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**UNIT:** Child Care Careers

**LESSON:** CDA Requirements

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**COMPETENCIES:**

Introduce requirements for becoming CDA certified.

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**OVERVIEW/SUMMARY:**

Becoming CDA certified is becoming a more important part of the child care industry.

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**MOTIVATOR:**

Hold a syringe (without a needle) in front of the class. Explain that you would like to learn to be a nurse, but first you must know how to give a shot. Ask for volunteers to come up and let you practice on them. Students will not be willing to let you use them for a guinea pig. Explain that this is the principle we will discuss today. People who work in child care centers should be qualified and know about children. Just as you wouldn't let a stranger give you a shot, parents should not willing to let any person off the street care for their children. Federal programs have instituted a program that allows a qualified person to become a Child Development Associate (CDA). Although this is not a new program, it is becoming more and more important. This training will be important to you if you plan to make a livelihood by working in a child care center.

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**LESSON OPTIONS/SUPPLIES:**

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**OPTION 1**

**FILM:** Show the film on becoming CDA certified (call 1-800-628-9161).

**OPTION 2:**

**MINI-LECTURE:** The teacher will explain the basic requirements and need for becoming CDA certified.

**OPTION 3**

**GUEST SPEAKER:** Have a speaker from the Utah Office of Child Care come to class and explain the requirements for becoming CDA certified.

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**RESOURCES:**

Children First, 1-800-628-9161

Utah Office of Child Care, 538-8733, 1-800-622-7390