



CDA 1

Child Development Associate





Question 1

Mrs. Kline prides herself on the educational activities she provides for the children in her home child care practice. She has two four-year-old children in her care. The others are two or three years old. Mrs. Kline sets out some building blocks. She lets the children have free play with the blocks for several minutes, then adds a challenge for the four-year-olds. Which of the following would be the most appropriate challenge for these children?

- Stacking one block on top of another
- Asking them how many blocks they would need to make a triangle, square, or rectangle
- Asking them to make a shape with the blocks and tell her about it
- Asking them to build something and then recreate it on paper

Correct Answer:

Asking them to make a shape with the blocks and tell her about it - At this stage, children are still exploring shapes and number. Mrs. Kline should challenge the children to create shapes and tell her about them. This will help them learn about the attributes of shapes. Mrs. Kline can discuss the concepts of closed shapes, polygons, sides, and angles. Four-year-old children would not be challenged by stacking blocks and they will most likely not be able to recreate a solid model in two-dimensions on paper. They may be able to identify various shapes and name them without knowing how many sides are used for each. This would be a teaching moment.



Question 2

You have a student in your class who is concerned about the impending birth of his baby sister. His behavior has shown signs of his stress.

Which of the below actions on your part will best help him to begin to adjust?

- Tell him it's going to be alright. Babies are cool.
- Give him extra support, be available to him to listen and help him find the words he needs to voice his concerns.
- Read a book about new babies.
- Have him create a picture including his new sibling.

Correct Answer:

Give him extra support, be available to him to listen and help him find the words he needs to voice his concerns. - Your student is concerned and does not have the life experience to understand how this change will affect him. Be available to give extra hugs and support and talk to him about what he might be feeling. Help him find the words to use to share his feelings and have materials in the classroom, like books, that can help him work through these concerns.



Question 3

You go on a field trip to the zoo and take a lot of pictures. What is a literacy activity could you plan around this trip?

- Have the children color mimeographed pictures of a hippo.
- Have the children practice writing the letter Z on lined paper.
- Have the children make a class book about their experience.
- Have the children pretend to be giraffes.

Correct Answer:

Have the children make a class book about their experience. - Children will take great joy in making class books and a field trip is wonderful material for them. Have them write something they saw, something they did or how it made them feel. Use real pictures or have them draw them. Once the book is complete, put it in your classroom library for the children to read whenever they want to.



Question 4

It is a good idea to do which of the following:

- Regularly update your emergency contact list.
- Check toys to make sure they don't have broken pieces.
- Refill your First Aid kit.
- All the above.

Correct Answer:

All the above. - Safety must always be a priority in a preschool setting. Regularly check to assure your emergency contact list is up to date and that each child has a contact listed, refill your First Aid kit so on case of an emergency you are not searching for the items you need and always check toys so you can throw away toys with broken pieces that can become jagged or splinter off and be swallowed.



Question 5

You have a student in your class whose family speaks only Spanish. He understands a few words of English. Which of the below things can you do in your room to show respect for his language and promote the learning of English?

- Make all labels and signs in both English and Spanish and have books in both English and Spanish in your library.
- Speak slowly, he doesn't understand you.
- Nothing, he needs to learn English.
- Learn to speak Spanish so you can communicate with him.

Correct Answer:

Make all labels and signs in both English and Spanish and have books in both English and Spanish in your library. - While learning a few key phrases in Spanish will certainly help, it is unlikely you will be able to fully communicate in his native tongue right away. Having materials in your classroom that are in both English and Spanish will help him feel comfortable while exposing him to the English language. You will be surprised how fast the preschoolers pick up a second language.



Question 6

The philosophy of the program you work for is:

- important for you to know.
- something your director made up.
- not your concern, it's for the parents.
- information you can get from the brochure.

Correct Answer:

important for you to know. - In order to truly be in compliance with the program you are working with, it is important to know its policies, procedures, and philosophy.



Question 7

Maddison, a three year old in your classroom, has seemed very tired lately and is actually falling asleep during your circle time. You let her sleep at first thinking it was just a one time thing, but it's been happening a few times a week.

What should you do?

- Let her sleep, clearly her parents are not putting her to bed early enough.
- Wake her up, she's missing important learning time.
- Let her sleep today, it's clear she needs it. Talk to her mother at pick up and tell her what you're seeing. Find out from Mom if there have been any recent changes that may be causing this excessive tiredness.
- Let her sleep but tell her mother that she can no longer come to school if she can't stay awake. Clearly she just isn't ready to be in school all day.

Correct Answer:

Let her sleep today, it's clear she needs it. Talk to her mother at pick up and tell her what you're seeing. Find out from Mom if there have been any recent changes that may be causing this excessive tiredness. - When a child shows dramatic changes in behavior, it's always best to contact the parents and work directly with them to get to the bottom of the issue. They may not always be happy with what you're telling them but, if you are respectful and gentle in your approach, you will gain their trust and can then work best as a team to help the child.



Question 8

Its winter and the children all bring snow boots so they can play outside in the snow. When you come back in, you realize many of the children are having trouble putting their shoes back on and, if they don't get them on soon, you won't have time for the story you wanted to read.

What should you do?

- Use this as a teachable moment and have all the kids sit down and practice putting on their shoes.
- Let them keep their boots on, the story is a really good one.
- Put their shoes on for them. You don't have time to read the story if you don't.
- Don't play outside in the snow, it's too complicated with this many students.

Correct Answer:

Use this as a teachable moment and have all the kids sit down and practice putting on their shoes. - There will be times when a situation presents itself that can be just as much a learning experience for your students as one you may have planned for. In this case, let all the kids practice putting their shoes on, this is developmentally appropriate and the kids will have fun.



Question 9

When assessing the developmental progress of an individual child, the best procedure is:

- Use a single sample from a demarcated period of time to make assessments.
- Use multiple sources of evidence to assess abilities.
- Ignore cultural influences and expectations. Hold each child to a set standard.
- Make assumptions and interpretations based on the behaviors of other children.

Correct Answer:

Use multiple sources of evidence to assess abilities. - When assessing an individual child's developmental progress, multiple sources of evidence should be used. These should include written objective observations, information from parents, data collected using formal and informal observation tools, and work samples. Cultural influences and expectations should also be considered. Using this information, the caregiver can construct an individual learning plan for each child.



