

Wallenpaupack Area School District

Wallenpaupack Area High School

Course Title: Early Childhood

Length of Course: Semester – 1 credit

District Policies:

Academic Integrity:

Academic integrity is essential to the success of an educational community. Students are responsible for learning and upholding professional standards of research, writing, assessment, and ethics in their areas of study. Written or other work which students submit must be the product of their own efforts and must be consistent with appropriate standards of professional ethics. Academic dishonesty, which includes cheating, plagiarism, multiple submissions and other forms of dishonest or unethical behavior, is prohibited.

Assessment:

The goal of grading is to report student progress and achievement to the parents to strengthen the home-school connection. The grade should accurately reflect the student's performance in mastering the PA Standards and the WASD curriculum.

Attendance:

Regular school attendance is vitally important to academic success. Not only does attendance reinforce and enrich the learning process; it also establishes patterns and attitudes that will carry forward into adult work habits. Regular, consistent attendance is a prerequisite to successful school life. Children should be absent only in cases of illness or emergency.

Special Education:

Our commitment to each student is to ensure a free appropriate public education which begins with the general education setting, with the use of Supplementary Aids and Services. Inclusive education describes the successful education of all students with the appropriate supports and services to participate in and benefit from the general classroom settings and other educational environments.

Course Description:

This course is designed for students who enjoy working with children. Students will explore different designs and types of child care programs and careers related to children. The course will focus on topics important to the study of children such as how the brain processes information, special needs children, creating safe environments, evaluating nutritional needs of children, and the effects of media and literature on children. Students will create and present hands-on developmentally appropriate activities and materials for young children. Students will have hands-on experience and observations working with school age children and developing appropriate activities and materials.

Pennsylvania State Standards:

Balancing Family, Work and Community Responsibility

- 11.2.12. A:** Justify solutions developed by using practical reasoning skills.
- 11.2.12. B:** Evaluate the effectiveness of action plans that integrate personal, work, family and community responsibilities.
- 11.2.12. C:** Analyze teamwork and leadership skills and their application in various family and work situations.
- 11.2.12. D:** Based on efficiency, aesthetics and psychology, evaluate space plans (e.g., home, office, work areas) for their ability to meet a variety of needs including those of individuals with special needs.
- 11.2.12. E:** Assess the availability of emerging technology that is designed to do the work of the family and evaluate the impact of its use on individuals, families and communities.
- 11.2.12. H:** Evaluate the effectiveness of using interpersonal communication skills to resolve conflict.

Food Science and Nutrition

- 11.3.12 C** Evaluate sources of food and nutrition information.
- 11.3.12 .F.** Evaluate the application of nutrition and meal planning principles in the selection, planning, preparations and serving of meals that meet the specific nutritional needs of individuals across their lifespan.

Child Development

- 11.4.12. B:** Analyze current issues in health and safety affecting children at each stage of child development.
- 11.4.12. C:** Analyze practices that optimize child development (e.g., stimulation, safe environment, nurturing caregivers, reading to children).
- 11.4.12 D:** Analyze plans and methods to blend work and family responsibilities to meet the needs of children.
- 11.4.12 E:** Identify practices that develop the child's imagination, creativity and reading and writing skills through literature.

Course Objectives:

Students will demonstrate the ability to:

Relate the importance of brain development to intellectual development in children.
Identify types of special needs in children and recognize services available to families.
Research and create pamphlets explaining different special needs.

Student will demonstrate the ability to:

Recall safety information for toy and/or playground safety.
Analyze the safety standards in the development of products for children.
Research toy company websites to find recall lists.

Students will demonstrate the ability to:

Design environments and materials which are developmentally appropriate in an Early Childhood Program.
Recognize the variety of programs available in early childhood.
Compare and contrast the different theories associated with early childhood.
Design and create bulletin boards and/or displays (showcase) in conjunction with child development lab themes.
Design a newsletter focusing on important parenting information for early childhood years (nutrition, reading, activities, etc.)
Recognize and differentiate between appropriate early childhood programs (nursery, day care, child care, Montessori, etc.)

Students will demonstrate the ability to:

Distinguish between appropriate and inappropriate written media for young children.
Identify "isms" (sexism, ageism, etc.) in perception of childhood, family life, etc.).
Create a book that can be read to preschool or early elementary age children (books can be donated to a shelter, etc.)
Distinguish between appropriate and inappropriate TV shows for children.

Students will demonstrate the ability to:

Identify and research careers related to children.
Research two career options related to their individual interest.
Identify their individual aptitude and abilities.
Understand how to look for employment, dress for interviews, etc.

Major Activities to Support Course Objectives:

Participate as a "Big Helper" at the North Primary School.

Word Processing: Research various websites, locate valid information, and create presentation products .

Presentations: Prepare child activities, create a showcase/bulletin board, power point/brochure.

Develop, create and illustrate a story book appropriate for early childhood.

