Welcome to CCEI810

This course will teach child care providers the basic parts and developmental processes in the human brain, as well as teaching practices and strategies that young brains need in order to develop to their full potential.

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 reasons why parents and educators are interested in early childhood brain development
- Define basic parts of the brain, including cerebral cortex, neuron, and synaptic connection
- Identify basic facts about young children’s brains
- Describe the role of consistency, stress, health, and play in early brain development
- Identify potential causes of developmental delays
- Identify strategies to promote healthy brain development

References:


NAEYC. *Developmentally Appropriate Practice in Early Childhood Programs Serving Children Birth Through Age 8*. 2009.


Other Resources


Why Are Educators Interested in Brain Research?

How have scientific advancements increased in the interest in brain research?

Brain Basics

Parts of the Brain

Brain stem:

Cerebellum:

Thalamus:

Frontal lobe:

Parietal lobe:

Occipital lobe:

Temporal lobe:

Neuron:

Neurotransmitters:

Synapses:

Synaptic connection:

Important Facts about a Baby's Brain

What is the period of synaptic exuberance?

What is pruning?
Major Factors in Healthy Brain Development

In what ways are each of the following important for healthy brain development?

Consistency

Why are attachments important?

Stress

How can attachments help relieve stress?

Health

Safety and security

Nutrition and overall health

Play

Important Brain Development Tips

Define each of the following:

Shaken baby syndrome:

Fetal alcohol syndrome:

Lead poisoning:

Explain why each of the following are important and record ideas about what you can do in your classroom:

Safety and Comfort Matter

Multisensory Activities
Have Fun!

Serve and Return

Hands-on Activities

Choices

Sequencing

Scaffolding and Recall

Identifying Weaknesses and Focusing on Strengths

Positive Emotions