

Core Area A: Providing a Safe, Healthy & Purposeful Learning Environment

1. Arranging the Family Home to Support Child Care
2. Creating an Outdoor Learning Environment
3. **Creating Environments to Support Language & Literacy**
4. Developing the Daily Schedule
5. Dimensions of Teaching/Learning Environments
6. Emergency Care and Procedures
7. General Hygiene/Sanitation Practices
8. Health: Curriculum Themes, Projects and Activities
9. Health & Safety Standards: Related Policies
10. Helping Children Develop Health Habits
11. Lead Poisoning
12. Managing Transitions Between Activities
13. Medication Administration
14. Mental Health
15. Navigating HUSKY Health Care
16. Nutrition Practices
17. Principles of Proper Room Arrangement
18. Safety: Curriculum Themes, Projects and Activities
19. No topic
20. **Selecting/Organizing Materials in the Learning Environment**
21. Setting up Environments for Infants/Toddlers
22. Health & Safety Screening Techniques & Important Health Concerns
23. Including Children with Special Needs in Home-Based and Center-Based Child Care
24. Principles of Proper Room Arrangement for Children w/ Special Needs
25. Safety and Health Issues for Children with Special Needs
26. Safe with You I: Recognizing and Reporting Child Abuse
27. Safe with You II: Barriers to Reporting Child Abuse
28. Developing the Daily Schedule for Infants/Toddlers
29. Infant/Toddler Oral Health
30. Reporting Illnesses: Responsibilities & Protocol
31. CDA Competency Goal I: Functional Area #1 Safe
32. CDA Competency Goal I: Functional Area #2 Healthy
33. CDA Competency Goal I: Functional Area #3 Learning Environments

Core Area B: Learning About Child Growth & Development

1. Birth and the Neonate
2. Brain Development: Birth to One
3. Brain Development: One to Three
4. Conception and Prenatal Development
5. Developmental Delays and Disabilities
6. Developmental Domains: Social, Emotional, Physical and Intellectual
7. Developmental Theories/Theorists
8. Factors Influencing Child Development: Heredity, Environment, Family and Culture
9. Growth and Development of the Infant
10. Growth and Development of the Preschooler
11. Growth and Development of the Primary-Age Child
12. Growth and Development of the Toddler/2-yr. Old
13. Intellectual, Social, Emotional & Sexual Dev. of the Preschool Child
14. Intellectual, Social, Emotional & Sexual Development of the Elementary School Child
15. Thinking about Typical and Atypical Dev.
16. The Intellectual, Social, Emotional & Sexual Development of the Infant/Toddler
17. Developmental Behaviors of the Different Ages of Infancy



Core Areas of Knowledge

Core Area D: Advancing Children's Social & Emotional Development

1. No Topic
2. Anti-Bias Approaches/Teaching Strategies
3. Biting: What Can Caregivers Do About It
4. Building an Environment to Foster Children's Trust, Autonomy, Initiative & Self-Esteem
5. Conflict Resolution: Peer Problem-Solving
6. Developing Self-Help Skills
7. **Fostering Dramatic Play to Support Language, Literacy & Writing**
8. Getting in Tune: The Responsive Process
9. Helping Children Cope with Problems of Daily Life
10. Helping Children to Develop Pro-Social Behavior
11. Helping Children Understand Gender & Role Diversity
12. Individualizing Curriculum: Meeting Needs, Strengths & Interests of Each Child
13. **Multicultural Education: Appreciating Diversity**
14. Physical Envir.: How it Supports or Undermines Social/Emotional Dev.
15. Positive Guidance Techniques: Building Self-Control
16. Temperaments of Infants and Toddlers
17. Understanding the Impact of Media Violence on Children
18. **Verbal Environment: Talking to Children in Supportive Ways**
19. Helping Children Cope with Death and Dying
20. Individualizing Curriculum: Meeting the Needs, Strengths & Interests of Children with Special Needs
21. Positive Guidance Techniques for Children w/ Special Needs
22. Behavior Modification and Positive Reinforcement
23. Quiet Activities for Young Children
24. Dev. of Security, Exploration, Identity in Infants/Toddlers
25. Guiding Infants/Toddlers
26. CDA Competency Goal III: Functional Area #8 Self
27. CDA Competency Goal III: Functional Area #9 Social
28. CDA Competency Goal III: Functional Area #10 Guidance

Core Area E: Managing an Effective Program

1. Communication Styles
2. Creating Policies
3. Crisis Management: Preparing for Unplanned Events
4. Curriculum Approaches: Reggio Emilia, Bank St., etc.
5. Effective Communication Strategies with Colleagues
6. Family Child Care as a Business
7. Knowing/Following Your Program's Policies and Procedures
8. Knowing/Networking the Resources in Your Community
9. Laws & Regulations Impacting Child Care Programs
10. Making Referrals: When & How
11. Managing Multiple Age Groups
12. Managing Stress to Avoid Burnout in Child Care
13. Managing Your Family While Home Caring for Others
14. Record Keeping
15. State Licensing for Early Care & Education Programs
16. Supervision: Managing Substitute Teachers, Staff, etc.
17. Time Management
18. Types of Programs
19. Using Families as a Resource
20. Working Cooperatively with Colleagues
21. Knowing/Networking w/Educational, Social Service & Health Resources in Your Community for Children with Special Needs
22. Reflective Practice
23. Whys/How's of Mixed-Aged Grouping for Infants/Toddlers
24. CDA Competency Goal V: Functional Area #12 Program Management Part I: Intro
25. CDA Competency Goal V: Functional Area #12 Program Management Part II: Writing