Question 10

Confidentiality guidelines should be communicated to staff and families. Such guidelines should most likely include all but which of the following?

- Support standards for each child's culture, language, ethnicity and family structure.
- Who will have access to children's assessment records
- Laws and regulations regarding rights to access
- Procedures set to keep records confidential

Correct Answer:

Support standards for each child's culture, language, ethnicity and family structure. - Confidentiality standards for assessment results or personal records should follow legal and ethical considerations. The guidelines should state:

1. Who can access records
2. Laws and regulations related to access (with special instances clearly noted)
3. Procedures for confidentiality
4. How information can be used



Question 11

A child care professional should continue to increase his/her knowledge about child development issues. Development issues can be cognitive, emotional, social, or physical. At which age does a child typically become aware of his/her gender identity?

- Between the ages of 1 and 3 years
- In the first year of life
- Between the ages of 3 and 4 years
- After the age of five

Correct Answer:

In the first year of life - Typically, children become aware of their gender identity during the first year of life, usually by the ages of 8 to 10 months. Children become aware of the physical differences between boys and girls by the ages of one year to three years. By age four, gender identity becomes stable.



Question 12

You notice that a little boy in your classroom seems to become very tired by mid-morning and often falls asleep before lunch. This is not typical behavior, you should:

- Allow him to sleep, he can eat lunch later.
- Nothing, he's fine - kids get tired.
- Let his parents know that you're seeing a change in his behavior.
- Wake him up, he should not sleep before lunch.

Correct Answer:

Let his parents know that you're seeing a change in his behavior. - The most important thing you can initially do is talk to his parents or caregivers to see if they can explain why he's been so tired lately. It may be something they are aware of and can share with you what is going on at home. If not, it is important they know so they can help to find out what is causing this change and rectify it so their little boy can feel better.



Question 13

Quinn, a two-year-old, arrives at Jay's home care center in an angry mood. Jay sees that her attitude is going to cause some difficulties when interacting with the other children. What advice would you give Jay in this situation?

- Put Quinn in the corner and hope that she falls asleep.
- Involve Quinn in an activity which she usually enjoys and which will give her the time to work through her feelings.
- Let Quinn join the group and hope for the best.
- Take Quinn aside and tell her to straighten up or she will have to go home early.

Correct Answer:

Involve Quinn in an activity which she usually enjoys and which will give her the time to work through her feelings. - At this age, it is best to distract or engage children in activities which they enjoy. Quinn may not be able to explain her anger. Engaging her in an activity she usually desires will distract her and give her time to work through her feelings. She will then be able to join in activities with the other children.



Question 14

You are planning your lessons for the week and the theme for the week is insects. You want to provide a hands on experience so they can see what it might feel like to be a bug. Which of the following would provide that experience for your children:

- Read a book on creepy crawly bugs.
- Sing a song about spiders.
- Fill the sand table with dirt and plastic bugs.
- Make bugs out of play dough.

Correct Answer:

Fill the sand table with dirt and plastic bugs. - While all the above will allow children to learn about bugs in a variety of ways, having them feel the dirt and move the bugs around in the dirt will give them a wonderful sensory experience.



Question 15

Andrew walks into the first day of preschool and kicks his teacher. His teacher tells him that kicking is not allowed, but he laughs and runs off to play with the toys. The teacher informs the director who calls Andrew's mother and asks her to stop in when she comes to retrieve Andrew at the end of the day. When Andrew's mother arrives and is informed of his actions, she says "He does that to me at home too. I just tell him to go play." What would be best practice in this situation?

- Ask Andrew's mother to remove him from the school. She obviously has no control of her son and he will never change his behaviors.
- Tell Andrew's mother that this behavior is not normal and that he should be evaluated for emotional support. Give her pamphlets on agencies that serve children with emotional disorders.
- Tell the teachers to watch Andrew carefully to avoid being kicked. Take up the issue again during the school's regularly scheduled conferences.
- Tell Andrew's mother that kicking is not allowed and that Andrew will have to comply with the rules while in school. Tell her the procedures which you will use to end this behavior. Tell her that you will keep her apprised of Andrew's improvements. Suggest a formal conference soon.

Correct Answer:

Tell Andrew's mother that kicking is not allowed and that Andrew will have to comply with the rules while in school. Tell her the procedures which you will use to end this behavior. Tell her that you will keep her apprised of Andrew's improvements.

Suggest a formal conference soon. - Andrew should not be allowed to kick. His mother should be informed of all procedures the center will use to end this behavior. She should be kept informed of any changes in his behavior. At an early formal conference, the director might suggest some actions the parent might take to help Andrew change his behaviors at home. If Andrew does not change his behavior, another conference can be called in which further actions are discussed.



Question 16

You are speaking to one student and another child interrupts the conversation. You should:

- Tell the second child to knock it off and go away. You are busy.
- Tell the first child you are done talking to her and must talk to the second child.
- Gently remind the second child you are speaking and he must wait until you are done. Let him know you will be with him momentarily.
- Put the second child in time out for being rude.

Correct Answer:

Gently remind the second child you are speaking and he must wait until you are done. Let him know you will be with him momentarily. - It can be easy to forget that children are not trying to be rude or misbehave when they interrupt. Preschoolers just get excited and want to share their feelings with you, they are just learning how to be sensitive to others' feelings. As their teacher, it is important you remember to stay respectful and remind them of the need to wait until you are done talking. You can make up a signal (such as two fingers over your lips) that will visually remind students to wait while you finish your conversation.



Question 17

Michael often comes to school without a coat, even on very cold days. Your school requires that students be outside for at least 20 minutes every day, unless the weather is too severe.

Today you want to take the children outside but, again, Michael has no coat - what should you do?

- He's going to have to stay inside with another class. He can't go out without a coat.
- You will have to stay inside, you can't take a child outside with no coat.
- Call his mother and explain to her the school's policy on playing outdoors. Ask her if she is able to send a coat in with Michael every day until the weather gets much warmer.
- All the above answers are correct.

