



## ***JOB READY ASSESSMENT BLUEPRINT***

### **EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION AND CARE - BASIC**

**Test Code: 4116**

**Version: 01**

**Preliminary Blueprint - final version is subject to slight changes.**

#### **Specific Competencies and Skills Tested in this Assessment:**

##### **Health and Safety**

Identify safety hazards in and around the childcare 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  
Identify 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  
Identify materials that encourage and support literacy skills  
Demonstrate effective literacy strategies  
Describe various methods of story presentation  
Describe factors affecting language development

## *Early Childhood Education and Care - Basic (continued)*

### **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 and autonomy

### **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

### **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 childcare setting

*Early Childhood Education and Care - Basic (continued)*

**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

Describe positive classroom management

Identify child guidance techniques

*Early Childhood Education and Care - Basic (continued)*

**Written Assessment:**

Administration Time: 3 hours

Number of Questions: 193

***Areas covered:***

11%	Health and Safety
9%	Cognitive Development
9%	Language Development and Communication
9%	Physical Development
9%	Social and Emotional Development
5%	Community and Family Relationships
4%	Observation, Documentation, and Assessment
11%	Professionalism
12%	Classroom Organization, and Arrangement
6%	Creativity
5%	Diversity in the Classroom
4%	Inclusion of Children with Special Needs
6%	Positive Guidance Techniques and Reinforcement

**Sample Questions:**

Which activity is best before rest or quiet time?

- A. playing outside
- B. playing musical chairs
- C. listening to a short story
- D. eating cookies

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

Physical development is positively impacted by

- A. popular TV and video games
- B. caffeinated drinks
- C. active play and exercise
- D. superhero role models

***Early Childhood Education and Care - Basic (continued)***

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

When parents come to visit the childcare program, they should

- A. take their child home early
- B. observe in silence
- C. be encouraged to participate
- D. bring treats for the children

Reporting child abuse is a way to be a

- A. child's adversary
- B. parent's ally
- C. child's advocate
- D. parent's advocate

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

Children's art work should be displayed

- A. at a level that is easy for adults to see
- B. in all of the center's hallways
- C. at the preschool at the child's eye level
- D. in one area of the room

*Early Childhood Education and Care - Basic (continued)*

**Performance Assessment:**

Administration Time: 45 minutes

Number of Jobs: 5

***Areas Covered:***

- 20%            **Demonstrate Washing of a Caregiver's Hands**  
*Participant will correctly wash their hands.*
  
- 20%            **Introduction Activity**  
*Participant will complete an introduction activity with a group of five children (3 to 4 years old).*
  
- 25%            **Story Presentation**  
*Participant will complete a story presentation for the children.*
  
- 20%            **Gross Motor Stretching Activity**  
*Participant will complete a gross motor stretching activity with the children.*
  
- 15%            **Closure Activity**  
*Participant will complete a closure activity with the children.*

***Sample Job:***            Demonstrate Washing of a Caregiver's Hands

***Maximum Job 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.