

Child Care Experience™

Curriculum Overview

Designed for:

- High school students
- Childcare programs

Length:

The activities in this curriculum will last approximately 8-11 hours. With supplemental materials, this curriculum can be adapted to a longer block of time. You can also pick and choose specific lessons and activities to work into your current lesson plan.

Goal:

The Child Care Experience™ is a set of lessons and activities that teach the foundations of caring for infants in a childcare setting. It is designed for the specific purpose of teaching infant care career skills, emulating that experience as closely as possible.

Synopsis:

This curriculum consists of eight lessons introducing students to infant care as well as working in and opening their own childcare center. Students will learn about the importance of good nutrition in infants, the developmental domains of infants, how to create lesson plans, and more. Soft skills are addressed with slide presentations about parent communication and creating daily schedules. Students will also learn about infant CPR and how to save an infant from choking.

Curriculum Components:

- Teacher's guide – Complete lesson, including detailed steps of activities, time and materials needed, student handouts, and instructor information to teach the lesson
- Student materials
- Assessment tools
- Slide presentations

Learning Objectives:

Lesson One – Infant Feeding & Nutrition

- Understand the importance of feeding infants the appropriate foods to meet their nutritional needs
- Identify the appropriate feeding methods for an infant's physical development
- Understand the opportunities for social and emotional development during infant feeding events
- Plan safe and healthy meals and snacks for infants of different developmental stages

Lesson Two – The Developmental Domains of Infancy (PIES)

- Understand the physical growth and motor development of healthy developing infants
- Understand the intellectual, emotional, and social development of healthy developing infants
- Identify ways to promote growth in each developmental domain

Lesson Three – Lesson & Daily Schedule Planning

- Understand the importance of organization and planning of time in an infant care setting
- Understand and identify appropriate activities to promote learning for infants
- Plan for a safe and healthy environment for infants of different developmental stages

Lesson Four – Communication with Parents

- Understand the importance of communicating with parents about their children in the childcare center
- Understand and identify appropriate forms of effective communication with parents
- Effectively communicate about infants cared for in a childcare center

Lesson Five – Entrepreneurship: Opening a Childcare Center

- Understand the requirements of opening a childcare business
- Understand the planning that is necessary for a successful childcare business
- Understand how the requirements are relevant to both the success of the business and the well-being of the children being cared for

Lesson Six – Introduction to Emergency Infant CPR

- Identify the steps in assessing when emergency medical help is needed in a life-threatening situation
- Demonstrate how to call for emergency medical assistance when needed
- Perform CPR on an unresponsive infant

Lesson Seven – Infant Airway Obstruction Emergency Procedures

- Identify objects that can cause choking in an infant or toddler
- Explain why abdominal thrusts (the Heimlich maneuver) should not be used on an infant
- Explain and demonstrate the proper procedures a caregiver should administer in a choking emergency

Lesson Eight – Child Care Experience™

- Understand and respond to the demands of infants of varying ages
- Master the care of the Child Care Baby during the Child Care Experience™
- Understand the responsibilities and demands of working as an infant care provider, managing the needs of multiple infants simultaneously