

Curriculum Development  
In the Fairfield Public Schools

**FAIRFIELD PUBLIC SCHOOLS**  
FAIRFIELD, CONNECTICUT

**CHILD DEVELOPMENT 20**

BOARD OF EDUCATION APPROVED 06/24/2008

## **CHILD DEVELOPMENT 20**

### **Statement of Purpose**

This course will focus on the developing child from conception through adolescence. It will highlight the many decisions related to parenthood. The powerful influence of the interaction between parents and their children will be emphasized throughout. This course will also expose students to the many career opportunities in the Child Development field.

### **Audience**

Grades 10, 11, 12

### **Prerequisite**

None

### **Design and Description**

Child Development 20 is a full year course. Units on reproduction, fetal development, prenatal care and birth will be covered. The study of the physical, intellectual, emotional and social development of children is followed from birth to school age. Observations conducted in our preschool laboratory enable students to gain insight into the individual differences among preschool children.

### **Course Objectives**

Students will be able to:

- describe the rewards and challenges of various family structures.
- describe the reasons for and challenges of adoption.
- compare and contrast parenting styles such as democratic, permissive and authoritarian.
- list the attitudes and characteristics that would indicate personal readiness for parenthood.
- outline the male and female reproductive systems.
- define the terminology associated with prenatal development, labor and birth.
- describe the relationship between the health and care of the expectant mother and the developing child.
- evaluate choices for prenatal medical care, testing and delivery.
- specify the physical and emotional needs of the mother and infant during the postnatal period.
- examine physical, emotional, social and intellectual development.
- describe adult-child interactions during infancy which promote healthy emotional and social development.
- analyze how recent findings in brain research relate to the nurturing of the infant.
- examine physical, emotional, social and intellectual development of the toddler.
- describe methods and techniques that a caregiver uses to encourage the developing sense of independence and self-concept of the toddler.
- differentiate among the four methods of learning used by young children.

- compare average motor development of 4, 5 and 6 year olds.
- give examples of ways to encourage good nutrition and physical activity in children.
- explore the general social patterns of this age group, resolving conflicts, family relationships, and moral development.
- propose strategies for helping children gain self-confidence.
- address ways to assist and prepare the preschooler for the transition to kindergarten.
- observe preschool children in a preschool laboratory setting.
- experience preschool children in a laboratory setting.
- design developmentally appropriate activities for the preschool child.
- analyze the benefits of regular physical activity.
- identify strategies for helping children in middle childhood develop competence and self-esteem.
- compare different theories of intellectual development as they relate to this age group.
- explain how regular check-ups and immunizations can prevent illness.
- discuss proper first aid for a variety of common injuries.
- examine health and safety issues related to child development.
- identify possible signs of stress in children.
- give examples of situational stress that families may encounter.
- recommend ways to help children and adolescents cope with family challenges.
- define child abuse and describe the four types of maltreatment.
- summarize common reasons behind abuse and maltreatment.
- explain what can be done to prevent child abuse.
- assess the family and society's roles in protecting the rights of children.
- explore career paths associated with the care and well being of children.
- analyze the effect of society on children and families.

### **Skill Objectives**

Students will:

- describe the rewards and challenges of various family structures.
- describe the reasons for and challenges of adoption.
- compare and contrast parenting styles such as democratic, permissive and authoritarian.
- list the attitudes and characteristics that would indicate personal readiness for parenthood.
- describe the implications of teen pregnancy on the mother and the child.
- provide and document 24 hour care of an electronic infant manikin.
- survey peer group on relevant sexual issues.
- research a birth defect identifying the causes, symptoms, treatment and prevention.
- explore the challenges faced by families of children with birth defects.
- examine birth defects and their relationship to heredity and environment.