Correct Answer:

All the above answers are correct. - If a child in your class is not coming to school with adequate outerwear, you will have to make decisions based on what you have available to you. If there is not a coat that can be borrowed for the child, you may have to leave him inside with another class. In some cases, this would not be an option as all classes are outside at the same time, a teacher may be at ratio or the child will be too upset to be left behind. In that case, you may have to choose not to go outside.

You will also want to talk to the parents about the importance of sending their child to school with warm clothing. Building a relationship with your parents will help you navigate these tougher situations. If you get the sense the parents are unable to provide a coat for their child, talk to your Director about how you can help this family.



Question 18

Some of the children served at the preschool where you work have come down with the flu. While these children are not at school while they are ill, several of the other parents have expressed concern about their children being exposed to children who are contagious. In this situation, which would be the best response?

- Reassure parents that the school is following all required sanitation rules.
- Close the school during the flu outbreak.
- Require all children in the preschool to have proof of having had a flu shot.
- Ask the parents of returning students to send in antiseptic hand-washing lotions when students return.

Correct Answer:

Reassure parents that the school is following all required sanitation rules. - The school can reassure parents that the school is doing all they can to prevent illnesses from spreading. These can be detailed in a bulletin. Parents can also be advised as to how to keep their children safe in all public areas by having them wash their hands frequently etc. Remind all parents that sick children should be kept at home until they are symptom-free. Children who have been ill should not be stigmatized.



Question 19

As a role model for children, you should model appropriate social skills with:

- Parents and children.
- Teachers and children
- Children only.
- Everyone.

Correct Answer:

Everyone - You are the children's main role model during the hours they are with you. By building and maintaining healthy relationships with those around you, you are teaching the children how to positively engage socially.



Question 20

You are reading a book to two students and notice a third student is crying by himself near the blocks across the room. You should:

- Call over to him, asking him what's wrong.
- Keep reading, if he needs you he will come and get you.
- Tell him to stop crying, he's just being silly.
- Go over to the child and ask him what has happened.

Correct Answer:

Go over to the child and ask him what has happened. - When a child is upset, respect his feelings by addressing him directly and privately, down at his level. You can tell the children you are reading to that you will be right back and go over to speak with the child in the block area.



Question 21

Ezra, a child in your preschool class, threw up after lunch today. He doesn't have a fever and appears to be just fine.

What should you do?

- Tell his mother at pick up what happened. She should know he threw up in case he's getting sick.
- It's almost nap time, let him sleep, he will feel better after a nap.
- Call Ezra's mom and let her know what happened. Tell her he seems fine now and decide together what the best course of action is.
- Send him home immediately, he can't get the other kids sick.

Correct Answer:

Call Ezra's mom and let her know what happened. Tell her he seems fine now and decide together what the best course of action is. - Since Ezra seems fine and does not have a fever, it is best to let his mother know what happened and make a determination for the remainder of the day. If he stays, let her know you will call if anything changes.



Question 22

Children need opportunities to share their feelings and ideas non-verbally.

Which of the following is a way they can do that?

- Reading a book.
- Listening to a book on tape.
- Playing with puppets.
- Sliding on the slide.

Correct Answer:

Playing with puppets. - When children engage in dramatic play, they are also engaging their non-verbal idea building skills. Even though they may be "talking", they are utilizing their creative brain. They can do this with dance, art and dramatic play.



Question 23

Which of the following types of reading materials should you have in your classroom?

- i. Culturally diverse, travel brochures, and menus
- II. Fiction, non-fiction and poetry
- III. Information, non-traditional gender roles, and tactile.
- IV. Cookbooks, magazines and picture books

- I, II and III
- II, III and IV
- I, II, III and IV
- I and IV

Correct Answer:

I, II, III and IV - Your classroom should have all kinds of reading materials, including maps, atlases, menus, magazines, picture books and books with predicable text. Your students should be exposed to the written word as much as possible and in as many forms as possible.



Question 24

You have a little girl in your class whose parents are divorcing. While her parents seem to be handling everything ok, the paternal grandmother, who picks up regularly, is not. She often wants to chat negatively with you about her former daughter-in-law. She has no problem talking in front of her granddaughter and uses language that is not appropriate for children to hear.

What should you do?

- Call the child's mother and tell her all the awful things her former mother-in-law is saying about her.
- Meet with both parents to explain what you have been experiencing. Talk with them about how important it is to support their daughter and to avoid having her hear these kinds of conversations.
- Tell the child's grandmother to stop gossiping, you do not appreciate it.
- Tell the child's father his mother can no longer pick up your student.

Correct Answer:

Meet with both parents to explain what you have been experiencing. Talk with them about how important it is to support their daughter and to avoid having her hear these kinds of conversations. - In order to maintain the trust of both parents, it is important to share the information with both of them and work with them to come to a reasonable solution.



Question 25

Which of the following activities is a pre-reading activity?

- Listening to a book on tape.
- Taking "lunch orders" in the Restaurant Center.
- Tracing shapes with their fingers in the sand table.
- All the above.

Correct Answer:

All the above. - The above listed activities are all good methods in building pre-reading skills. Any time the children are exposed to literacy (such as being read a book or "reading" a book to someone else) or writing, tracing or coloring letters, they are getting valuable pre-reading experience. Expose your students to many opportunities to read, write and explore the written language.



Question 26

A child care provider is seeking immediate feedback for her performance. Her best source will be:

- Community college courses
- A professional mentor or supervisor
- A professional workshop
- The parents of the children for whom she cares

Correct Answer:

A professional mentor or supervisor - The most immediate source for feedback will be a professional mentor or supervisor. Caregivers can find sources for personal reflection by attending college courses, professional conferences, or by reading professional journals. Most parents will not have the professional knowledge necessary for accurate feedback and will not be present during service.



Question 27

The professional caregiver is a life-long learner who seeks to increase her knowledge about child development in order to help children and parents cope with typical developmental issues. Which of the following is NOT a developmental issue?

- Neurological damage
- Social and emotional development
- Cognitive development
- Language skills

Correct Answer:

Neurological damage - Neurological damage can cause some developmental issues. Emotional and social development issues include separation anxiety, dependency, shyness, and making friends. Cognitive issues relate to thinking and learning. Language skills include phonemic awareness, processing and fluency.



