



Early Childhood Development: ECDV4 LESSON 4

US 244 263: PREPARING THE ENVIRONMENT FOR BABIES, TODDLERS AND YOUNG CHILDREN

Topic: Clean and Healthy Environment for Young Children

At the end of this lesson students will be able to know :

1. What is clean and healthy environment for young children
2. The suitable learning environment for young children
3. The importance of preparing the suitable learning environment for young children
4. Keeping the learning environment clean and hygienic

Clean and healthy learning environment for young children

1. Every child has a right to grow up and learn in a healthy environment
2. Clean and healthy environment for children that reduces the diseases and provide
3. A safe and clean environment is a place where children feel physical, emotionally and socially comfortable.
4. Healthy environment allows children to be free and know that their needs are taken care of and that they are protected
5. Healthy learning environment have access to water and enough bathrooms which are ready to be used by children

Clean and healthy learning environment for young children

1. Flexible tubing can be used to keep cords out of reach of children which is important to keep cords away from work areas and walkway of children.
2. The entrance to the rooms should always be free to enter at ease.
3. The learning environment should be welcoming to young children through the display of indoor and outdoor equipment
4. Create life plants corner in the classroom environment to serve as a natural air filter.
5. The classroom always be clear by avoiding blinds and shades for children to access natural light.



The suitable learning environment for young children

1. The learning environment which is suitable for young children should:
2. Have enough space for the care-giver to move freely among the children
3. The space provided should accommodate children with different types of special needs.
4. The furniture provided should be enough and safe to be used by young children
5. The colours used should be bright and promote learning to young children
6. The equipment displayed should be of relevant age of young children
7. The learning resources should be enough and relevant to the age of young children.
8. The suitable learning environment for young children should have enough space where the four developmental space will be easily accessed.

The importance of preparing the suitable learning environment for young children

1. Children develop in a safe environment with the relevant resources.
2. The suitable environment support learning and development of children.
3. Suitable environment serves as a core component of intervention on children with disabilities
4. The suitable environment allows the important activities to take place. e.g. washing hands, playing, eating, sleeping, going to bathrooms etc.
5. Suitable environment supports the curriculum delivery to young children at ease.
6. Suitable environment enhances the basic needs for children to develop in an exceptional way that allows them to be creative thinkers.

Keeping the learning environment clean and hygienic

1. The care-givers should always wipe down the children's tables and chairs with sanitizers
2. Wash and disinfect children's toys at the end of each day
3. Wipe all the surface of and objects that children touch frequently
4. Keep the bathrooms clean by washing the bathroom towels frequently
5. Vacuum or sweep the floor daily
6. Make cleaning fun with children

The support of the ECD Centres to keep the ECD Centres clean and healthy

1. The community can play an important role in keeping the environment clean and safe for the children by avoiding dumping next to the ECD center's fence
2. Local business people can also assist in keeping the ECD centers clean and safe through donations of cleaning equipment



3. Parents can assist by making their monthly payments a priority for the ECD centers to buy the cleaning equipment
4. ECD Managers can partner with other stakeholders and introduce fundraising programmes to raise money or safe equipment
5. The centers should comply with the departmental rules to be registered for feeding schemes.

ACTIVITY 1

- 1.1 Explain what a clean environment is for young children (5)
- 1.2 Discuss how the care giver can prepare a suitable environment for young children. (8)
- 1.3 What can be done to keep the clean and healthy environment (4)
- 1.4 Do you think the business people in your community is helping the ECD centers to have suitable environment for children , motivate your answer (3)

Total marks: [20]