- examine biological processes related to prenatal development, birth, and health of mother and child.
- practice caring for an infant (programmed electronic manikin) for a 24-hour period.
- demonstrate bathing, changing, dressing, and feeding an infant.
- create a list of activities that will increase neural pathways in an infant's developing brain.
- demonstrate activities that will stimulate the infant's development.
- childproof a home, room by room, with the curious toddler in mind.
- evaluate a toddler's skill level using a checklist of physical milestones.
- create a toddler's self-help chart to be used as a guideline for caregivers.
- select one toy and evaluate it for safety, age appropriateness and area of development it encourages.
- create a "wellness awareness" poster for a family with young children
- observe and evaluate a preschool child in our preschool laboratory using a checklist for kindergarten readiness.
- design and implement one 3-hour lesson plan for the preschool laboratory.
- role play a coach of a sports team as he/she gives a positive "pep talk" to the team.
- select a "teen magazine" and write an evaluation of the message it sends to pre-teens about self-image.
- interview a middle schooler about how peer pressure has affected his/her friendships and choices.
- research and report on the effect of modern technology (i.e. internet, cell phones, video games, etc.) on study habits.
- assess safety hazards for children of different ages.
- create a poster outlining strategies to help children from an early age to become aware of potentially dangerous situations.
- practice proper first aid techniques for common childhood injuries.
- interview a professional who works with children in crisis.
- create activity boxes to donate to group homes for children.

### **Family and Consumer Science Standards**

#### ***Interpersonal Relationships***

**Students will demonstrate respectful and caring relationships in the family, workplace, and community.**

Students will compare personal needs and characteristics and their impact on interpersonal relationships.

#### ***Individual and Family Development***

**Students will examine the impact of society on individuals and families across the life span.**

Students will evaluate conditions that influence human growth and development.

### ***Child Development and Parenting Education***

**Students will analyze child growth and development and evaluate the impact of parenting roles and responsibilities on individuals and families.**

Students will investigate the roles and responsibilities of parents and caregivers

Students will evaluate parenting practices that promote human growth and development.

Students will identify strengths that promote growth and development during childhood.

Students will analyze principles of human growth and development during childhood.

Students will assess conditions that influence human growth and development during childhood.

Students will identify external support systems that provide services for parents and caregivers.

### **Information and Technology Standards (to be added)**

#### **Essential Questions**

- What traits that contribute to positive and caring relationships are necessary to develop?
- How does society impact the well being of individuals over time?
- What factors impact and enhance the developmental needs and interests of children?

#### **Focus Questions**

- What are the roles and responsibilities of parents?
- What societal trends affect families today?
- How do heredity and environment work together to influence the developing child?
- What are the consequences surrounding teen pregnancy?
- What are the stages of prenatal development according to trimesters?
- What are the choices for prenatal, delivery, and postnatal medical care?
- What is the relationship of birth defects to heredity and environment?
- How do heredity, nutrition, health, experiences and environment affect a baby's growth and development?
- How does the care an infant receives relate to his/her emotional and social development?
- What is the importance of a stimulating environment on brain development?
- How does nutrition, health, experiences and environment affect a toddler's growth and development?
- How can a caregiver positively influence the developing independence and self-concept of the toddler?

- What is the importance of a stimulating environment on learning?
- How do nutrition, health, experiences and environment affect the growth and development of a preschool child?
- How can a caregiver positively impact a preschooler's emotional development and provide guidance for the child's developing self-confidence?
- What is the importance of a stimulating environment on the preschooler's intellectual development and readiness for kindergarten?
- How can one influence this age group's decisions in nutrition, physical fitness, appropriate behavior, and personal hygiene by providing guidance and being a positive role model?
- What broad social and emotional changes occur between the ages of seven and twelve?
- How do modes of learning and study habits affect the child's overall school experience?
- What are the appropriate responses to common safety hazards and emergencies?
- What is the importance of regular health check-ups and immunizations?
- What are effective ways to care for and comfort sick child?
- What are the common challenges that families may encounter?
- How do stresses such as divorce, poverty, and death affect the developing child?
- How does abuse and neglect affect a child's development?

## **UNITS of STUDY**

### **Unit 1: The Child in the Family Unit**

#### **Family and Consumer Science Standard**

##### ***Child Development and Parenting Education***

**Students will analyze child growth and development and evaluate the impact of parenting roles and responsibilities on individuals and families.**

Students will investigate the roles and responsibilities of parents and caregivers

#### **Essential Question**

- What factors impact and enhance the developmental needs and interests of children?

