

Strand 1 Notes

Learning Targets:

1. I can identify and demonstrate positive and required employment characteristics.
2. I can identify the requirements for and advantages of obtaining the Child Development Associate (CDA) credential.

Employment Characteristics

- Must be at least 21 years of age
- One of the following
 - associates, bachelors, or graduate degree from an accredited college with 12 semester credit hours of early childhood development courses
 - current, valid national certification such as a Child Development Associate credential (CDA)
 - or other credential deemed equivalent by the Child Care Licensing department

Caregivers (Lead Teacher)

- Must be at least 18 years of age
- Be able to independently care for children

Assistant Caregivers (Support Teacher)

- Must be at least 16 years of age
- Must work under the immediate supervision of a caregiver who is at least 18 years of age

*May be included in caregiver to child ratios, but shall not be left unsupervised with children

Director/Teacher Training & Characteristics of a Quality Caregiver

- Each caregiver needs **_20_** hours of annual child care training; 10 of which must be face-to-face instruction
- All new hires (including directors) must complete **_2.5_** hours of orientation training before they start working with children
- **_____background_____** screenings
- Infant/Child (Pediatric) First-aid and **___CPR___** certification are required
- Anyone handling **_____food_____** must have a food handlers permit

List 3 characteristics:

1. **Acts purposeful with a goal in mind and a plan to accomplish it.**
2. **Desires to support and scaffold the child's learning.**
3. **Follows best teaching practices and reflects on the experience.**

Components of a Resume

- Shows **strengths** and **abilities** about the job you are applying for
- Typed, **1** page, 8 ½” x 11” paper and professional in appearance
- Components
 - Include- contact information, work experience, Skills and **education**
 - Don't include- ethnic background, personal photo, fancy fonts and **religion**, etc.
- See “Purdue Online Writing Lab” for resume examples

What is Scaffolding?

“Providing just enough assistance to enable each child to perform at a skill level just beyond what the child can do on his or her own, then gradually reducing the support as the child begins to master the skill, and setting the stage for the next challenge” (Developmentally Appropriate Practice, Carol Copple)



How to Scaffold

1. Recognize all children are at different levels.
2. Help each child building on what they already know:
 - a. Giving the child a hint.
 - b. Adding a cue
 - c. Modeling a skill
 - d. Adapting materials/ activities.



Examples:

1. Cutting shapes out of folded paper to make a snowflake.
2. Writing their names on a piece of paper.
3. Counting out loud to the number 10.

REVIEW!

How old do you have to be to be a director of a preschool?

Caregiver/Lead Teacher?

Assistant Caregiver?

How many hours of annual training does a caregiver need?

What should a resume include?

What should it not include?

Standard 2:

Identify the requirements for and advantages of obtaining the Child Development Associate (CDA) credential.

CDA

1. Requirements for obtaining the Child Development Associate Credential (CDA)
 - a. **120** hours of professional **education** in early childhood development- use a tracking worksheet to document your hours of mother and baby.
 - i. hours obtained while enrolled in the ECE pathway may be recorded but need to be verified by your **teacher**.
 - b. **480** hours of **work experience** - use a tracking worksheet to document your hours of experience
 - i. work experience must be with a group (**five** or more) children, ages birth to **five**, in a center-based program
 - ii. hours obtained while enrolled in the ECE pathway may be recorded but need to be verified by your teacher

CDA

- a. CDA professional **portfolio**
 - b. CDA observation with a Professional Development specialist (PD specialist)
 - c. CDA **exam**
2. Advantages for obtaining the CDA
- a. Advance your **career**
 - b. Meet job **requirements**
 - c. Higher **wage** opportunities may be available
 - d. Reinforce commitment to early childhood education
 - e. Understand **developmentally appropriate practice**
 - f. Gives you credibility and confidence

Clear Instruction

- Avoid phrasing your instruction as a question.
 - Example: Can you clean that up please?
 - Would you like to put on your coat?
- Instead, nicely use direct statements.
 - We are going outside now. Put on your coat, or I'll help you.
 - Clean up your toys so we can go outside for recess.
- Using this technique will avoid frustration and confusion for the children.
 - **Practice this coming week and we are going to talk about how it went for the next few class periods!**
 - Be patient with yourself, and if you phrase an instruction like a question you can always rephrase it by saying, “Let me say that a different way, please go pick up your toys right now.”