

J. Sargeant Reynolds Community College
Course Content Summary

Course Prefix and Number: CHD 118

Credits: 3

Course Title: Language Arts for Young Children

Course Description: Emphasizes the early development of children's language and literacy skills. Presents techniques and methods for supporting all aspects of early literacy. Surveys children's literature, and examines elements of promoting oral literacy, print awareness, phonological awareness, alphabetic principle, quality storytelling and story reading. Addresses strategies for intervention and support for exceptional children and English Language Learners. Lecture 2 hours. Laboratory 2 hours. Total 4 hours per week.

General Course Purpose: To prepare students to work with young children in a variety of settings, supporting all aspects of language development, including listening, speaking, pre-reading, and pre-writing skills.

Course Prerequisites and Co-requisites:

None

Student Learning Outcomes:

Upon completing the course, the student will be able to

- a. Recognize stages of language development in young children and apply this knowledge when teaching children;
- b. Identify various techniques for supporting pre-emergent reading, and developing and using resources for fostering early literacy skills;
- c. Apply appropriate strategies for using children's books (authentic literature) in the development of literacy strategies;
- d. Assess various strategies for working with children, both individually and in groups, to foster pre-emergent literacy;
- e. Develop observation and assessment techniques that promote children's developing literacy skills to provide for differentiated instruction;
- f. Differentiate successful strategies to modify instruction for English language learners, and other students who may need additional support;
- g. Plan an environment that promotes early literacy; and
- h. Identify and apply learning standards as they relate to developing language arts: the Virginia Foundation Blocks, the Child Development Milestones, the Virginia Standards of Learning, and Core Competencies for Early Childhood Professionals.

Major Topics to Be Included:

- a. Meaning of language arts
- b. Language development in the young child
- c. Listening skills in young children
- d. Speaking abilities of young children
- e. Stages of writing abilities in young children
- f. Emergent reading skills of young children

Optional Topics:

- a. Planning and using a language arts center
- b. Parent-program partnerships
- c. Multi-lingual children and families

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