

# Child Development

Child Development may be taught as a one-credit or half-credit course. For a half-credit course, content standards 2, 3, 4, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 13, 14, 15, and 19 must be included. This course helps students develop skills related to the physical, social, intellectual, and emotional development of children. Course content provides opportunities for exploring benefits of studying children, stages of development, child development theories, child health and safety, behavior management, child abuse, needs of exceptional children, childcare services, community resources, technology, and career opportunities related to working with children. Observational experiences are encouraged in this course.

Career and technical student organizations are integral, cocurricular components of each career and technical education course. These organizations serve as a means to enhance classroom instruction while helping students develop leadership abilities, expand workplace-readiness skills, and broaden opportunities for personal and professional growth.

## Learning about Children

Students will:

1. Assess the importance of child development study.
  - Determining readiness for parenthood
  - Explaining the purpose of observation in child development study
2. Evaluate factors that influence the growth and development of children.  
Examples: heredity, environment, nutrition, physical activity, developmental disorders, early brain development, birth defects, exceptionalities
3. Explain contributions of child development theorists.  
Examples: Freud, Piaget, Erikson, Skinner, Havighurst, Maslow

## Prenatal Development and the Newborn Child

4. Describe stages of prenatal development and labor and potential risks to mother and child during prenatal development, labor, and birth.
  - Describing causes of birth defects and the impact of each
5. Determine physical and emotional needs of the mother and newborn child.

## Infants

6. Describe physical, emotional, social, and intellectual developmental needs of the infant.
  - Summarizing developmental milestones during the first year of life
  - Identifying infant care skills required by the caregiver
  - Describing how emotions and temperament develop in the infant
  - Explaining how the infant learns through social interaction
  - Describing ways to stimulate brain development in an infant
  - Explaining how infants develop communication skills

## Toddlers

7. Describe physical, emotional, social, and intellectual developmental needs of the toddler.
  - Identifying developmental milestones of children ages one to three
  - Describing how self-care skills are introduced to the toddler
  - Explaining how individual differences affect emotional development in toddlers
  - Explaining the importance of friends and play to a toddler's social development
  - Summarizing the connection between brain research and learning
  - Explaining the importance of reading to the toddler

## Preschoolers

8. Describe physical, emotional, social, and intellectual developmental needs of the preschooler.
  - Summarizing developmental milestones of children ages four to five
  - Explaining the importance of providing nutritious meals and snacks for preschoolers
  - Describing how preschool-age children develop self-help and self-care habits
  - Evaluating the impact of building self-confidence in the preschool-age child
  - Describing language development of preschool-age children

## School-Age Children

9. Describe physical, emotional, social, and intellectual developmental needs of the school-age child.
  - Analyzing developmental milestones for the six- to twelve-year-old child
  - Explaining personal hygiene of the school-age child
  - Describing the connection between competence and self-esteem in school-age children
  - Determining how relationships with peers change during the ages of six to twelve

## Adolescents

10. Describe physical, emotional, social, and intellectual developmental needs of the adolescent.
  - Describing developmental milestones of thirteen- to eighteen-year-old children
  - Summarizing the importance of nutrition, hygiene, exercise, and sleep during adolescence
  - Explaining the need for adolescents to develop their own personal identities
  - Recognizing the importance of adolescents' developing strong personal morals and values

## Care and Guidance of Children

11. Explain the importance of consistency when guiding children.
  - Identifying ways to encourage appropriate behavior and correct inappropriate behavior
12. Assess the importance of play and play activities in the lives of children.
  - Explaining the significance of child-adult interaction
  - Identifying enrichment activities that optimize learning  
Examples: art, music, science, literature
13. Prepare nutritious meals for children.
  - Practicing safety and sanitation techniques during food preparation
  - Demonstrating safe and correct use of kitchen equipment
14. Determine ways to meet children's health and safety needs, including recognizing safety hazards and devices, selecting safe and age-appropriate toys, identifying the need for regular health check-ups and immunizations, describing care of children with illnesses, and outlining procedures to follow in an emergency situation.
15. Explain procedures for reporting child abuse.
16. Compare factors to consider when selecting child care providers.
  - Describing ways to assist children in transitioning from home to daycare to school
17. Assess community support services and resources available to families with children who have special needs.
  - Identifying needs of special children and ways parents meet those needs
  - Summarizing current approaches to educate children with special needs
18. Determine ways to assist children with stress and family crisis.

## Technology and Careers

19. Analyze ways technology impacts and is used to study the growth and development of children.
20. Explain career options related to child development.