#### **Focus Questions**

- What are the roles and responsibilities of parents?
- What societal trends affect families today?
- How do heredity and environment work together to influence the developing child?

#### **Core Topics**

- Benefits of Studying Children
- Theories on Child Development
- Characteristics of Child Development
- Demands and Rewards of Parenting
- Family Structures
- Family Life Cycle
- Parenting Styles
- Adoption

#### **Unit Objectives**

Students will be able to:

- evaluate the family as a basic unit of society.
- explore the impact of change and transition over one's life span.
- analyze and evaluate parenting roles and responsibilities.
- identify principles of human growth and child development.
- analyze roles and responsibilities of parenting and the physical and emotional factors related to beginning the parenting process.

#### **Skill Objectives**

Students will:

- describe the rewards and challenges of various family structures.
- describe the reasons for and challenges of adoption.

- compare and contrast parenting styles such as democratic, permissive and authoritarian.
- list the attitudes and characteristics that would indicate personal readiness for parenthood.
- describe the implications of teen pregnancy on the mother and the child.
- provide and document 24 hour care of an electronic infant manikin.
- survey peer group on relevant sexual issues.
- research a birth defect identifying the causes, symptoms, treatment and prevention.
- explore the challenges faced by families of children with birth defects.
- examine birth defects and their relationship to heredity and environment.
- examine biological processes related to prenatal development, birth, and health of mother and child.

### **Sample Assessments**

- Interview experienced parents and write a summarization of responses to questions about how they have achieved success and dealt with failures along the way.
- Tests & quizzes

### **Pacing**

3 weeks



## **Unit 2: Reproduction, Pregnancy and Childbirth**

### **Family and Consumer Science Standard**

#### ***Individual and Family Development***

**Students will examine the impact of society on individuals and families across the life span.**

Students will evaluate conditions that influence human growth and development.

### **Essential Question**

- How does society impact the well being of individuals over time?

### **Focus Questions**

- What are the consequences surrounding teen pregnancy?
- What are the stages of prenatal development according to trimesters?
- What are the choices for prenatal, delivery, and postnatal medical care?
- What is the relationship of birth defects to heredity and environment?

### **Core Topics**

- Adolescent Sexual Development
- Emotional and Social Development of the Adolescent
- Challenges of Teen Pregnancy
- Reproduction
- Fetal Development
- Prenatal Healthcare
- Labor and Delivery
- Birth Defects

### **Unit Objectives**

Students will be able to:

- outline the male and female reproductive systems.
- define the terminology associated with prenatal development, labor and birth.
- describe the relationship between the health and care of the expectant mother and the developing child.
- evaluate choices for prenatal medical care, testing and delivery.
- specify the physical and emotional needs of the mother and infant during the postnatal period.

### **Skill Objectives**

Students will:

- provide and document 24 hour care of an electronic infant manikin.
- survey peer group on relevant sexual issues.
- research a birth defect identifying the causes, symptoms, treatment and prevention.
- explore the challenges faced by families of children with birth defects.

- examine birth defects and their relationship to heredity and environment.
- examine biological processes related to prenatal development, birth, and health of mother and child.

### **Sample Assessments**

- Research paper and oral presentation
- Birth defect power point presentation
- Tests & quizzes

### **Pacing**

8 weeks

## **Unit 3: The First Year of Life**

### **Family and Consumer Science Standards**

#### ***Child Development and Parenting Education***

**Students will analyze child growth and development and evaluate the impact of parenting roles and responsibilities on individuals and families.**

Students will evaluate parenting practices that promote human growth and development.

### **Essential Question**

- What factors impact and enhance the developmental needs and interests of children?

### **Focus Questions**

- How do heredity, nutrition, health, experiences and environment affect a baby's growth and development?
- How does the care an infant receives relate to his/her emotional and social development?
- What is the importance of a stimulating environment on brain development?

