

Grande Prairie Regional College

Department: Human Services

Programme: Early Learning and Child Care

Course Outline – Winter 2009

CD 1350 Supporting Children's Play

3 (3-0-0) 45 hours

Instructor: Pat Caulfield Fontaine

Dates: January 7 – March 4, 2009

Days and Times: Mondays and Wednesdays 8:30 – 11:20

Location: B202 (unless otherwise notified)

Office Hours: posted or by **appointment**

Required text: Dodge, D., Coker, L. & Heroman, C. (2002). *The Creative Curriculum for Preschool*. Washington, DC: Teaching Strategies
A variety of other readings will be provided to supplement text.

Additional Expenses: You will incur additional expenses for assignment materials and photocopying

Description: The adult's role in supporting young children's learning and development with an emphasis on a child centered, play based approach to programme planning will be examined in this course.

Teaching Methods: Lectures will incorporate A.V. materials, discussion, in-and out-of-class activities and assignments.

Objectives: On successful completion of this course, you should be able to:

- Describe the ways play contributes to children's development
- Provide materials and experiences that support children's play, learning and development
- Describe the role of the adult in supporting and extending play through observing, planning and participating in activities with children
- Demonstrate an understanding of emergent curriculum as an approach to promoting children's learning and development
- Develop learning centers that include developmentally appropriate materials and experiences to support and enhance children's learning and development
- Plan program components including schedules, routines, transitions, and group times

Grading Policy: A final grade of D (50-54) must be obtained in order to pass this course. The final grade is based on : Assignments (85%) Attendance and Participation(10%)Final grades will be assigned on the Letter Grading System.

Alpha Letter Grade	4 point equivalence	Percentage %
A+	4.0	90-100
A	4.0	85-89
A-	3.7	80-84
B+	3.3	76-79
B	3.0	73-75
B-	2.7	70-72
C+	2.3	67-69
C	2.0	64-66
C-	1.7	60-63
D+	1.3	55-59
D	1.0	50-54
F	0	0-49

Class Policies: *It is the right of the student and of the instructor to a favourable learning/teaching environment. It is the responsibility of the student and the instructor to engage in appropriate adult behaviours that positively support learning. This includes, but is not limited to, treating others with dignity and respect.*

It is your responsibility to become familiar with the basic student rights and responsibilities found in the College calendar and the following policies for this class.

- ❖ Regular attendance and active class participation help you understand the content and be a successful student. Absence from 20% and over of the class hours will result in a grade of 0 for attendance and participation
- ❖ **Assignments are due in-class or before 4:30 on the assignment due date. Late assignments will be deducted an initial 10% then 5% per day(including weekends).**
- ❖ All work should be typewritten (or neatly handwritten in dark ink) and double spaced, and single-sided. Points will be deducted for spelling and grammatical errors and when the work does not meet the assignment submission guidelines.
- ❖ Graded assignments will normally be returned within two weeks
- ❖ Changes to the course outline will be discussed with you in class.

Topics:

The following topics will be covered in this course, although not necessarily in the listed order.

- a. Play
 - The value of play
 - Stages of social and cognitive play
 - Developmentally appropriate practices and play
 - The adult's role in promoting play
 - Issues in children's play(Rough and tumble play, gun play, superhero play, technology in early childhood programmes, aggressiveness)
- b. Indoor and Outdoor Learning Environments
 - Organization and aesthetics
 - Play space and play units

- c. Curriculum approaches
 - Emergent curriculum
 - Project approach
 - Setting goals and objectives to support and extend children’s development

- d. Learning Centers
 - Core learning centers
 - Equipment, materials, supplies
 - Learning and development through play in learning centers

- e. Materials
 - Selecting appropriate materials

- f. Program components
 - Schedules
 - Routines and transitions
 - Group times

Tentative Schedule

This schedule is a **tentative** outline of the topics we will cover in this class and due dates for assignments. The schedule may change and changes will be discussed in class.

