



higher education
& training

Department:
Higher Education and Training
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA



GAUTENG
Community Education and Training
CET COLLEGE

Early Childhood Development: ECDV4

LESSON 7

Unit Standard: 244258: Demonstrate basic understanding of toddler's development.

TOPIC: TODDLERS DEVELOPMENT (1 TO 3 YEARS)

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

- 1. Know how physical development unfolds in all toddlers.**
- 2. Understand what mental development occurs in all toddlers.**
- 3. Understand how Language, Emotional and Social Development occur in toddlers.**

TODDLERS

- Toddlers at their age they are, they are figuring out who they are, embracing independence and finding out what they can do.
- They lack self-control and they are very aggressive. Toddlers cannot express their feelings in words or speech etc.
- They are prone to jealousy as they are too self-absorbed and self-centred.
- They experience lots of frustrations and very often are prone to throwing tantrums a lot.
- In terms of sharing they must first establish their authority and then they “may” proceed to share.
- Toddlers are often in conflict with their parents and or caregivers.
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- In terms of sharing they must first establish their authority and then they “may” proceed to share.
- Toddlers are often in conflict with their parents and or caregivers.
- Caregivers and parents are advised to avoid their toddler’s power struggles as the toddlers will outgrow them around reaching their 3rd birthday and onwards.
- Give toddlers a variety of choices, and try to divert attention to something else whenever they are having outbursts.
- Remove yourself from their conflicts sometimes; it is okay to give in to them to “win” sometimes.

TODDLERS PHYSICAL DEVELOPMENT

- They grow pretty fast and they become taller quickly.
- Their physique strengthens too, their bones and muscle grow too.
- They start using spoons and cups independently and successfully with relatively less mess.
- They are constantly in motion as they explore their environment and the world.
- They are excited with running, walking, jumping and any physical activity even fine motor activities like stacking blocks, cutting and pasting papers, drawing, painting, writing and so forth.

TODDLERS COGNITIVE OR INTELLECTUAL DEVELOPMENT

- Toddlers start talking and saying short sentences.
- They also begin to understand more than they can say (vocabulary still limited) hence the frustration and tantrums they throw from time to time.
- They learn names of people, objects, body parts and animals around them.
- They start to understand a vague concept of time, counting, colours, shapes, sizes, weight and certain smells and tastes.

TODDLERS EMOTIONAL AND SOCIAL DEVELOPMENTS

- They start doing parallel play, which is playing next to, not with other children or their peers.
- They like to take charge and think independently for themselves.
- They take absolute pride in being self-sufficient and independent.

- They are very possessive and self-centred, they don't like sharing.
- They start to know and understand rules and timing gradually.
- They become aware of what is RIGHT and WRONG.
- They test the waters by exploring new behaviours and watch the reaction of others especially parents/caregivers.
- They easily get frustrated.
- Their moods are forever swinging and unstable.
- They begin knowing their identity and taking pride in themselves.
- They even begin having a fantasy or illusionary life that they are exploring.

RECOMMENDATIONS ON CARING FOR TODDLERS

- Ensure that you avail toys that are developmentally appropriate **HOLISTICALLY** such as puzzles, blocks, bicycles where possible etc.
- Facilitate the exploration of their surroundings and talk a lot.
- Explore and identify the 5 senses through creative games and active participation as a parent or care giver.
- Ensure that you shower them with compliments as rewards for their achievements and good behaviour.
- Allow the child to help with simple chores in and around the house as it boosts their pride.

Activity 7, 1

CASE STUDY

Lerato Motloun is one of your new caregivers, a 23 year old who just arrived in Gauteng from the Free State. She does not have any children of her own and she will be assisting you at your long running ECD Centre LOVE FIRST ECD CENTRE, as a principal you have decided that you will support her distance learning studies as she pursues her qualification in Early Childhood Development. You have also decided to give her the toddler's class to care for and start teaching and learning from.

1. Describe in full details to your new caregiver what toddlers are, how they behave and give her a comprehensive advise on how she should treat them and what to expect from toddlers in general. [10]

Activity 7, 2

Discuss and explain each domain of development regarding development of toddlers holistically.

- | | |
|----------------------------------|-----|
| 2.1 Physically- | (5) |
| 2.2 Emotionally- | (5) |
| 2.3 Socially- | (5) |
| 2.4 Cognitively/ Intellectually- | (5) |
| 2.5 Languages- | (5) |

Development for Young Children (3 to 5 years)

Also known and recognised as pre-schoolers.

YOUNG CHILDREN'S PHYSICAL DEVELOPMENT

- Their limbs (Arms and Legs) become longer when compared to their torsos
- They become thinner because of the constant running around and burning off extra stored energy in their bodies.
- They finally can enjoy independence through feeding themselves and dressing themselves properly, they can successfully work the zippers and large buttons easily.
- Their small muscles have matured to a point where they can now operate a pair of scissors and glue things together.
- They are able to draw recognisable images or pictures.

COGNITIVE OR INTELLECTUAL DEVELOPMENT

- They begin asking questions such as “Who, What, How and Where” about their environment and people around them.
- They are able to use short sentences and hold a conversation.
- They can display a concentration spell on a task, they can concentrate for some time though minimal but is worthwhile.
- They start learning how to read, write and follow commands and or instructions.

EMOTIONAL AND SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT OF YOUNG CHILDREN

- They go “all out” for approval and praise, they get eager to please.
- They mature and begin sharing and being empathetic when playing with others.
- They start problem solving by themselves.
- They can now understand and follow rules and or commands.
- They are very clear of what is RIGHT and WRONG.
- They are better than toddlers as they can express their feelings verbally and clearer.
- They work hard on their self-esteem and develop positive feeling about themselves.
- They may not be clear about separating fantasy and reality at times.

Activity 7, 3

Discuss in detail in your own words too, how Young Children Develop in the following developmental Domains.

1.1 Physically	(5)
1.2 Cognitively	(5)
1.3 Emotionally	(5)
1.4 Socially	(5)
1.5 Language	(5)
	[25]