

Entry Level Assessment Blueprint

Early Childhood Education and Care - Basic



Specific Competencies and Skills Tested in this Assessment:

Health and Safety

- Identify safety hazards in and around the child care setting
- Instruct children in personal safety awareness (e.g., stranger danger, fire safety)
- Identify characteristics of common childhood illnesses
- Describe universal (standard) precautions and infection control
- Explain rest and relaxation techniques
- Plan, prepare, and explain the importance of nutritionally balanced meals and snacks
- Identify indicators and reporting procedures involving child abuse and neglect

Cognitive Development

- Explain cognitive development stages and how they correlate to social, emotional, and physical development
- Provide examples of cognitive development
- Describe equipment and activities that promote cognitive development
- List learning opportunities and conditions that develop creative and critical thinking
- Recognize the factors that impact brain development
- Identify important theories and research involving cognitive development



Language Development and Communication

- Describe the stages of language development
- Describe strategies to encourage expressive and receptive language
- List materials that encourage and support literacy skills
- Demonstrate effective literacy strategies
- List various methods of story presentation
- Describe the factors affecting language development

Physical Development

- Explain the stages of fine and gross motor development
- Recognize the factors that impact physical development
- Describe strategies and conditions that encourage physical development
- Select age-appropriate indoor and outdoor play equipment and activities for physical development
- Describe the effects of play on children's physical development

- Explain how physical development correlates to social, emotional, and cognitive development

Social and Emotional Development

- Discuss teaching techniques that encourage the development of a positive self-concept
- Describe the stages of social and emotional development of children
- Recognize the factors that impact social and emotional development
- Discuss caregiving techniques that develop appropriate social skills
- Identify positive techniques for conflict resolution and mediation
- List strategies to promote self-help skills

Community and Family Relationships

- Describe the importance of cooperative relationships with families
- Identify and plan methods of family and community involvement
- Describe the components of effective school and home communication



Observation, Documentation, and Assessment

- Identify observation purposes, techniques, and tools
- Observe and record children's developmental learning
- Interpret, communicate, and apply observation results

Professionalism

- Identify career-related skills and employment opportunities
- Identify resources for professional development
- Recognize the need for self-assessment for continued professional growth
- Explain the role of a child advocate
- Identify the importance and legal mandates of confidentiality
- Exhibit appropriate characteristics in an educational team setting
- Apply the NAEYC Code of Ethical Conduct to professional practices

Specific Competencies and Skills continued:

Classroom Organization and Arrangement

- Arrange an age-appropriate classroom environment
- Prepare and maintain materials and equipment storage
- Identify characteristics of a balanced daily schedule
- Implement developmentally appropriate activities
- Describe a variety of transition-time activities
- Demonstrate awareness of licensing laws and regulations
- Identify recordkeeping and clerical functions in a child care setting



Creativity

- Identify strategies for facilitating creative experiences
- Display or present creative products
- Identify appropriate materials and equipment that encourage creative development
- Explain sensory activities and supporting materials

Diversity in the Classroom

- Identify components of a diverse, multicultural curriculum
- Display awareness of diversities in family structures
- Describe ways to incorporate children's home language and traditions

Inclusion of Children with Special Needs

- Identify characteristics of various types of exceptionalities
- Identify concerns and basic rights of children with special needs
- Differentiate the learning environment and curriculum to accommodate special needs

