

CHLD 101: Introduction to Early Childhood Education – Discussion Questions

The following questions are suggested for use within an online discussion board. They could also be incorporated into a traditional classroom environment.

Discussion Board 1

Your initial post should include a response to the following:

You are sitting in a sociology course, and the person next to you asks what you are majoring in. When you reply “early childhood education” their response includes “oh, do you really need a degree for that? Isn't that just babysitting?” Based on what you have learned in Chapter 1 about the importance of the field in supporting children and families and the goals of larger society, how would you respond to your classmate?

After reading the posts of your fellow classmates, your peer responses should include, but may not be limited to one of the following...

1. An additional statement or point to support the view of a peer
2. One reason why you disagree with a peer
3. One supportive piece of information from your readings to add to what a peer posts
4. One supportive piece of information from your experiences to add to what a peer posts
5. One piece of information from your readings to dispute what a peer wrote
6. One piece of information from your experience base to dispute what a peer wrote
7. A request for specific additional information from a peer to aid you in understanding their response.

Discussion Board 2

Your initial post should include the following:

One of the challenges inherent in working in a field of such breadth is selecting a career pathway that is right for you. At this point in time, what career options seem most attractive to you? What strategies do you plan on using to pursue your chosen career option?

After reading the posts of your fellow classmates, your peer responses should include, but may not be limited to one of the following...

1. An additional statement or point to support the view of a peer.
2. One reason why you disagree with a peer.
3. One supportive piece of information from your readings to add to what a peer posts.
4. One supportive piece of information from your experiences to add to what a peer posts.
5. One piece of information from your readings to dispute what a peer wrote.

6. One piece of information from your experience base to dispute what a peer wrote.
7. A request for specific additional information from a peer to aid you in understanding their response.

Discussion Board 3

This discussion board activity is designed to help you appreciate and understand the Family-centered philosophy, which is the basis for services centered on including infants and toddlers with special needs. DEC defines family-centered as a “way of thinking that leads to a set of practices in which families or parents are considered central and the most important decision maker in a child’s life. More specifically it recognizes that the family is the constant in a child’s life and that service systems and personnel must support, respect, encourage, and enhance the strengths and competence of the family.”

This video was filmed about a family from the Child Development Lab who very graciously have offered to share their family story, challenges and dreams for the future. You will have this rare opportunity to have the family information provided in a concise and organized fashion. In a real classroom, you would learn this information during both formal and informal conversations with the family and gradually compose the stories for the families in your care.

Watch the video: Marquis Story Available at http://youtu.be/M7_ubN11L0E
Heartland Equity and Inclusion Project (HEIP). (2012). *Family Story: MF Video*.
Available from http://youtu.be/M7_ubN11L0E

Listen carefully and take notes using the “**Family Story Analysis Form**” handout to organize your comments. Replay parts as often as needed.

After viewing the video: Create your Plan of Action

Adopt a role as the teacher or family support specialist for this family and articulate your plan of action to cultivate a family partnership with them and help the family meet THEIR goals. This is the point where you may need to defer to the family’s value system and their strengths, priorities, concerns, and resources. Your professional opinions are important but our mission is to tailor our actions to the child’s and family’s needs as much as possible.

Post on the Discussion Board

Share your description of the family and a summary of their strengths, concerns, priorities and the resources that currently support them. Then share your plan of action for how you (pretending you are the teacher or family support person) can support this family.

Your peer response should include, but may not be limited to, the following...

1. An additional statement or point to support the view of a peer.
2. One reason why you disagree with a peer.

3. One supportive piece of information from your readings to add to what a peer posts.
4. One supportive piece of information from your experiences to add to what a peer posts.
5. One piece of information from your readings to dispute what a peer wrote.
6. One piece of information from your experience base to dispute what a peer wrote.
7. A request for specific additional information from a peer to aid you in understanding their response.

Discussion Board 4

Your initial post should include the following:

Which curriculum model(s) or approach(es) described in your text do you feel seem to best facilitate the requirements of access and participation identified in the Joint Position Statement on Inclusion?

