

GUEST PARENT(S) AND BABY(S)

Note to the Teacher: For practical, hands-on experience, the following exercise can be used. You may choose to invite several mothers or fathers and their babies to come to class (or you may use dolls to complete this exercise). A combination of real babies and dolls works well so that students who are uncomfortable with the babies or who have a slight cold can participate. Send a copy of your lecture notes and a copy of the handout to make certain that it meets with their approval.

This exercise can also be given as a take-home assignment; however, it is much more effective if you do it in a classroom setting. Review the safety and sanitary tips from your lecture, stressing their importance. Have students wash their hands carefully.

Give students the handout "Handling A Baby, It's Your Turn" and briefly review it with them. Remind parents that if they feel uncomfortable with anything they see going on they are free to interrupt at any time. Any advice they might want to share would be most welcome.

Introduce each parent. Have them introduce their babies and give an example of one thing they do that seems to soothe their babies.