Positive Guidance Techniques and Reinforcement

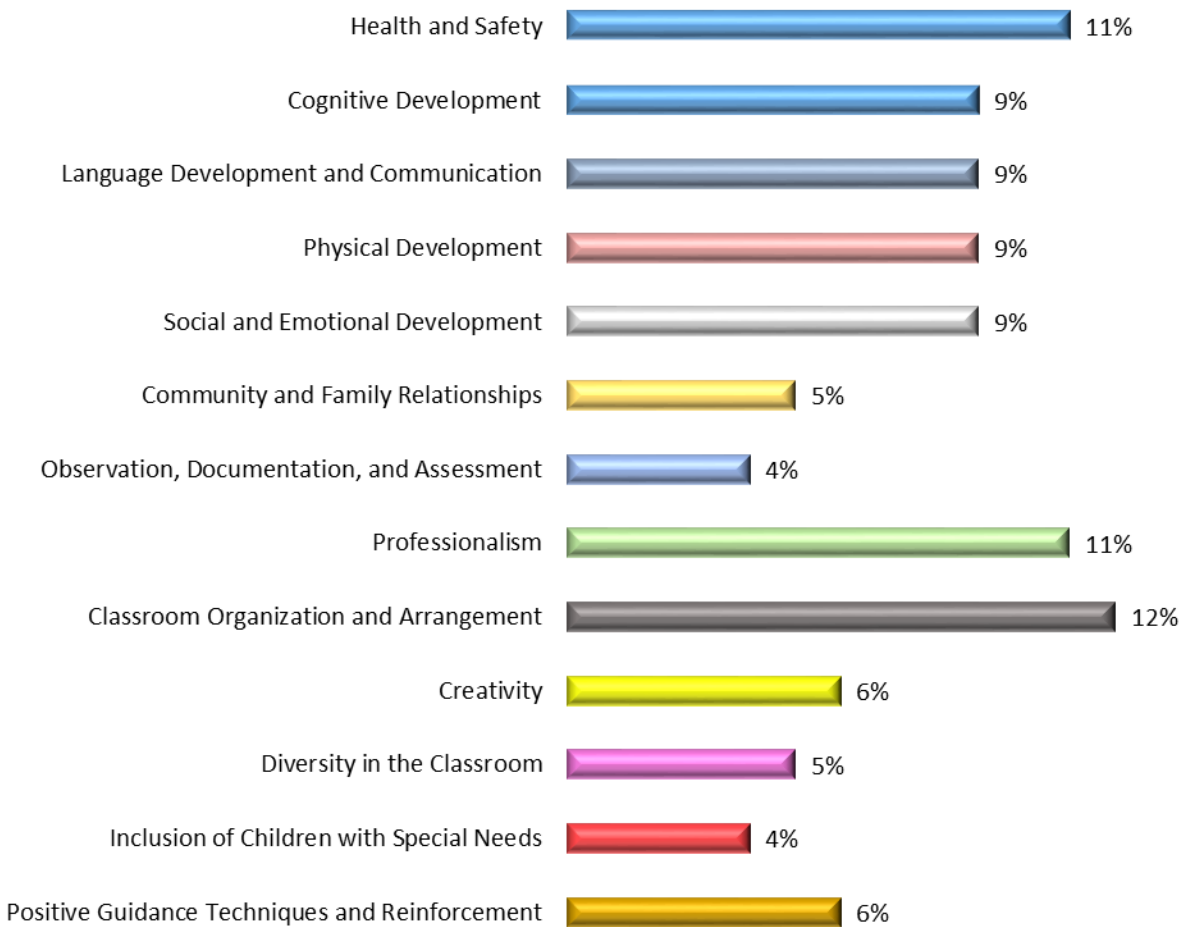
- Demonstrate positive adult-child communication
- Identify positive classroom management
- Identify child guidance techniques

Written Assessment:

Administration Time: 3 hours

Number of Questions: 193

Areas Covered:



Sample Questions:

The most rapid brain development occurs

- A. during the first three years of life
- B. when the child starts school
- C. when the child learns to read
- D. during the prenatal period

During storytelling, infants and toddlers generally respond more to

- A. sounds
- B. unfamiliar objects
- C. familiar objects
- D. eye contact

At age 3, the child will say his/her first name and last name. This child is showing signs of _____ development.

- A. physical
- B. sensory
- C. creative
- D. identity

Parent-teacher conferences are important because they encourage

- A. fixing family problems
- B. family involvement
- C. children's involvement
- D. family complaints

A science center should include

- A. paste and construction paper
- B. magnets, rocks, and shells
- C. dolls and a kitchen set
- D. cards, string, and beads

Performance Assessment:

Administration Time: 45 minutes

Number of Jobs: 5

Areas Covered:

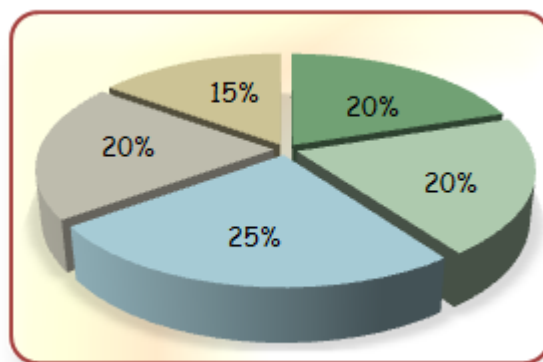
20% Demonstrate Washing of Caregiver’s Hands
Participants will correctly wash their hands.

20% Introduction Activity
Participants will complete an introduction activity.

25% Story Presentation
Participants will complete a story presentation.

20% Gross Motor Stretching Activity
Participants will complete a gross motor stretching activity.

15% Closure Activity
Participants will complete a closure activity.



Sample Job: Demonstrate Washing of a Caregiver’s Hands

Maximum Time: 5 minutes

Participant Activity: The participant will demonstrate the appropriate handwashing for a caregiver, using liquid soap and paper towels, at a sink area with running water. The evaluator will grade on the proper steps of handwashing.