Core Area C: Advancing Children's Physical & Intellectual Development

1. Adapting Environment to Meet Needs of All Children
2. Art: Materials and Activities
3. **Book Selection & Building Vocabulary**
4. **Building Verbal and Non-Verbal Communication Skills**
5. Cognitive Dev. and Learning: Discoveries of Infancy
6. Creativity
7. Developmental Stages of Play
8. **Interactive Technology**
9. Learning Tools: Cooking Activities, Block Building, etc.
10. Learning Through Play
11. **Math: Integrating Children's Literature in Math**
12. Math: Materials and Activities
13. Multiple Intelligences/Learning Styles
14. Music and Movement: Materials and Activities
15. **Questioning Techniques**
16. Science/Nature: Materials and Activities
17. Sensory Learning Experiences
18. **English Language Learners**
19. **Story Telling**
20. **Helping Children Engage in Print in the Environment**
21. The Supportive Role of Teacher in Active Learning Environ.
22. Toys, Materials and Activities to Build Motor Skills
23. No Topic
24. Adapting Environments to Meet Needs of Children w/Special Needs
25. **Building Early Literacy Skills for Children with Special Needs**
26. **Reading to Children**
27. **Rhymes, Music & Poetry to Foster Sound Awareness**
28. **Supporting Children's Writing**
29. **Talking with Children**
30. Creative Arts to Encourage Sensor/Motor Dev. of Infant/Toddlers
31. CDA Competency Goal II: Functional Area #4 Physical
32. CDA Competency Goal II: Functional Area #5 Cognitive
33. CDA Competency Goal II: Functional Area #6 Communication
34. CDA Competency Goal II: Functional Area #7 Creative

Core Area F: Establishing Productive Relationships with Families

1. Communicating with Families about Their Children
2. Communicating with Families about Your Program
3. Creating a Climate to Encourage Family Involvement: Part I
4. Creating a Climate to Encourage Family Involvement: Part II
5. Creating Family Friendly Environments, Programs & Policies
6. Effective Communication Strategies with Parents
7. No Topic
8. Family Orientation to Your Program
9. Helping Families Cope with Stress, Crisis and Difficulties
10. Helping Parents of Infants/Toddlers Deal with Separation
11. Parenting Styles: Authoritative, Authoritarian, Permissive
12. Parents as Partners: Acknowledging Family as the Primary Teacher of Their Children
13. **Parents as Partners in Building Literacy**
14. Providing Resources and Referrals to Families
15. Respecting/Integrating Cultural and Family Differences
16. Transitions
17. What is a Family?
18. Parents as Partners: Acknowledging the Family as the Primary Teacher of Their Child with Special Needs
19. CDA Competency Goal IV: Functional Area #11 Families Part I: Intro
20. CDA Competency Goal IV: Functional Area #11 Families Part II: Writing

Core Area G: Assessing Children's Learning and Development

1. The Art of Webbing: Content and Activity Webs
2. Assessing Children's Challenging Behaviors: Functional Assessment
3. Assessment Systems: Planning, Barriers, etc.
4. Collecting and Examining Children's Work Samples
5. Communicating Assessment Info. to Families
6. CT's Preschool Curriculum Framework and Benchmarks
7. Current Issues in Child Assessment
8. Curriculum Dev. and Planning
9. Curriculum Dev. and Planning for Infants/Toddlers
10. Developmental Screening
11. ECERS=Early Childhood Environment Rating Scale
12. Exploring Emergent Curriculum
13. Involving Families in Assessment
14. Lesson Plans: Development and Implementation
15. Objective Observation: Definition and Guidelines
16. Observation Tools
17. Observing Children Outdoors
18. Planning, Individualizing and Evaluating Goals and Objectives for Infants/Toddlers
19. Practice Makes Perfect! Interpreting & Using Observation Results (Prerequisite G15)
20. Practice Makes Perfect! Using Observation Tools (Prerequisite G16)
21. Using Assessments Evaluate Programs
22. Using Assessments to Plan and Adapt Curriculum to Individuals
23. Identification, Assessment, Referral & IEP or IFSP Process for Children w/ Special Needs
24. Visual Organizers: Venn Diagrams
25. Observing and Recording Infant and Toddler Behaviors
26. **Assessing Children's Language and Literacy Development**

Core Area H: Advancing Professionalism

1. Accreditation for Licensed Centers and Group Homes
2. Accreditation for Licensed Family Home Day Care
3. Accreditation for School-Age Programs
4. Advocacy on Behalf of Children and Families
5. Becoming a Mentor: Role and Responsibilities
6. No Topic
7. CDA Eligibility Process & Documentation Requirements
8. Completing Documentation Requirements for CDA
9. Developmentally Appropriate Practice: What is it?
10. Early Childhood Profession
11. Financial Aid Programs
12. Historical, Philosophical & Social Foundations of Profession
13. Job Satisfaction: Are you in the right profession?
14. Joining a Professional Organization
15. Laws & Regulations Affecting Children and Families
16. NAEYC Code of Ethics & Statement of Commitment
17. Orientation to Connecticut Charts-A-Course
18. Portfolios and Resume Writing
19. Training Opportunities and Credential Building
20. Utilizing Professional/Community Resources
21. Advocacy on Behalf of Children and Families with Special Needs
22. Preparing the Professional Resume
23. Preparing for Professional Job Interview
24. CDA Competency Goal VI: Functional Area #13 Professionalism Part I:
25. CDA Competency Goal VI: Functional Area #13 Professionalism Part II: Writing
26. CDA Documentation: Resource File
27. CDA Documentation: Autobiographical Statement
28. CDA Documentation: Parent Questionnaire
29. CDA Documentation: Observation Instrument
30. CDA Documentation: Assessment Visit