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Special
Edition

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Learning Guide –
Orientation to
Early Childhood
Education NB

Gaining a Better Understanding of NB Curriculum Implementation

on location



Child Care Pics >>>

Children engage in **cooperative play** when they play together, take turns being the leader, share roles and exchange rules (e.g., “I’ll be the mommy and you be the dog.”).



Understanding Play

Play is described as Child Directed

Child directed play is play that the child decides and chooses what to do, what materials to use, and how long to be involved in an activity.

A variety of materials is required to support learning through play. Quality childcare centers will have an abundance of materials accessible to their children to allow them limitless opportunities for quality play.

- Items such as props and materials for imaginary play based on the children’s interests and curiosities. This includes equipment that can be repurposed to represent different settings such as a home, post office, store, doctor’s office, or an animal hospital.
- A large variety of blocks in a different shapes and sizes, boxes and loose parts such as boards, plastic tubing, cars, trucks, signs, hats, miniature animals, and people figures should be accessible to the children daily.
- Open ended creative materials including paints and paint accessories, play dough and accessories, collage material, all kinds of paper, scissors, glue, marker, crayons, and pencils are a must!
- Bringing the outdoors indoors with sand play, water play, and snow play allows the children the opportunity to explore and investigate texture, flow, and touch.
- Manipulatives such as puzzles, pegs, lacing cards, stringing beads, matching and sorting activities, and music materials are all part of a quality environment that supports play-based learning.

OUTDOOR PLAY AREAS should provide opportunities for both active and quiet play by providing benches, gardens, trees, shelters, and toys.

Educators must have an understanding of the important relationship between play experiences and children's well-being, early learning and development.

Quality care is provided by Educators who:



- Are positive, nurturing, and compassionate and respond to the individual interests, strengths and needs of all children.
- Value and view children as competent and capable and active participants in their own learning.
- Foster positive relationships with children's families and communities.
- Reflect upon their practices and interact and pursue professional learning opportunities as they continually strive to enhance and enrich the quality of experiences they provide for children.



Educators must plan play experiences that are meaningful and connected to the children's world.



Rylee's Smile

Rylee is a grade 2 student who has a delightful imagination, and she loves to play and participate in all activities!

Be sure to take the time to check out the pictures of your kids on the bulletin boards, our Facebook pages, or scattered through-out the room©

Providing quality childcare >>>

The Role of the Environment in Quality Care

As preschool children play, they explore, imagine, build, interact with others, make choices, dance, jump, climb, sing, play games, organize, share and play with language and numbers. Preschooler imaginary play is often prompted by stories or real-life situations.

Quality childcare is supported through environments that:

- Are clean, safe, well organized and aesthetically pleasing.
- Are welcoming, comfortable and accessible for all children and families.
- Include spaces that support both large and small groups of children and active and quiet activities.
- Provide for choice, child directed play experiences and opportunities for all children
- Support and encourage relationships among children, families and educators.



NB Designated Child Care Center – That’s US!

ECERS-R which stands for Early Childhood Environment Rating Scale Revised is designed for preschool childcare classrooms serving children 2 1/2 through 5 years of age as a program quality assessment tool.



We are excited to announce the score we received from our latest ECERS evaluation!

At CURIOUS KIDS we want to be a HIGH-QUALITY center providing our families with the best possible service!

There will always be areas we can improve in, and we will continue to work on making all aspects of our services the highest level possible.

As parents you can help us by being involved and providing feedback. We would like to invite our parents to come and share your work, or hobby with our children. Please let us know if this is something you would consider. YOU are such an amazing resource, and a small amount of your time could make a big difference in the lives of



Parents are ALWAYS Welcome

We have an open-door policy and parents are always welcome to drop in at CURIOUS KIDS to hang out and make some memories with their special little people.

STAFF Highlight

Sarah-Anne Cook

Early Childhood Educator

Sarah-Anne has been with us since we opened guiding and playing with our preschool children. Sarah-Anne is a mother of three children who all attend the Townsview School. She is a calm, caring, and loving staff who always has the needs of the children in mind and her gentle approach to dealing with each child's needs as they arise is simply wonderful and appreciated by all. We value Sarah-Anne as a CURIOUS KIDS educator.

STAFF Highlight

Tanya Patterson

Early Childhood Educator

Tanya loves working and playing with our preschool children. Tanya is very nurturing and caring with the children and they love to have her come a couple times each week to play with them. Tanya is a mom of two university twins and comes to us with many years of experience guiding children and providing them with healthy boundaries for making the right choices. Tanya always tells us that she loves working at CURIOUS KIDS and we love having her with us too!

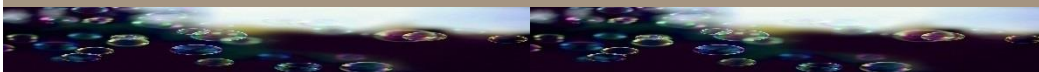
ask the experts >>>

Q: Why Licensed Child Care?

A: LICENSED CHILD CARE IS REGULATED

The Early Childhood Services Act and the Licensing Regulation:

- Exist to ensure the safety, well-being and healthy development of all young children receiving licensed early learning and childcare services.
- Prescribe the requirements that operators must follow when operating an early learning and childcare facility.



The **DEVELOPING** CHILD

It is important to keep in mind that every child is unique and grows and develops at their own rate and that the following age ranges are approximations.



Self-esteem refers to the feelings and confidence that children have about themselves. These feelings can be positive or negative. Children develop positive self-esteem when they experience trusting and caring relationships with important people in their lives such as family members and educators.

Preschool Age
(Approximately 2.5-3.5)

Gross Motor Skills Capabilities

- Climbs on play equipment
- Kicks a ball
- Stands on one foot briefly
- Throws a small ball
- Stands up from a crouched position

Preschool Age
(Approximately 2.5-3.5)

Fine Motor Skills Capabilities

- Cuts with child size scissors
- Paints with large paint brush on large paper
- Washes own hands and face
- Uses glue, play dough and markers to create collages, sculptures and mark making
- Feeds oneself using spoon and fork

How can you foster children's physical development?

- Observe and respond to children's individual emerging skills.
- Model a positive attitude and sense of wonder about the outdoors.
- Be an active role model.
- Ask open-ended questions to encourage exploration, movement and discovery, for example, "I wonder how we could get to the other side of this puddle?"

Children's social and emotional development is closely linked to self-esteem.



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