**Quest for Toys**

 **A WebQuest for Middle School Child Development**

**Introduction**

You have been selected to be part of a three-member team who will be choosing a number of toys that will be distributed to children in your community. As a Child Development student, you will be asked to share your knowledge of what specifically makes a certain toy appropriate and safe for a particular age-group of children. The toys purchased should be appealing, safe, and developmentally-appropriate.

**The Task**

Through this WebQuest activity you will acquire knowledge about Child Development and integrate that new knowledge to recommend age-appropriate toys and activities which will enhance (P.I.E.S.) physical, intellectual, emotional, and social growth for each particular stage of development. You will discover ways to identify stages of development and how to meet the needs of children at each stage.

You will research physical, intellectual, emotional, and social development for each of the age groups.

You will research what makes a toy safe or unsafe.

You will begin this process by joining a team of classmates to cooperatively conduct research. The specific age groups you will be working with are:

Newborns (0-3 months)

Infants (4-6 months)

Infants (7-12 months)

Toddlers (1-2 years)

Toddler (2-3 years)

Preschool (3-4 years)

Preschool (4-5 years)

Since there are no exact ages for each stage of development, some of these areas of study will overlap a bit. That is okay!

Although you are on a team for this WebQuest, you will have individual roles to play. You will each need to decide on one of the following roles:

*Philly Physical* – You are concerned with the physical abilities of the child and how to develop those abilities. It is your job to find out what the child is physically capable of doing at each stage and how to enhance that type of development. Essentially you are trying to find out what the child can do and what you can do to help his/her abilities develop.

*Izzy Intellect* – You are concerned with the child’s intellect (thinking and communication). It is your job to find a way to meet those needs so that the child develops intellectually/ mentally. Essentially you need to find out what a typical child in each stage of development can do intellectually and what you can do to support that development.

*Emmy Emotions* – You are concerned with the child’s emotional needs. It is your job to find ways to meet the child’s emotional needs and to help them express those needs appropriately. Essentially you need to find out how a child at each stage expresses his/her emotions and how you can help the child deal with those emotions.

*Sammy Social* – You are concerned with the relationships the child has with other people. It is your job to make sure the child knows how to interact with other people. Essentially you need to find out what a typical child at each stage of development can be expected to do when interacting with adults or other children and describe ways caregivers can help a child develop social skills.

Once your team has shared the P.I.E.S.data on child development, you should be able to go to the Resources List for toys and activities to select age-appropriate toys and activities for your stage of development. As a team, you will need to agree upon these selections based upon the information you shared from P.I.E.S. development. This part of your project is very open-ended, but you need to select at least 10 activities and/or toys along with an explanation for why these would be appropriate.

Additional resources can be found through the following link:

[www.carroll.k12.ia.us/cms/specials/cs/child.development-webquest.html](http://www.google.com/url?q=http%3A%2F%2Fwww.carroll.k12.ia.us%2Fcms%2Fspecials%2Fcs%2Fchild.development-webquest.html&sa=D&sntz=1&usg=AFQjCNGajfsQIItmVxGcS-sA11t80g7tqw)