Question 28

When planning for circle time, it is important to remember:

- Circle time should be kept short to accommodate for the attention span of your students.
- Students who do not want to participate should be encouraged to do so, but, if not, should be allowed to leave.
- Circle time activities should be planned with student involvement in mind. Keeping the children engaged and active will increase their attention and learning.
- All the above.

Correct Answer:

All the above. - Circle time should be short enough not to lose the attention of your students while keeping them actively engaged. This will help them to fully enjoy the activities and not lose focus and interest. It is acceptable to have two circle times in a day, if time permits.



Question 29

A young boy waits too long and has an accident that soils his clothing. You should:

- Call his mother to come get him.
- Change him and put his clothes in his backpack.
- Help him to change and then put his clothes in a sealed and labeled plastic bag.
- Help him dry off as best as possible.

Correct Answer:

Help him to change and then put his clothes in a sealed and labeled plastic bag. - To assure you follow proper sanitary procedures, it's important to put soiled clothes in a labeled and sealed plastic bag so that nothing can leak from the bag and the bag goes home with the correct child.



Question 30

Displaying photographs of children and their families in your classroom will:

- Make them miss their parents and is not a good idea.
- Help you remember their names.
- Allow children to share their families with you and other students, helping them to develop a sense of self-identity.
- Assure them their parents are coming back at the end of the day.

Correct Answer:

Allow children to share their families with you and other students, helping them to develop a sense of self-identity. - When children can share family photos, discuss their families with you and others and display important photos in their classroom, they feel a sense of self-worth in the classroom - i.e., they are important in your class. They also begin to develop a sense of self-identity when they see their families and how they are the same and different from other families.



Question 31

The photographer is coming to take school pictures and some of the parents, the ones whose children are going to Kindergarten next year, want their children to wear caps and gowns in their individual photos. The director of your school does not allow caps and gowns and the parents are complaining to you.

What can you do?

- Agree with them that it is not fair they cannot have their child's picture taken in a cap and gown, it's a dumb rule.
- Allow the parents to bring in their own cap and gown for the pictures.
- Respectfully advise the parents of the school rules. Let them know you understand their concerns, but must comply with the policies and procedures of your director.
- Tell the parents to start a petition to your director, if all the parents sign it, she can't say no.

Correct Answer:

Respectfully advise the parents of the school rules. Let them know you understand their concerns, but must comply with the policies and procedures of your director. -

From time to time, your classroom parents will disagree with a policy or procedure of your school. While you may actually agree with the parents, it is best to listen to their concerns while supporting the school rules. You will not be able to make your parents happy 100% of the time, however, if you show them you are a professional at all times, the times you cannot agree with them will go smoother. Seeing that you respect and support the policies will help them do the same.



Question 32

When planning for nap time routines, you should:

- Not allow children to bring items from home to nap with.
- Be sure the center is completely quiet so the children can sleep.
- Children nap right after lunch as this is when they are most tired.
- Create naptime routines such as reading a book or listening to soft music.

Correct Answer:

Create naptime routines such as reading a book or listening to soft music. - It is important to create a warm safe environment with reliable routines for naptime. Reading a book or having soft music playing while they are settling and allowing them to have security items from home (ex: blanket, doll) will help them settle down and rest peacefully.



Question 33

You are assigned a new classroom and one of the things you notice is that there are several mirrors on the wall.

When it comes to mirrors, you should:

- Take them down, they are dangerous.
- Hang them out of reach of the children.
- Hang them at eye level so the children can see themselves.
- Have them only in the bathroom area.

Correct Answer:

Hang them at eye level so the children can see themselves. - Children love to look at themselves and mirrors help them develop a sense of self. Kid safe mirrors should be hung at the child's eye level so they can look at themselves and experiment with making faces, become familiar with their facial features and interact with their friends.



Question 34

A professional caregiver must maintain a professional manner both on and off the job. Which of the following is not best practice for a professional caregiver?

- Arrive on time every day.
- Dress appropriately as the job requires.
- Display a professional work ethic.
- Discuss an individual child's behaviors with friends outside of the organization.

Correct Answer:

Discuss an individual child's behaviors with friends outside of the organization. - Maintaining confidentiality is one of the professional obligations of a caregiver. The caregiver should arrive on time, work a full day, maintain a positive attitude and work ethic and dress appropriately for the responsibilities of the position. The organization should provide standards for professional behavior.



Question 35

You have a little boy in your class who likes to wear the princess dress in your dress up center. You should:

- Contact his parents to explain how his behavior is not acceptable.
- Tell him dresses are for girls and offer him a fireman coat.
- Encourage him to play, experiment and wear whatever dress up clothes he likes and chooses.
- Take the dress out of the center so he cannot choose it anymore.

Correct Answer:

Encourage him to play, experiment and wear whatever dress up clothes he likes and chooses. - Children at this age are developing their sense of self and should be encouraged to try to a variety of dress up clothes, with no defined gender roles. Little boys can wear dresses and little girls can be construction workers - for them, it's fun and a chance to safely experiment in their environment.



Question 36

Candidates for CDA certification must complete a CPR course. Which of the following statements is false?

- The course must be from a nationally recognized organization.
- A "virtual" course is acceptable.
- The course must specifically address pediatric CPR.
- Original documents for the course will be needed for CDA certification.

Correct Answer:

A "virtual" course is acceptable. - Online courses and training are not acceptable for CDA certification. The course must be from a nationally recognized organization, such as the American Red Cross or the American Heart Association. Specific training in pediatric CPR is required. On the day of the verification visit, the original certification document must be provided. Copies can be included in a professional portfolio.



Question 37

Bobby hasn't been to school in several days. He doesn't usually miss any time and you are concerned.

What should you do?

- Nothing, it's best not to bother his family. They may feel like you are interfering.
- Send his mother an email asking why he's been out.
- Give his mother a call and let her know Bobby is missed. Respectfully ask her if Bobby is ok and when she thinks he might return to school.
- Wait until he comes back and then ask his mother if everything is ok.

