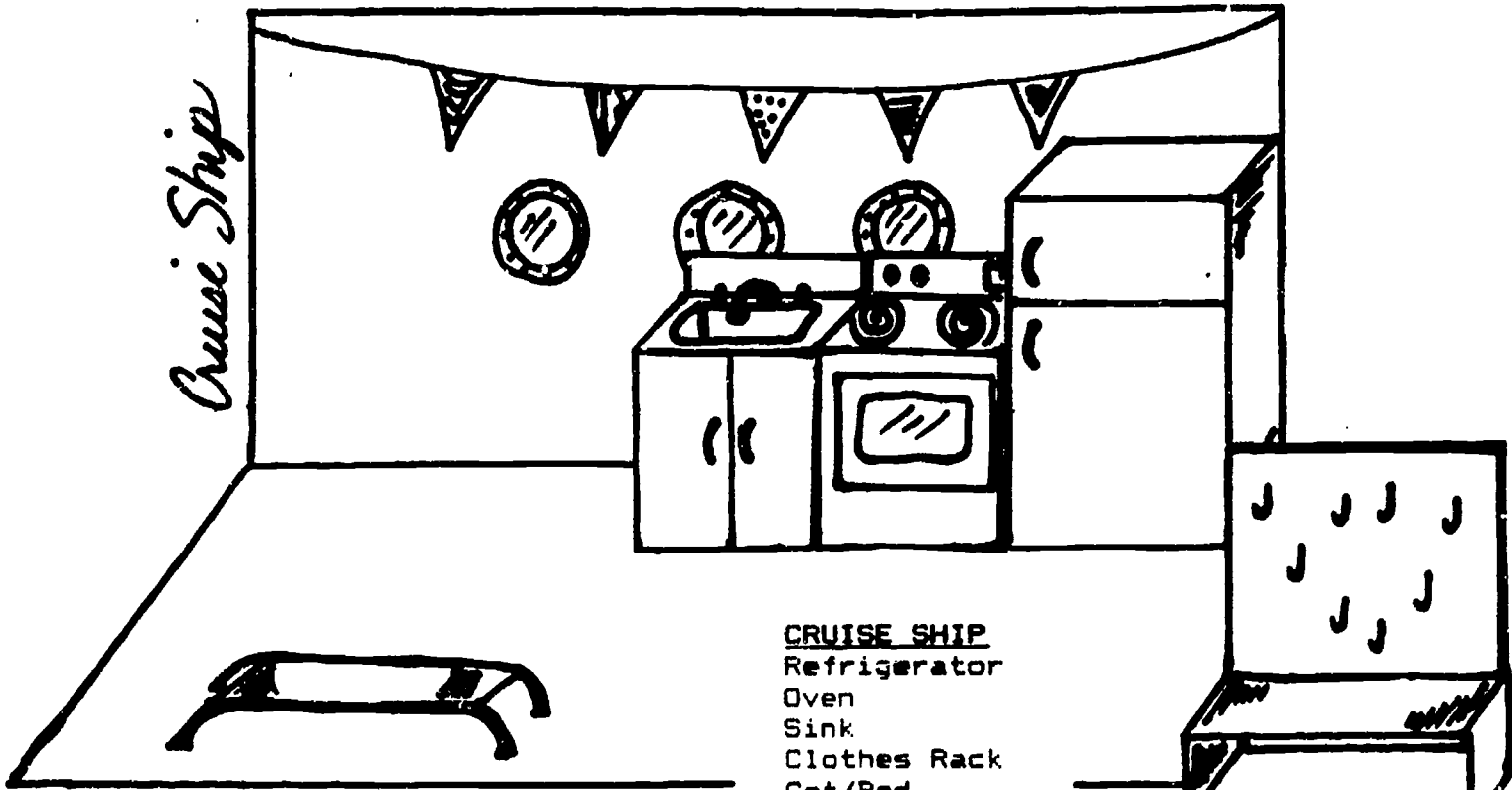


Beauty Parlor

BEAUTY PARLOR
Clothes Rack
Sink
Table/Chairs
Hair Supplies
Towels
Clothes

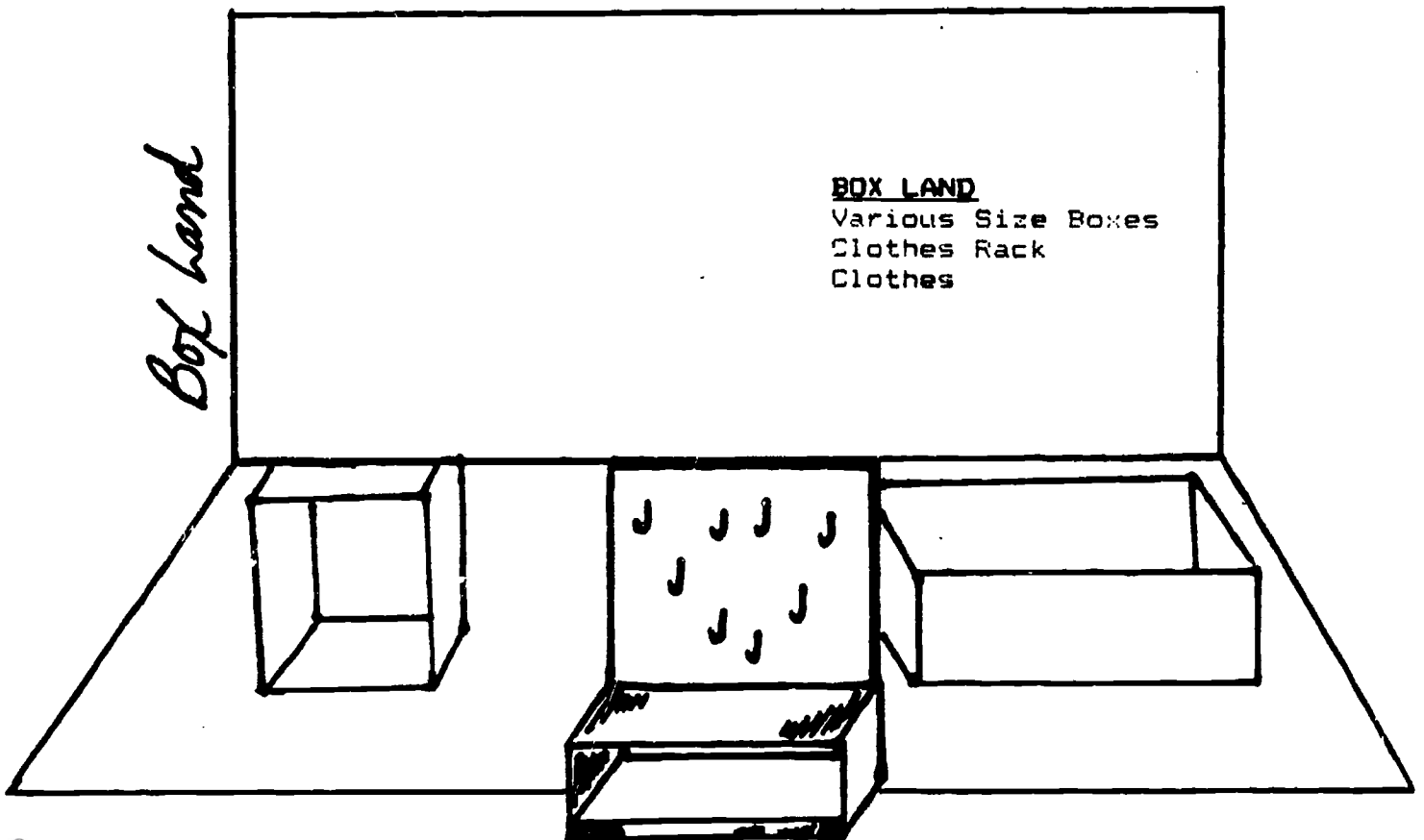


Cruise Ship



- CRUISE SHIP**
- Refrigerator
- Oven
- Sink
- Clothes Rack
- Cot/Bed
- Port Holes
- Festive Flags
- Clothes
- Luggage

Box Land



- BOX LAND**
- Various Size Boxes
- Clothes Rack
- Clothes