

ACDS Curriculum Semester Two

Semester Description and Objectives

Age focus: Infants and Toddlers (Birth to age 3) and Preschool (Ages 3-5)

Supplement Guide: The WV Early Learning Standards Framework: Infants/ Toddlers and WV Early Learning Standards Framework Guidebook 3rd edition (Preschool)

Theorists: Erikson, Piaget and Gardner

Semester Description

ACDS Semester Two will reiterate the importance of professionalism in the field of Early Childhood Education, and emphasize recognizing and respecting cultural diversity among children and families. Students will build upon the knowledge of brain development obtained in Semester One by exploring how to enhance cognitive development in young children. The social emotional development of preschoolers will be examined, as well as strategies to support the development of pro-social skills. Semester Two will discuss classroom management and how to guide young children in developing self-regulation. Students will improve upon previous awareness of health and safety concerns and examine the importance of physical activity for young children. The significance of literacy rich environments and how to create a print rich classroom will be explained. The value of nurturing creative expression will be examined, as well as how to foster children's natural curiosity and imagination. Semester Two will extend prior knowledge obtaining accurate observations and assessments.

Semester Objectives

- Discuss how to respect cultural differences and diversity
- Demonstrate awareness of how to establish positive relationships with families
- Identify areas of the brain, their function and how to stimulate those areas through developmentally appropriate activities
- Demonstrate how to support cognitive development in infants and toddlers
- Distinguish between typical and atypical cognitive, social emotional and language development*
- Observe and distinguish the stages of language development*
- Define emergent literacy and describe ways to support literacy development*
- Explain how classroom schedules, routines and design can affect children's behavior*
- Demonstrate how to support creative expression and explain the value of promoting natural curiosity and imagination*

- Defend the benefit of process oriented activities over product oriented activities*
- Conduct and analyze observations
- Illustrate how to nurture social emotional development for preschoolers
- Recognize separation anxiety and explain strategies to assist with supporting children and families experiencing separation anxiety
- Identify health and safety concerns in the classroom and community
- Create a safe and healthy classroom environment
- Explain the importance of physical activity for young children

* Denotes Infant and Toddler focus