Correct Answer:

Give his mother a call and let her know Bobby is missed. Respectfully ask her if Bobby is ok and when she thinks he might return to school. - When a student misses several days, unless your school policy says otherwise, it is always a nice gesture to contact the parents to see if the child is well. The child may be sick, or in some case, there may be something else going on and you need to be aware of.



Question 38

During mealtime with preschoolers, it's important to:

- Make sure they eat everything on their plate.
- Make sure they sit in the same seat every day.
- Involve them in appropriate conversation.
- Make sure lunchtime is less than 20 minutes.

Correct Answer:

Involve them in appropriate conversation. - Mealtime is a wonderful time for a teacher to model appropriate conversation while encouraging interaction amongst her students. Asking students open ended questions thus allowing for more than "yes" or "no" answers will help children develop their communication skills.



Question 39

You have a three year old class this year. When planning curriculum, you can be sure of the following:

- All of your students can write their names.
- All of your students will love arts and crafts.
- All of your students will love music time.
- None of the above.

Correct Answer:

None of the above. - The only sure thing about children is that there is no sure thing. Each student is an individual with their own likes and dislikes and levels of abilities in different areas. Plan a well-rounded curriculum with a lot of options during the day for individual growth and expression. Some children will want to try every activity while others will be more reluctant. Planning for their differences will allow you to feel confident each child is getting a positive preschool experience.



Question 40

When creating the emergency procedures to post in your classroom, it is important to include:

- The names of all the adults in the classroom.
- Pictures, diagrams and words.
- Bi-lingual instructions.
- The phone number for the local police department.

Correct Answer:

Pictures, diagrams and words. - By using pictures and diagrams in conjunction with words, you can easily let everyone in the classroom know how to respond in an emergency even if they cannot read or do not speak the language.



Question 41

Your school has very little parking available and, because of this implemented a car line where parents loop around the parking lot and a team of teachers assist the child out of the car and into the school. School staff agrees this has improved the morning drop off process by keeping children safe and allowing parents to quickly and easily exit the parking lot.

One mother refuses to wait in the car line and parks in the lot every day going into the school to drop her child off. Other parents have begun to complain about this behavior.

What should you do?

- Tell her if she doesn't follow the procedure, the child will get hit by a car.
- Stand by the door so she can't get in and tell her to go get her car and drive around like the other parents.
- Hey, if she can't follow the rules, her child cannot attend this school.
- When the mother comes in the next day, ask her if she has a minute to talk to you. Go to a quiet place where you can talk privately and explain to her why your school has the drop off procedure in place. Assure her you understand it can be frustrating to wait in line but that it is for the safety and well-being of the children. Thank her for her cooperation and understanding.

Correct Answer:

When the mother comes in the next day, ask her if she has a minute to talk to you. Go to a quiet place where you can talk privately and explain to her why your school has the drop off procedure in place. Assure her you understand it can be frustrating to wait in line but that it is for the safety and well-being of the children. Thank her for her cooperation and understanding. - Whenever there is a problem with a parent, it is best to speak to them in a non-confrontational manner. First ask them if they have a minute and provide a place where they can speak freely and not feel put on the spot. Be respectful and keep your tone even, don't raise your voice or use a condescending tone. Explain why you need their compliance in this situation, why this rule is in place. Often, when someone understands why they are being asked to do something, they will agree to cooperate even if they do not fully agree with the policy.



Question 42

Patty's parents ask to speak with you after school. They are concerned. Patty is four years old and is not yet reading. They tell you her sister, Penny, was reading by the time she went to kindergarten.

You listen to their concerns and tell them:

- Its clear Penny is much smarter than Patty.
- Children learn at different paces and reading is not a skill you expect to see in preschool.
- You will teach Patty to read since this is what they want.
- You, too, are concerned that Patty is not yet reading.

Correct Answer:

Children learn at different paces and reading is not a skill you expect to see in preschool. - Parents often have unrealistic expectations for their children, especially when they see older siblings or other children doing things their child is not yet doing. It is important to help them understand what realistic goals are for their child at his or her age. Providing examples of the wonderful developmentally appropriate things their child is doing will help the parents feel supported in their concerns and trust your feedback regarding their child.



Question 43

Mrs. Bridges appears upset when she drops off her two little ones. When she returns in the afternoon to pick them up, she confides in you, telling you that her husband came home last night and asked her to leave. She doesn't know where she and her little ones will spend the night. Which would be best practice in this situation?

- Ask her to send you her new address when she relocates.
- Tell her that you can't help parents with personal problems because this would violate confidentiality policies.
- Respect Mrs. Bridges privacy by keeping the information confidential. Offer to help by giving her information about agencies which might help someone in her situation.
- Call over a few more caregivers to confer with her on what she might do.

Correct Answer:

Respect Mrs. Bridges privacy by keeping the information confidential. Offer to help by giving her information about agencies which might help someone in her situation. -

There are usually community resources for families in crisis. Listen carefully and offer to help. Do not offer unsolicited advice. If Mrs. Bridges wants information, provide what you can. Follow your agencies confidentiality policies.



Question 44

You are currently midway through a winter themed unit on snowmen. It snowed last night and the children really want to play outside but it's just too cold. What can you do to keep with your unit and address their interest in playing in the snow?

- Have them make snowmen out of cotton balls.
- Fill your sand table with snow and let them make snowmen.
- Tell them they can go outside in a few days when it warms up.
- Do a lesson on what you should wear to play in the snow.

Correct Answer:

Fill your sand table with snow and let them make snowmen. - When the children show an interest in the snow, a caring teacher will use this natural interest to help the children have meaningful experiences. Since they cannot play in the snow, you can provide a hands on concrete experience that will expand on your current theme.



Question 45

Which of the following situations could become a teachable moment?

- A child has a cavity and is worried about going to the dentist.
- A child is moving to a new home.
- A child has a new baby sister at home.
- All the above.

Correct Answer:

All the above. - Everything that happens in a child's life, everything they share with you and everything you observe can be a teaching moment. If a child is concerned about a new sibling, taking the time to respond to that concern helps that child to learn and feel secure. You can expand the teachable moments, when appropriate, by reading books or having activities that also touch on these subjects.