### **Core Topics**

- Infant Growth and Development
- Infant Care Skills
- Emotional and Social Development
- Intellectual/brain Development

### **Unit Objectives**

Students will be able to:

- examine physical, emotional, social and intellectual development.
- describe adult-child interactions during infancy which promote healthy emotional and social development.
- analyze how recent findings in brain research relate to the nurturing of the infant.

### **Skill Objectives**

Students will:

- practice caring for an infant (programmed electronic manikin) for a 24-hour period.
- demonstrate bathing, changing, dressing, and feeding an infant.
- create a list of activities that will increase neural pathways in an infant's developing brain.
- demonstrate activities that will stimulate the infant's development.

### **Sample Assessments**

- Baby Think It Over experience and reaction paper
- Tests & quizzes

**Pacing**  
4 weeks

## **Unit 4: Toddlerhood**

### **Family and Consumer Science Standard**

#### ***Child Development and Parenting Education***

**Students will analyze child growth and development and evaluate the impact of parenting roles and responsibilities on individuals and families.**

Students will identify strengths that promote growth and development during childhood.

### **Essential Question**

- What factors impact and enhance the developmental needs and interests of children?

### **Focus Questions**

- How does nutrition, health, experiences and environment affect a toddler's growth and development?
- How can a caregiver positively influence the developing independence and self-concept of the toddler?
- What is the importance of a stimulating environment on learning?

### **Core Topics**

- Physical Development
- Self Help Skills
- Childproofing
- Nutrition
- Emotional and Social Development
- Guiding Appropriate Behavior
- Intellectual Development
- Language Development
- Preschool Readiness

### **Unit Objectives**

Students will be able to:

- examine physical, emotional, social and intellectual development of the toddler.
- describe methods and techniques that a caregiver uses to encourage the developing sense of independence and self-concept of the toddler.
- differentiate among the four methods of learning used by young children.

### **Skill Objectives**

Students will:

- childproof a home, room by room, with the curious toddler in mind.
- evaluate a toddler's skill level using a checklist of physical milestones.
- create a toddler's self-help chart to be used as a guideline for caregivers.
- select one toy and evaluate it for safety, age appropriateness and area of development it encourages.

**Sample Assessments**

- Design a children's cookbook
- Plan a day's menu for a toddler
- Design a play center and describe developmental skills that will be practiced.

**Pacing**

4 weeks

## **Unit 5: The Preschool Child**

### **Family and Consumer Science Standards**

#### ***Child Development and Parenting Education***

**Students will analyze child growth and development and evaluate the impact of parenting roles and responsibilities on individuals and families.**

Students will analyze principles of human growth and development during childhood.

### **Essential Question**

- What factors impact and enhance the developmental needs and interests of children?

### **Focus Questions**

- How do nutrition, health, experiences and environment affect the growth and development of a preschool child?
- How can a caregiver positively impact a preschooler's emotional development and provide guidance for the child's developing self-confidence?
- What is the importance of a stimulating environment on the preschooler's intellectual development and readiness for kindergarten?

### **Core Topics**

- Importance of Play
- Physical Development
- Emotional and Social Development
- Intellectual Development
- Readiness for Kindergarten
- Preschool Observations
- Preschool Lab Experience

### **Unit Objectives**

Students will be able to:

- compare average motor development of 4, 5 and 6 year olds.
- give examples of ways to encourage good nutrition and physical activity in children.
- explore the general social patterns of this age group, resolving conflicts, family relationships, and moral development.
- propose strategies for helping children gain self-confidence.
- address ways to assist and prepare the preschooler for the transition to kindergarten.
- observe preschool children in a preschool laboratory setting.
- experience preschool children in a laboratory setting.
- design developmentally appropriate activities for the preschool child.

**Skill Objectives**

Students will:

- create a “wellness awareness” poster for a family with young children.
- observe and evaluate a preschool child in our preschool laboratory using a checklist for kindergarten readiness.
- design and implement one 3-hour lesson plan for the preschool laboratory.

**Sample Assessments**

- Lesson plan development and implementation in the preschool lab (assessment based on outlined criteria and grading rubric)
- Tests & quizzes

**Pacing**

6 weeks



## **Unit 6: Middle Childhood**

### **Family and Consumer Science Standards**

#### ***Interpersonal Relationships***

**Students will demonstrate respectful and caring relationships in the family, workplace, and community.**

Students will compare personal needs and characteristics and their impact on interpersonal relationships.

