

Early Childhood Classroom Design

Curriculum Overview

Designed for:

- High school students
- Early Childhood programs

Length:

The activities in this curriculum will last approximately 4 hours. With supplemental materials, this curriculum can be adapted to a longer block of time.

Goal:

To help participants explore several different career options for those interested in working with children. Participants will also learn about guidelines established by different early childhood entities as well as the best practices associated with classroom design.

Synopsis:

The Early Childhood profession is made up of many different careers and opportunities to influence the most informative years of a child's life. Most of the careers in this profession utilize a classroom where the developmental needs of the children are attended to. In order to provide the very best care to children of all ages, it is important to understand the deep connection between high-quality care and classroom design. This course will explore several career options as well as look into the factors needed to create a developmentally appropriate classroom environment.

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
- PowerPoint presentation slides

Learning Objectives:

Lesson 1: Career Exploration in Early Childhood/Child Care Occupations

- Assess their knowledge of Early Childhood Education and Child Care
- Identify numerous careers associated with the Early Childhood Education and Child Care professions
- Name an Early Childhood Education or Child Care career that interests them

Lesson 2: Guidelines and Best Practices for Classroom Design

- Identify entities with established guidelines
- Define best practices as they relate to early childhood education
- List best practices in several areas of early childhood, including literacy, health and safety, and play
- Describe the importance of understanding best practices regarding quality early childhood education

Lesson 3: Designing a Child Care Classroom

- Identify essential components to a quality early childhood classroom
- Research Learning Centers as they relate to designing a child care classroom
- Demonstrate their knowledge through the design of an early childhood classroom