Question 46

CDA credentials must be renewed:

- Annually
- Every five years
- Before the third-year anniversary date
- Only after 480 service hours have been completed

Correct Answer:

Before the third-year anniversary date - The CDA Credential must be renewed before the third-year anniversary date for every renewal. For example, if you received your credential on April 4, 2015, it must be renewed before April 4, 2018. One day later and your application is invalid. There is no grace period.



Question 47

Mrs. Cook has several children in her home care practice that have trouble going from one activity to the next. For example, several don't want to put away toys at snack time or finish eating to come to the story circle. Mrs. Cook spends a lot of time cajoling these students to go from one activity from another while the others are waiting. What advice would you give Mrs. Cook in this situation?

- Physically remove the students who are balking during the transitions.
- Prepare the children for the transitions by giving them signals that a new activity is coming up.
- Let the children stay with the activity until they are finished.
- Help them clean up or remove the snack so that transitions will be faster.

Correct Answer:

Prepare the children for the transitions by giving them signals that a new activity is coming up. - Many children have trouble transitioning from one activity to another. Mrs. Cook can help these children by warning them that activities are going to change. This will give them time to finish what they are doing, clean up, and adjust their feelings about having to finish and move on. She might have a musical signal or a verbal one which cues children to the change. This will take some practice but eventually the children will adjust and transition more smoothly. Having consistent rules and procedures is the best way to keep programs running smoothly.



Question 48

When reading a new book to your class, how can you help your students practice their prediction skills?

- Ask them how many pages they think are in the book.
- Ask them what they think will happen next.
- Go over with them what an illustrator does.
- Have them draw a picture of their favorite part of the book.

Correct Answer:

Ask them what they think will happen next. - Children love to guess what will happen on the next page or by the end of the book. Help them to develop their prediction skills by using clues from the early pages to guess what will happen on the later pages. This will be easier for some students than others and you will be able to assess this skill easily by their answers.



Question 49

Mena is a little boy in your class. He has been potty trained for six months but recently has been wetting his pants several times a day, despite regular trips to the restroom. He has been using other children's back up clothing as his mother has not sent in replacements.

What should you do?

- Let him stay in wet clothes, he won't like that and will start using the toilet again.
- Speak to Mena's mother about his recent behavior. Work with her to identify what could be causing Mena to regress in his toileting skills.
- Make Mena stay in for recess on the days he has an accident, once he realizes this is the consequence he will stop wetting his pants.
- Make Mena sit on the potty every 15 minutes. He won't have a chance to have an accident if he sits that often!

Correct Answer:

Speak to Mena's mother about his recent behavior. Work with her to identify what could be causing Mena to regress in his toileting skills. - When a child has regular accidents after successfully using the facilities on a regular basis, there can be factors you are not aware of causing this child to regress. Speaking to the child's parents can give you insight as to whether there is something going on at home, maybe a new baby or a recent move. It also allows the parents to work with you to resolve the issue for while they may not be happy he is having accidents, they will respect and trust you for sharing your concerns and being willing to do what it takes to support their child.



Question 50

Child care professionals should be advocates for the needs of children and their families. Caregivers who work with English Language Learners (ELL) or bilingual children should:

- Seek to clarify issues related to language learning and bilingualism within the program
- Advocate for a single language program for all children
- Separate language and cultural identity from the program
- Teach children solely in their primary language

Correct Answer:

Seek to clarify issues related to language learning and bilingualism within the program - Caregivers working with ELL and bilingual children should seek to clarify issues related to bilingualism and multiculturalism. Children should not be "separated" from either their primary language or their cultural heritage. The caregiver should be knowledgeable about bilingual language development and cultural heritage so they can more accurately serve the needs of their charges.



Question 51

Competency Statement VI of the CDA certification standards states that educators are required to maintain a commitment to professionalism. This reflects Functional Area 13: Professionalism. When writing the statement you will include in your professional portfolio, include:

- Examples and indicators which are provided in your Competency Standards book
- Several examples of what happens in your particular program
- A paragraph explaining your general understanding of professionalism
- Examples of standards for good program organization in any program.

Correct Answer:

Several examples of what happens in your particular program - In this area, a paragraph which describes the specific ways you promote professionalism in your program and work. Several examples from your particular program should be included in the 500 word paragraph. The applicant should detail processes and procedures which reflect your professionalism and the professional development activities in which he/she has participated.



Question 52

While on the playground, Teddy gets stung by a bee on his leg and it starts to swell. You should:

- Use Susie's Epi Pen on Teddy, it's clear he's having an allergic reaction.
- Put an ice pack on his leg and, if he appears fine otherwise, have him rest for a few minutes until he's feeling better.
- Tell him to go and play, it's just a bee sting.
- Have him sit out the rest of the afternoon.

Correct Answer:

Put an ice pack on his leg and, if he appears fine otherwise, have him rest for a few minutes until he's feeling better. - If a child is stung by a bee and you are not certain if he's allergic, you can start by putting ice on the sting and watching the child closely for any changes such as extreme swelling or trouble breathing. If you feel the child is having an allergic reaction, you must dial 911 immediately.



Question 53

You want to expose the children to a variety of cultures and experiences, how can you best involve your community to actively engage your students in this learning?

- Ask them to donate money.
- Ask them to donate books.
- Ask them to come in and share their skills, holidays or special dress with the children.
- Ask them to come in and read books.

Correct Answer:

Ask them to come in and share their skills, holidays or special dress with the children.

- While some community members may wish to donate money or materials, the children will have a wonderful rich learning experience when the adults in their community come into the classroom and share with them. You will be surprised at what the parents, your friends, and other community members will be able to share with your children.



Question 54

Which of the following is an objective observation:

- Michael was happy today.
- Andrew loved the clown presentation.
- Amy counted to ten today.
- Brandy didn't want to play blocks.

Correct Answer:

Amy counted to ten today - When recording observations, it is important to keep them objective. While it may appear a child didn't want to play with the blocks, it may have been something else that was bothering him. Another way to phrase that so that it is objective would be, "Brandy did not participate during block time."



Question 55

Which of the following examples is a nice make connections with the parents of your students at the beginning of the school year?

