

Maryland State Department of Education
 Division of Early Childhood Development
 Office of Child Care - Credentialing Branch

COURSE TITLE: Child Growth and Development

Updated June 3, 2009

This course includes the major concepts, principles, theories, and research related to development of children, infants through age eight that enable early educators to construct learning opportunities that support individual students' development, acquisition of knowledge, and motivation. Instruction will include the use of library, computer, and written expression.

Outcomes	Indicators	Assessment Types	Sample Assessment Tasks
<p>1. The early educator will know and understand the stages of social, physical, emotional, motor, cognitive, and language development from infancy through age eight.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Identify indicators or development through observation • Recognize typical and atypical developmental levels in children based on observing children's behavior and recognizing importance of this issue in curriculum and instructional materials. • Identify how nutrition and health practices affect prenatal and child development • Know the major historical and current developmental theories 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Restricted response • Extended response • Case study 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Complete a case study of a child • Written explanation or individual presentation of Piaget's stages of development • Written explanation or oral presentation of Erickson's stages of development • Written explanation or individual presentation of child development as it relates to curriculum and materials • Written explanation or individual presentation of infant/brain research • Compare and contrast major developmental theories
<p>2. The early educator will know the major and current approaches to theories of child development and learning.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Identify and explain the major components of the major and current approaches to development and learning • Identify major research and assessment techniques for evaluating children's development • Reflect and explain how early educators can motivate children in based on developmental theory 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Extended response question • Case study • Observation • Written journal • Oral presentation • Case study/simulation 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Observe and describe a sample motivational activity • Compare and contrast the behavioristic, constructivistic, humanistic, interactionist, and maturistic approaches to learning.

Outcomes	Indicators	Assessment Types	Sample Assessment Tasks
3. The early educator will identify the approaches to learning	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Understand how learning occurs in children and adults and the role of play in learning. • Recognize behaviors that enhance and impede learning • Recognize behaviors that indicate that learning has occurred 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Fieldwork • Guided observation • Journals • Research paper 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Describe how a discovery learning task appropriate for infants and toddlers differs from a task appropriate for young children • Written assignment on the role of play in learning • Written explanation or individual presentation on how learning occurs in children and adults
4. The early educator will understand how culture and diversity influence growth and development	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Define and explain culture and diversity • Understand how culture and diversity influence growth and development 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Extended response questions 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Analysis of a case study in which cultural and diversity factors are involved
5. The early educator will understand how culture and diversity impact learning and school readiness	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Understand the impact of culture and diversity in relation to school readiness • Understand the impact of culture and diversity in relation to schooling, student performance and success 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Participate in a cultural sensitivity exercise 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Given an exercise or simulation, identify culturally sensitive behaviors and explain
6. The early educator will understand the important role of family and community in development and the variety of ways individuals can organize to fulfill these roles	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Understand the role of family in society • Identify how individuals fulfill family roles • Identify signs of abuse and neglect as well as resources for families and professionals 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Scenario 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Written description of how the family environment influences the child in early childhood settings