Your peer response should include, but may not be limited to, the following...

1. An additional statement or point to support the view of a peer.
2. One reason why you disagree with a peer.
3. One supportive piece of information from your readings to add to what a peer posts.
4. One supportive piece of information from your experiences to add to what a peer posts.
5. One piece of information from your readings to dispute what a peer wrote.
6. One piece of information from your experience base to dispute what a peer wrote.
7. A request for specific additional information from a peer to aid you in understanding their response.

Discussion Board 5

Your initial post should include the following:

Pages 282-283 of your text describe the complex interaction between children's behavior and extrinsic and intrinsic motivation. Imagine you are a teacher of three-year-olds in an early childhood environment. Your current goal is to help the children learn to clean up after free play each afternoon. How can information on intrinsic and extrinsic motivation be beneficial, and what are the implications of this information for how you pursue your current goal?

Your peer response should include, but may not be limited to, the following...

1. An additional statement or point to support the view of a peer.
2. One reason why you disagree with a peer.
3. One supportive piece of information from your readings to add to what a peer posts.
4. One supportive piece of information from your experiences to add to what a peer posts.
5. One piece of information from your readings to dispute what a peer wrote.
6. One piece of information from your experience base to dispute what a peer wrote.

7. A request for specific additional information from a peer to aid you in understanding their response.

Discussion Board 6

Your initial post should respond to:

Basil is a new teacher in a preschool classroom. She's come to you for ideas regarding how to develop an environment that supports literacy learning. Share five specific ideas from the Center for Early Literacy Learning resource materials that you feel are essential within an early childhood environment that supports literacy.

Your peer responses should include, but may not be limited to one of the following...

1. An additional statement or point to support the view of a peer.
2. One reason why you disagree with a peer.
3. One supportive piece of information from your readings to add to what a peer posts.
4. One supportive piece of information from your experiences to add to what a peer posts.
5. One piece of information from your readings to dispute what a peer wrote.
6. One piece of information from your experience base to dispute what a peer wrote.
7. A request for specific additional information from a peer to aid you in understanding their response.

Discussion Board 7

Your initial post should include the following:

Licensing standards provide requirements regarding minimum standards of health and safety that must be in place for programs to operate. Licensing standards, however, do not ensure quality. Discuss the implications of programs that do no more than meet minimal licensing standards and strategies that can be used to ensure standards reflecting quality are incorporated into licensing requirements.

Your peer responses should include, but may not be limited to one of the following...

1. An additional statement or point to support the view of a peer.
2. One reason why you disagree with a peer.
3. One supportive piece of information from your readings to add to what a peer posts.
4. One supportive piece of information from your experiences to add to what a peer posts.
5. One piece of information from your readings to dispute what a peer wrote.
6. One piece of information from your experience base to dispute what a peer wrote.
7. A request for specific additional information from a peer to aid you in understanding their response.

Discussion Board 8

We have spent the semester looking at the field of Early Childhood and figuring out how to INCLUDE children with cultural, linguistic and ability diversity. You have had an ongoing assignment, the CONNECT Module, specifically looking at how to embed interventions. Your final project for this class is to post your thoughts on how you see yourself someday in an ideal classroom with a widely diverse population of children. Pick your age level and tell us how you will incorporate all of these key concepts.

- Developmentally Appropriate Practices
- Inclusion of Culturally and Linguistically Diverse Children and Families
- Inclusion of Children with Disabilities
- Universal Design of the Environment
- Universal Design for Learning
- Differentiated Instruction
- Embedded Interventions

Your peer responses should include, but may not be limited to one of the following...

1. An additional statement or point to support the view of a peer.
2. One reason why you disagree with a peer.
3. One supportive piece of information from your readings to add to what a peer posts.
4. One supportive piece of information from your experiences to add to what a peer posts.
5. One piece of information from your readings to dispute what a peer wrote.
6. One piece of information from your experience base to dispute what a peer wrote.
7. A request for specific additional information from a peer to aid you in understanding their response.