
UNIT: Decisions That Affect Children **LESSON:** Health--Childhood Diseases
TIME: 4-5 days

COMPETENCIES:

List types, symptoms, possible effects, and immunizations related to common childhood diseases. (Options 2, 3, and 4)

OVERVIEW/SUMMARY:

The health, safety, and well-being of children is important. Children who are in good health are able to develop properly intellectually, socially, and emotionally.

MOTIVATOR:

Read the following scenarios and ask the class how they would diagnose the child.

JAMES: James just turned one year old. He has a fever, cries constantly, and keeps pulling at his mouth and ear. (Possible problems: earache, cutting teeth, flu.)

POLLY: You just came home and found your little sister Polly in her bedroom coughing, sneezing, and wheezing. (Possible problems: she is allergic to something, she has stuck something up her nose and cannot breathe, she has a bad cold.)

There are many ways to diagnose a child's illnesses. Many times an illness can be deceptive, and an untrained eye cannot correctly identify the problem.

LESSON OPTIONS/SUPPLIES:

OPTION 1

BOOK: Doctor DeSoto, ISBN #0-590-41462-3, Itchy, Itchy Chicken Pox

OPTION 2--Competency 1

BRAINSTORM: An illness in a young child can escalate from mild to severe in just a few hours. When in doubt, take the child to the doctor. Brainstorm with the class some symptoms of illnesses that are common in children. Some ideas for the teacher include:

loss of appetite	bleeding that cannot be stopped
convulsions	stiffness of body
swelling	pain
dizziness	strange behavior
unconscious	hoarse voice
difficulty in breathing	coughing, sneezing, wheezing
flushed or pale skin	vomiting
unusual stools	red eyes
fever	thick nasal discharge
ear rubbing	rash/rash
change in urine	sore or red throat

OPTION 3--Competency 1

CHILDHOOD ILLNESSES: Present information "CHILDHOOD ILLNESSES" and have the students complete the worksheet "Let's Play Doctor."

OPTION 4--Competency 1

IMMUNIZATIONS: Review the transparency "IMMUNIZATIONS" with the class.