- Have a part at your house.
- Say "hello" very cheerfully on the first day of school.
- Have a "Welcome to School" night prior to the start of school and invite all your families.
- All the above

Correct Answer:

Have a "Welcome to School" night prior to the start of school and invite all your families. - A nice way to welcome your families is to let them come see the classroom, meet you and hear about what will be happening in your classroom this year. You can share information with them, have some kid friendly snacks and have a chance to chat with anyone who wants to get to know you a bit better.



Question 56

While playing on the playground, a child in your class cuts his hand. It is a minor cut and you wash it with soap and water and bandage it and the child returns outside to play.

What else should you do?

- Nothing, the child is fine and the cut was minor.
- Call his mother and have her pick him up, just in case.
- Fill out an incident report and let his mother know at pick up what happened.
- Recheck his wound several times throughout the afternoon.

Correct Answer:

Fill out an incident report and let his mother know at pick up what happened. - Any time there is an injury, no matter how minor, it is good practice to document the situation with an incident report. If there are any questions later, the written record will let everyone know what happened. The child's mother will appreciate you letting her know what happened, even though the injury is small.



Question 57

Joey brings his favorite toy to school. Many of the children want to play with the toy but Joey is reluctant to let them have a turn.

What can you do to facilitate this situation for the children?

- Tell Joey to put the toy away. If he is not willing to share, he cannot have his toy either.
- Ask Joey to talk about his toy during circle time. He can pass the toy around so the children can see it. Ask him if he can bring the toy tomorrow so the children can have a turn playing with it. Have the children "sign up" to play with Joey tomorrow.
- Tell the children this is Joey's toy and he will share if he wants to, but does not have to.
- Don't allow children to bring toys to school, it creates a lot of problems. You have plenty of toys in your classroom.

Correct Answer:

Ask Joey to talk about his toy during circle time. He can pass the toy around so the children can see it. Ask him if he can bring the toy tomorrow so the children can have a turn playing with it. Have the children "sign up" to play with Joey tomorrow. - If you allow children to bring toys from home, it is best to have a procedure for assisting the children with the difficult task of sharing their beloved belongings. Have the children share their toy in a safe environment, such as circle, so they understand they will get their toy back soon. Then set up a way to have them share. Helping your students learn to share is a big part of their preschool experience.



Question 58

You have several students whose families are from Mexico. Which of the following can you do to help encourage the families' involvement in their child's classroom?

- Speak only Spanish to those families.
- Speak only English to those families.
- Let them watch from the hallway.
- Ask the families if they would like to share any special foods, games or traditions with the class.

Correct Answer:

Ask the families if they would like to share any special foods, games or traditions with the class. - Asking your families to share with your students is a great way to develop a relationship with them and show them you respect their individual cultures, traditions and recipes. Your students will love the special activities and visitors.



Question 59

Which of the below would be a "teachable moment"?

- The children find a cocoon on the playground.
- A student brings his seashell in from his weekend visit to the beach.
- A student receives stitches from a minor accident and wants to show you during circle time.
- All the above.

Correct Answer:

All the above. - Teachable moments can provide some of the best learning experiences for your students. If the children find a cocoon on the playground, take the time to explore the cocoon respectfully and, if you are not already, share with them the life cycle of a butterfly. This could turn in to a great lesson for another day. If a student does something special over a weekend or has an interesting event (such as receiving stitches) it is a great chance to share information with students and expand on their natural curiosity.



Question 60

You realize there is no liquid soap in the dispensers in the bathroom today. There is bar soap in the cabinet, but your director does not want the children using bar soap to wash their hands.

What should you do?

- The children can wash their hands tomorrow.
- The children can wash their hands with only water today.
- Let the director know there is no liquid soap and that you'll be using bar soap until more is provided.
- Have your assistant run out and buy liquid soap.

Correct Answer:

Let the director know there is no liquid soap and that you'll be using bar soap until more is provided. - The director most likely does not want the students to use bar soap as it can help spread germs when used by multiple children. However, it is better than no soap at all. Help the children lather with the bar soap and rinse it between each user with warm water to lessen the chance of germs being transmitted.



Question 61

Young children develop behavior patterns as they age. Which of the following is a characteristic of mobile infants, ages 9 to 17 months?

- Develop their own individual routines and rituals in order to feel safe and secure
- May have difficulty separating from family members even if the caregiver is familiar and trusted
- Begin to establish patterns of sleeping and waking
- Begin to develop areas of competence

Correct Answer:

May have difficulty separating from family members even if the caregiver is familiar and trusted - Very young children, ages birth to eight months, begin to establish patterns of sleeping, waking, eating, and socializing. Mobile infants, ages nine to 17 months, may have difficulty separating from parents, even when caregivers are well-known and trusted. Toddlers, ages 18 months to 36 months, begin to develop their own individual routines and rituals which make them feel safe and secure. Caregivers can anticipate these behaviors and support the children in their care.



Question 62

Children learn best when they:

- Are told what they need to know.
- Are encouraged to actively participate in engaging hands on experiences.
- Are given specific materials to create an art project that looks just like the teacher's.
- Sit at a table to do an activity.

Correct Answer:

Are encouraged to actively participate in engaging hands on experiences. - Children learn best when they are allowed to explore their environment through guided free-play, open-ended activities and hands-on experiences.



Question 63

Some of the padding has come off your indoor climbing structure in your indoor gross motor room.

Which of the following is the best choice:

- This is not a concern, since it is indoors the padding is not needed.
- Advise your director and keep the children off the climbing structure until it has been repaired.
- Make padding for the structure yourself.
- Tell the children to stay away from the area of the structure with the missing padding.

Correct Answer:

Advise your director and keep the children off the climbing structure until it has been repaired. - Until the structure has been repaired, you cannot reasonably assure it is safe for your preschoolers. Advise your director and wait until she confirms it is safe to use it again.



Question 64

Mrs. Smith's class is going on a walk to a nearby park. She has her emergency contact list, her cell phone and the inhaler for her student with asthma.

What is she forgetting?

- Her umbrella in case it rains.
- An Epi Pen in case anyone gets stung by a bee.
- Her portable first aid kit.
- Balls and jump ropes.

Correct Answer:

Her portable first aid kit. - Whenever you leave your classroom to go on a field trip or just a walk to a local park, you must have your First Aid kit with you in case of minor injuries.



