Welcome to CUR104

This course is designed specifically for early childhood professionals who work with toddlers, a group that typically includes children between their first and third birthdays. Course participants will learn basic information about appropriate, effective curriculum; recommended guidance and teaching practices; appropriate materials and design elements in the learning environment; and effective strategies for working and communicating with parents.

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:

- Define curriculum
- Define windows of opportunity
- Identify principles of child development and developmental milestones for toddlers
- Identify the purpose of authentic interactions
- Identify strategies for promoting healthy social and emotional development
- Identify appropriate materials, equipment, and guidance techniques for the toddler environment
- Identify strategies for effective communication with parents of toddlers

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:


Curriculum Defined

The National Association for the Education of Young Children (NAEYC) defines curriculum as an organized framework that delineates the following:

NAEYC identifies three key components of a curriculum:

Curriculum Quality Indicators

Quality Indicator #1

Quality Indicator #2

Quality Indicator #3

Quality Indicator #4

Quality Indicator #5

Quality Indicator #6

Quality Indicator #7

Toddler Brain Development

Windows of Opportunity

Define windows of opportunity:
What is plasticity?

Developmental Domains

Physical Development

Social/Emotional Development

Cognitive Development

Communication and Language Development

Developmental Milestones/Assessments

Developmental Milestones: 12–18 Months

Developmental Milestones: 18–24 Months

Developmental Milestones: 24–36 Months
What is the purpose of a *developmental milestones checklist* and how does it work?

**The Caregiver’s Role**

**Caregiver’s Responsibilities**

**Guiding Children’s Behavior**

What are *tantrums* and what can you do to prevent them?

*When working with toddlers, it is important to remember the role of ______________ and ______________ in children’s behavior.*

**Biting**

**Investigative/Exploratory:**

**Action/Reaction:**
Purposeful:

Environmental reasons:

Personal Interactions:

Program:

Parents and Biting

The Environment

Equipment

The Temporal Environment

Safety

Working with the Toddler’s Family

The Separation Factor
What is *separation anxiety*?

**Tips for Parents**

**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, Personally and Publicly**

**Involve Parents and Families**

**Set Up a Communication Area in Your Classroom**