

Activity 18

Caring for Children

To care for children, you should be familiar with children's needs at different stages of development. You should also know about the developmental tasks associated with different ages and stages.

Part I Directions: Answer the following questions about children's needs.

1. What are the four types of needs that young children have?

2. What are the basic physical needs of children?

3. What might infants be communicating when they cry?

4. What intellectual needs do young children have?

5. How can you help young children develop their intellectual abilities?

6. How can you help meet children's emotional and social needs?

(Continued on next page)

Activity 18 *continued*

Part II Directions: Answer the following questions about children's developmental tasks.

7. At what age do many infants learn to sit up alone? _____

8. At what age do many infants start to crawl? _____

9. Why are children ages 1 to 3 called toddlers? _____

10. Why do toddlers often use the word "no"? _____

11. During which stage of childhood might a child start climbing stairs?

12. At what age might a child have conversations with an imaginary playmate?

13. During which stage of childhood might a child recognize different colors?

Part III Directions: Listed below are different milestones of development that are associated with different stages of childhood. Use the following codes to identify which stage the milestone applies to:

I = Infant

T = Toddler

P = Preschooler

_____ **14.** Brushes teeth

_____ **15.** Undresses self

_____ **16.** Sits up alone

_____ **17.** Crawls

_____ **18.** Rides a tricycle

_____ **19.** Speaks in sentences

_____ **20.** Feeds self with spoon

_____ **21.** Puts objects in mouth

_____ **22.** Follows simple instructions

Activity 19

How Children Learn

Young children learn from exploring their environment with their five senses—sight, hearing, taste, touch, and smell. You can help children learn by knowing what kind of play is appropriate for different ages.

Directions: Answer the questions about playtime activities for different stages of development.

Playtime for Infants

1. How do infants learn about the world around them?

2. What can caregivers do to help infants learn?

3. What is independent play?

4. What are the best kinds of toys for infants?

5. What are three examples of good toys for infants?

Playtime for Toddlers

6. Why is it important for toddlers to play?

7. What kinds of toys do toddlers like?

(Continued on next page)

Activity 19 *continued*

8. What should you think about when choosing toys for toddlers?

9. What kinds of toys should you avoid using with toddlers?

10. What kinds of toys help toddlers develop physical coordination?

Playtime for Preschoolers

11. How is cooperative play different from parallel play? _____

12. What do preschoolers learn from engaging in cooperative play?

13. What kinds of toys do preschoolers enjoy?

14. What kinds of items do preschoolers use for pretend play?
