Welcome to CUR105

This course provides basic information on a wide range of topics for infant-care providers. While the course is geared toward practitioners who are either new to the child care industry or inexperienced in working with infants, it can also provide valuable information for experienced providers seeking to improve practices or refresh skills. Participants will learn about infant development and typical developmental milestones; essential practices for maintaining a safe, healthy environment; and strategies for promoting optimal growth across all developmental domains.

Course Objectives:

By taking notes on the handout and successfully answering assessment questions, participants will meet the following objectives as a result of taking this course:

- Identify important characteristics of brain development during the infant stage
- Demonstrate an understanding of the principles of child development
- Identify developmental milestones during the infant stage
- Identify roles and responsibilities of the primary caregiver in the infant—care setting
- Identify recommended practices for diapering, feeding, and sleep practices in the infant care setting
- Demonstrate an understanding of safety practices and developmentally appropriate equipment for the infant—care setting
- Identify strategies and recommended practices for maintaining effective two-way communication with families

At one point in this course, participants are expected to reflect and write about topics related to their own learning and teaching experiences in relation to course content.

References:


AAP, APHA (2011) Caring for Our Children, the National Standards for Health and Safety in Out of Home Care.


www.cdc.gov/injury Preventing Shaken Baby Syndrome

www.kidshealth.org Abusive Head Trauma

Use the blank space and other prompts to record important information from each section of the course.

The Infant Curriculum

Key Indicator 1:

Key Indicator 2:

Key Indicator 3:

Key Indicator 4:

Key Indicator 5:

Key Indicator 6:

Key Indicator 7:

What are windows of opportunity?

Windows of Opportunity
Basics of Early Childhood Development

The Four Domains

Principles of Child Development

Physical development

Social/Emotional development

Cognitive Development

Communication or Language Development

Developmental Milestones/Assessments
Birth to 4 months

3 to 7 months

6 to 10 months

9 to 13 months

12 to 19 months

Building the Bond

What are attachment bonds?

Stage 1: Indiscriminate Attachment

Stage 2: Discriminate Attachment
Stage 3: Separation Anxiety

Stage 4: Stranger Anxiety

Primary Caregiving

Guidelines for Respecting Infants

Be Authentic

Caregiver’s Responsibilities

Developmentally Appropriate Activities

Language Development

Healthy Social and Emotional Development
Recommended Practices for Diapering, Feeding, and Naptime

Diapering

Feeding

The Don’ts of Feeding:

The Do’s of Feeding:

Sleeping and Naptime

Sudden Infant Death Syndrome (SIDS)

What is *Sudden Infant Death Syndrome (SIDS)*?

The Safe Sleep Top 10

In addition, the American Academy of Pediatrics recommends the following:
Shaken Baby Syndrome

What is *Shaken Baby Syndrome*

Reporting Suspected Child Abuse

What is a *mandated reporter?*

The Learning Environment

Safety

Basic Indoor Safety and “Childproofing”

A Note about Ambulatory Walkers

Why shouldn’t ambulatory walkers be used in the early childhood environment?

Recommended Toys and Other Equipment
Equipment for Caregiver

The Temporal Environment

Working with (and Separating from) the Family

Try This!

Sometimes books can help children understand saying goodbye. You may want to read stories that address separation such as First Day at Day Care by Ellen Weiss, or Will You Come Back for Me? by Ann Tompert.

It might be helpful to create a Transition Policy so that parents are aware of how and when their child will transition to the next class.

Two-Way Communication

Building two-way communication:

Be curious:

Start conversations with a question:

Use open-ended questions:
Consider answering questions with a question:

Share information about yourself:

Observe families’ preferred styles and modes of communication:

Let parents know you appreciate their input

Involves parents and families:

Additional Communication Recommendations

Parent/teacher conferences:

Parents as Partners in Education