



Early Childhood Education Competency Profile

SAFETY

- Ensures that all materials and toys provided for children are safe
- Supervises children in a developmentally appropriate manner
- Plans and organizes Emergency Procedures

HEALTH

- Practices general hygiene that is consistently implemented to cut down the spread of infectious disease
- Encourages children to maintain healthy habits
- Prepares snacks that meet the developmental needs of children
- Maintains an environment that is pleasant, appropriate, and conducive to growth and development

LEARNING ENVIRONMENT

- Arranges space to meet the developmental needs of children during routines and play
- Uses a variety of developmentally appropriate materials
- Organizes a variety of play areas
- Maintains a schedule that meets the children's needs for routine and play

PHYSICAL DEVELOPMENT

- Provides a variety of activities that enable children to develop their large muscles
- Provides a variety of activities that enable children to develop their small muscles
- Adapts program activities to meet individual needs and special needs of children with disabilities
- Provides activities and opportunities to help children develop their senses

COGNITIVE DEVELOPMENT

- Uses a variety of age-appropriate materials and activities that encourage curiosity, exploration and problem-solving
- Interacts with the children to provide support for play, exploration and learning
- Recognizes individual learning styles

COMMUNICATION

- Communicates frequently with each child
- Talks with children in a developmentally appropriate manner
- Provides opportunities for children to understand, acquire, and use verbal and non-verbal means of communicating thoughts and feelings
- Encourages the children to talk
- Responds positively to children's communication attempts
- Can establish a developmentally-appropriate, print-rich environment, in which children learn about books, literature, and writing

CREATIVITY

- Appreciates individual expression and creativity
- Provides/presents appropriate music experiences to children
- Presents/encourages opportunities that stimulate children to play with sound, rhythm, and musical instruments
- Provides age appropriate and varied art experiences

DEVELOPMENT OF SELF

- Provides emotional security for each child
- Helps each child feel important, respected and valued
- Helps children develop a sense of independence
- Helps each child to know, accept, and take pride in himself or herself

SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT

- Helps each child feel accepted in the group
- Encourages feelings of empathy and respect for others
- Uses a non-biased curriculum
- Encourages children to respect their environment

GUIDANCE

- Implements methods for avoiding problems
- Uses positive guidance techniques
- Relates guidance practices to the knowledge of each child's personality and developmental level
- Provides a supportive environment in which children can learn and practice acceptable behaviors as an individual and as a group

FAMILIES

- Appreciates children's families
- Encourages family involvement in the program
- Helps parents understand the development of their child and to understand their child's point of view
- Provides resources to help families meet the needs of their child
- Maintains an open, friendly and cooperative relationship with each child's family

PROFESSIONALISM

- Makes decisions based on knowledge of early childhood education theories and practices
- Promotes the quality of child care services
- Takes advantage of opportunities to improve competence for personal and professional growth
- Keeps abreast of current regulatory legislation and workforce issues and how they effect the welfare of young children
- Is a co-operative co-worker
- Maintains a commitment to the child care profession