
UNIT: Curriculum Planning

LESSON: Lesson Plans

COMPETENCIES:

1. Discuss the components of a lesson plan: whole language approach to teaching, goals, objectives/purpose, procedures or developmentally appropriate activities, maintaining balance between cognitive, motor, and quiet activities, and summary. (Options 1, 2, 3, 4, 5)
2. Develop a lesson plan. (Options 3, 4, 6)
3. Present a lesson plan. (Option 6)

INTRODUCTION:

Read the book, Carl's Day Care, Alexandra Day, 1993, 93-17256. This is a very funny book about the importance of lesson plans and how almost anyone (even a dog) can keep things running if activities have been planned correctly.

MOTIVATOR:

CASE STUDIES--Read the case studies. Discuss the necessity of preparing a lesson plan when working with children. Children need imagination, exploration and creativity. In order for these areas to be emphasized and challenging to children, a teacher must be well prepared. [See "Case Studies--Teacher Information".]

LESSON OPTIONS/SUPPLIES:

OPTION 1--Competency 1, **CDA V**

WRITING LESSON PLANS--Discuss the importance of writing lesson plans. Discuss how to write a lesson plan.

OPTION 2--Competency 1, **CDA V**

BRAINSTORMING ACTIVITIES--Using a simple concept, have the students brainstorm as many activities as possible that can be used in the following areas: stories, fingerplays, songs, games, creative art activities, field trips, resource people, nutritious treats, food experiences, learning centers.

OPTION 3--Competencies 1, 2, **CDA V**

THEME CALENDAR--Show the students the example of a theme calendar. Working in small groups, have students complete a theme calendar. Make copies of the calendars for all class members.

OPTION 4--Competencies 1, 2, **CDA V**

SCOPE AND SEQUENCE--Explain how to use a scope and sequence. Make a transparency of one of your favorite weeks and show the students how to use this teaching tool. Using a chosen theme or concept, make a scope and sequence lesson plan for one week, covering all the curriculum areas. ["Scope and Sequence" form for each student.]

OPTION 5--Competency 1

CLASSROOM VISIT--Visit a preschool or daycare classroom and observe a teacher using a lesson plan. Is the lesson plan posted? Does there appear to be organization or structure to the class? Are the learning centers reinforcing the lesson plan? Are the classroom bulletin board pertinent to the theme? Have students complete the worksheet "Classroom Visit".

OPTION 6--Competencies 2, 3

WRITING LESSON PLANS--Have the students write a lesson plan. The teacher may determine the length of the lesson plan to meet the needs of their pre-school facility. Use the transparencies--"Sample Lesson Plan Formats" and "Sample Lesson Plans". Let the students decide which format they prefer, or decide before class which plan will be used, then present it to the class.

OPTION 7

PRESENT A LESSON PLAN: Have students write an actual lesson plan. The lesson plan should be shared with the class for evaluation and suggestions.

RESOURCES:

Kids in the Kitchen, By Nellie Edge, ISBN # 0-9181-4618-6
Peninsula Publishing Inc.
P.O. Box 412
Port Angeles, Washington 98362

More than Graham Crackers, ISBN# 0-9126-7469-5
National Association for the Education of Young Children #316
1834 Connecticut Ave., NW
Washington, D.C. 20009-5786
1-800-424-2460

Creative Resources for the Early Childhood Classroom ISBN#0-8273-3603-9
Judith Herr and Yvonne Libby
Delmar Publishers Inc.

Everyday Circle Times ISBN #0-943452-01-5
Liz and Dick Wilmes, Art by Jeane Healy
Building Blocks
38W567 Brindlewood
Elgin, Illinois 60123
Distributed by: Gryphon House, Inc. P.O. Box 275
Mt. Rainier, Maryland 20712

Planning Activities for Child Care ISBN #0-87006-989-6
The Goodheart-Willcox Company, Inc.
Caroline Spang Rosser

Year-Round Developmental Activities for Preschool Children ISBN #0-87628-984-7
JoAnne Carswell Calvarese and Charron Carlson Sundman
The Center for Applied Research in Education
Business and Professional Division
Simon and Schuster
West Nyack, New York 10995

Preparing Preschoolers ISBN #0-88290-160-5
Suzan W. Allen and Karen H. Talbot, Illustrated by Cindy Decker
Horizon Publisher and Distributors
P.O. Box 490
50 South 500 West
Bountiful, Utah 84010

A Planning Guide to the Preschool Curriculum, ISBN #0-88076-001-X
Sanford, Williams, James, Overton
Kaplan Press
Winston-Salem, NC 27103