
UNIT: Child Care Lab

LESSON: Child Care Lab Introduction

COMPETENCIES:

1. Students will explain the purpose of a preschool. (Option 1)
 2. Students will identify responsibilities of a lead teacher and a support teacher. (Option 2)
 3. Students will list behaviors that are helpful when working with children. (Options 3 and 4)
 4. Students will observe children in a child care setting and evaluate the activities in which they participate. (Options 5 and 6)
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OVERVIEW/SUMMARY:

There are many components involved in running a preschool laboratory. A preschool is not the same as babysitting. Much preparation and work must be completed before children are allowed to come to the preschool.

MOTIVATOR:

Have the students go on a treasure hunt to locate the basic items that will be used in the preschool (use the worksheet "Treasure Hunt").

LESSON OPTIONS/SUPPLIES:

OPTION 1--Competency 1

PURPOSE OF THE PRESCHOOL: Review the information given in the teacher information "Purpose of the Preschool." Have the class members brainstorm general goals that a preschool program might establish. Share the written goals of the preschool program at your school with the students.

OPTION 2--Competency 2--CDA V, 12

TEACHER ROLES AND RESPONSIBILITIES: Review the basic responsibilities of the lead and support teacher (see teacher information). Have students complete the chart "Teacher Roles" as you are teaching this information.

OPTION 3--Competency 3--CDA VI, 13

HELPFUL HINTS: Give each student a copy of the "Helpful Hints for Working With Children" and review the ideas that make working with children more productive.

OPTION 4--Competency 3--CDA VI, 13

PRESCHOOL GUIDELINES: Review the "Preschool Guidelines" to be followed in the preschool.

OPTION 5--Competency 4--CDA VII, Observation

OBSERVATIONS: Have students complete the observation packet that explains the purpose and steps involved in observing children. Relate back to the lesson on the theorists and explain that they made their findings by observing children in much the same way as class members will make observations.

OPTION 6--Competency 4--CDA VI, 13

EVALUATION: Have the students evaluate various activities classroom, using the form, "Preschool Evaluation." Discuss the evaluations as a class.