Question 65

You should read to your students:

- Every day.
- Only in the morning when they are most receptive to learning.
- Every other day.
- After nap.

Correct Answer:

Every day. - You should read to your students every day, allow time for them to ask questions and share their experiences



Question 66

Current records on a child's health, safety and behavior should be maintained and shared appropriately. Which of the following is an inappropriate sharing for this information?

- Sharing with the child's parents
- Sharing with specialists, as requested by parents
- Sharing information with the parents of other children
- Sharing with other personnel who share care of the child

Correct Answer:

Sharing information with the parents of other children - All information should be kept confidential as required by regulations or policies of the care center. Information can be shared with specialists, such as doctors, with parental permission. Information can be shared with other care center personnel who may need this information to care for the child. It is inappropriate to share information with other parents or anyone outside of the organization or without parent permission.



Question 67

Recently Owen's mother seems to be avoiding you. She used to say good morning and chat for a minute when dropping Owen off, but has recently just been saying good bye to him at the door and leaving. You are perplexed.

What should you do?

- Ignore her, too. If she doesn't want to talk, that's fine.
- Tell your coworkers about it and have them watch to see if they think she's being rude to you, too.
- Say hi to her but don't do anything else. It's nothing you did and you don't have time to worry about this.
- Have a coworker cover for a few minutes so you can walk out with her, ask her if everything is ok and let her know you are available if she would like to talk.

Correct Answer:

Have a coworker cover for a few minutes so you can walk out with her, ask her if everything is ok and let her know you are available if she would like to talk. - If a parent suddenly changes their behavior toward you, it's a good idea to gently make an effort to find out why. It could be a minor misunderstanding or it could be nothing at all, however, it's always a great way to build trust to allow your parents to share their concerns with you.



Question 68

Which of the following statements best describes setting up your room and materials to anticipate developmental needs:

- When children fight over a toy, remove the toy from the room.
- Have private areas for children where they cannot be seen.
- Surprise children by adding new toys to the shelves and seeing if they find them.
- Arrange your furniture to discourage running in the classroom.

Correct Answer:

Arrange your furniture to discourage running in the classroom. - You can do a lot in your classroom to best anticipate the behavioral and development needs of your preschoolers. Arranging the furniture in your room to prevent children from running from one end to the other will help them to control their impulse to run or move very fast.



Question 69

A very large tree branch has fallen down on your playground after a recent storm. It is partially blocking the swings. You should:

- Tell the children to stay away from the branch.
- Use another outdoor play space until the branch is removed.
- Allow the students to use the swings that are not blocked as long as you are nearby.
- Have the children sit along the fence while you and another teacher remove the branch.

Correct Answer:

Use another outdoor play space until the branch is removed. - A downed tree limb is a safety hazard on your playground. The limb must be removed before the preschoolers can use the space safely.



Question 70

Before nap, you notice a little boy in your classroom, Sam, feels warm. You take his temperature and you find he has a fever.

What should you do?

- Let him take his nap, chances are he will feel better after he gets some sleep.
- Nothing, his mom picks him up right after nap. She can deal with it then.
- Put him in a quiet place away from the other children and call his mother.
- Give him some children's aspirin to bring his fever down.

Correct Answer:

Put him in a quiet place away from the other children and call his mother. - If a child has a fever, there is a chance he is contagious. Help him get comfortable in a quiet place in the room or with another adult who can sit with him. Call his mother to let her know, since he has a fever, he needs to go home. He should not return to school until 24 hours after his temperature has returned to normal.



Question 71

Which of the below activities will help increase phonological awareness?

- Riding a scooter on the playground.
- Climbing the ladder on the slide.
- Playing a letter matching game.
- Wearing all green on "Green Day"

Correct Answer:

Playing a letter matching game. - When children are learning about letters and beginning letter sounds, a good activity to reinforce letter sounds is having children match letters - beginners will match capital letters while more advanced learners can match the capital letter with the lower case letter.



Question 72

Professional growth activities prepare educators with experiences for improving their work. A wide-variety of options for professional growth are available. Which is best described as "a voluntary, non-judgmental, and collaborative partnership between professionals for the purpose of professional growth"?

- Formal education
- On-the-job training
- Coaching or consultive interactions
- Credentialing

Correct Answer:

Coaching or consultive interactions - When professionals share observations, provide feedback, demonstrate practices, or provide evaluations for peers, they are collaborating in professional development. Formal education usually includes a degree which has been earned before employment (although education can continue). Credentialing involves a professional agency which sets standards or qualifications necessary for professional acknowledgement. On-the-job training can be conducted in conferences or presentations, with videos or live demonstrations, or with manuals, discussions, and tutorials.



Question 73

As children develop over the year, you should provide them opportunities to be successful by:

- Reading to them.
- Knowing their names.
- Providing materials that become increasingly more challenging over the year.
- Providing playground experiences every day.

Correct Answer:

Providing materials that become increasingly more challenging over the year. - As children develop and gain skills, their choices in classroom materials should grow and become more challenging to reflect that growth.



Question 74

Which of the below activities will help promote phonological awareness?

- Bouncing a ball while counting to ten.
- Painting at the easel.
- Playing with dinosaurs in the sand table.
- Finding all the letter B's on each page of the story.

Correct Answer:

Finding all the letter B's on each page of the story. - When you read a story to the children, have them find the letter of the week on each page and make the sound of the letter to promote phonological awareness.



Question 75

Susan works in the classroom next door to yours. She has a three year old girl in her class whose parents are going through a nasty divorce. During her break she stops in to your classroom to discuss the latest incident with the child's parents.

You should:

- Get all the information you can, you teach the four year olds and will have this girl in your classroom shortly.
- Let Susan know you are not interested in hearing the details unless your supervisor feels they are necessary for the well-being of the child.
- Tell Susan you want to hear what she has to say and offer to call her after work.
- Invite Susan to come back at naptime, you don't want to be distracted right now.

Correct Answer:

Let Susan know you are not interested in hearing the details unless your supervisor feels they are necessary for the well-being of the child. - Even though you work in the center, unless you are directly involved in the care of the child, you must refrain from discussing her personal details thus maintaining her confidentiality.