Date	Topic	Assignment
Jan. 6 - 9	Intro. To CD 1350 Play	
Jan.12 - 16	Play	
Jan. 19 - 23	Program Planning “Long and short term planning” “Emergent, thematic project approaches” “Goals and objectives”	
Jan. 26 - 30	Creating Responsive Environments “Room Arrangement” “Learning Centers”	
Feb. 2 - 6	Materials	Assignment 1
Feb. 9 - 13	Developmentally Appropriate “Schedules and Routines” “Group Times” The teacher’s Role “Observing, Documenting and Participating”	Handout for Assignment #2 Final proofreading Feb. 9
Feb. 23 – 26	In-class Assignment presentations	Assignment 2
March 2 - 6	Outdoor play Last class March 4 All course work must be submitted	Assignment 3 March 4

Assignments:

Assignment #1

Weight: 20%

Due Date: _____

Research paper

Research one of the following topics and prepare a one page "Tip" sheet for parents.

- Technology and young children
- Good toys for young children
- The Stages of Play
- Rough and Tumble play
- Children and Organized sports
- Other topics may also be researched. Discuss your ideas with me.

Your "tip" sheet should be one page with the information presented in two or three columns. It must be attractive and readable. The "tip" sheet should have sufficient information for the reader to have a basic grasp of the topic. A bibliography of a minimum of 3 references is required. This assignment will be graded on the quality and depth of the content, presentation, and resources.

Assignment #2

Weight : 40%

Due Date: _____

Learning Center

With other members of a group, you will plan and set up one learning center in the classroom.

You will:

- a. Gather and prepare equipment, supplies and materials needed for the learning center and set it up as it would appear in an early childhood environment.
Recyclable/found/teacher made materials must be evident
- b. Prepare a hand-out to distribute to all other members of the class.

This must be submitted ready for final proofreading no later than Monday, Feb. 9

The handout should:

- ✓ List the equipment, materials and supplies needed for the learning center.
 - ✓ Identify the goals and objectives (learning and development potential) for the learning center
 - ✓ Describe the specific ways that play in this learning center contributes to the children's growth, development and learning
 - ✓ Include descriptions of a minimum of 15 experiences that could be provided in the learning center to support children's play. Functional, constructive, and dramatic play opportunities should be included. This experience should support children's motor skill, language and cognitive development, creativity and social interaction. These experiences must be researched and the source for each cited
 - ✓ Provide a bibliography of resources (a minimum of 8 different resources must be cited)
- c. On the assigned due date, present the information about the learning center in the class. You will explain how the center contributes to children's learning and

development, discuss the potential experiences that could be provided in the learning center, and engage the class members in using the materials for one of the experiences.

This assignment will be graded on:

- the appropriateness of the learning center (play value, choice, organization of the materials, appeal),
- the quality of the handout information (thorough, specific, organized, professional presentation, creativity),
- the quality of the potential experiences (developmentally appropriate, novel, supports growth, development and learning, supports children's independent exploration and involvement).
- Peer evaluations will be a component of the grade.

Assignment #3

Weight: 30%

Due Date: _____

Resource File:

You will compile a variety of resources that can be used with preschool age children at group times. All parts of this assignment must be completed.

Part 1.

You will:

A) Prepare a resource file with a minimum of 30 activities that includes:

- **Gathering** songs, chants, action rhymes
- 10 **settling** fingerplays, rhymes, songs
- **Transition** songs, action rhymes, games
- 5 **games** appropriate for group times
- 5 songs, chants, rhymes, and/or games **appropriate for helping children know the names of others in the group**

The resource file must be submitted in a file box (or binder), include a table of contents, be organized into sections with dividers, and cite the source both on the activity and in a bibliography of resources (a minimum of 5 different sources must be cited).

Part 2.

You will submit plans for 5 group times over one week. NO storybooks will be acceptable for the body of the group time. Each component of the group time should be described with words and actions of songs, chants, fingerplays, rhymes included. Props you will use either to introduce the body of the group or as part of the body must be submitted for at least one of the group times.

Part 3.

You will prepare the materials for one flannel story (or other story with props). Submit the pieces as well as the text of the story you will use.

This assignment will be graded on the variety, appropriateness, interest and novelty of the experiences, thoroughness of the descriptions, presentation, use and citation of resources.