#### **Essential Question**

- What traits that contribute to positive and caring relationships are necessary to develop?

#### **Focus Questions**

- How can one influence this age group's decisions in nutrition, physical fitness, appropriate behavior, and personal hygiene by providing guidance and being a positive role model?
- What broad social and emotional changes occur between the ages of seven and twelve?
- How do modes of learning and study habits affect the child's overall school experience?

#### **Core Topics**

- Physical Development
- Emotional Development (bullying, peer pressure, sibling rivalry, birth order)
- Intellectual Development ( TV, study habits, learning disabilities)

#### **Unit Objectives**

Students will be able to:

- analyze the benefits of regular physical activity.
- identify strategies for helping children in middle childhood develop competence and self-esteem.
- compare different theories of intellectual development as they relate to this age group.

#### **Skill Objectives**

Students will:

- role play a coach of a sports team as he/she gives a positive "pep talk" to the team.
- select a "teen magazine" and write an evaluation of the message it sends to pre-teens about self-image.
- interview a middle schooler about how peer pressure has affected his/her friendships and choices.
- research and report on the effect of modern technology (i.e. internet, cell phones, video games, etc.) on study habits.

**Sample Assessments**

- Report/presentation on the effect of modern technology on the family
- Tests & quizzes

**Pacing**

3 weeks

## **Unit 7: Health and Safety**

### **Family and Consumer Science Standards**

#### ***Child Development and Parenting Education***

**Students will analyze child growth and development and evaluate the impact of parenting roles and responsibilities on individuals and families.**

Students will assess conditions that influence human growth and development during childhood.

### **Essential Question**

- What factors impact and enhance the developmental needs and interests of children?

### **Focus Questions**

- What are the appropriate responses to common safety hazards and emergencies?
- What is the importance of regular health check-ups and immunizations?
- What are effective ways to care for and comfort sick child?

### **Core Topics**

- First Aid
- Childhood Illnesses
- Accidents and Emergencies

### **Unit Objectives**

Students will be able to:

- explain how regular check-ups and immunizations can prevent illness.
- discuss proper first aid for a variety of common injuries.
- examine health and safety issues related to child development.

### **Skill Objectives**

Students will:

- assess safety hazards for children of different ages.
- create a poster outlining strategies to help children from an early age to become aware of potentially dangerous situations.
- practice proper first aid techniques for common childhood injuries.

### **Sample Assessments**

- Posters illustrating safety issues for children of different ages.
- Tests & quizzes

### **Pacing**

3 weeks

## **Unit 8: Family Challenges**

### **Family and Consumer Science Standards**

#### ***Child Development and Parenting Education***

**Students will analyze child growth and development and evaluate the impact of parenting roles and responsibilities on individuals and families.**

Students will identify external support systems that provide services for parents and caregivers.

### **Essential Question**

- What factors impact and enhance the developmental needs and interests of children?

### **Focus Questions**

- What are the common challenges that families may encounter?
- How do stresses such as divorce, poverty, and death affect the developing child?
- How does abuse and neglect affect a child's development?

### **Core Topics**

- Child Abuse
- Family Stresses (i.e. divorce, poverty, death)

### **Unit Objectives**

Students will be able to:

- identify possible signs of stress in children.
- give examples of situational stress that families may encounter.
- recommend ways to help children and adolescents cope with family challenges.
- define child abuse and describe the four types of maltreatment.
- summarize common reasons behind abuse and maltreatment.
- explain what can be done to prevent child abuse.
- assess the family and society's roles in protecting the rights of children.
- explore career paths associated with the care and well being of children.
- analyze the effect of society on children and families.

### **Skill Objectives**

Students will:

- interview a professional who works with children in crisis.
- create activity boxes to donate to group homes for children.

### **Sample Assessments**

- Tests & quizzes
- Report on a career in the field of Child Development.

### **Pacing**

5 weeks