**AIDE SKILLS REQUIRED**

Purpose of position: you are responsible for providing a safe and comfortable environment for children in accordance with all policies and procedures. Failure to provide adequate services may place children, self, or center at risk.

1. Required to be 18 years of age and demonstrate some prior experience
2. General knowledge about how to prepare/store **breast milk, formula, solid foods.**
3. Able to identify the stages **of food development**, and communicate to parents, when a baby is ready for cereal or solid foods or sippy cup…
4. Assist in **infant feeding** when eating, including cutting up food small enough
5. Able to handle **upset/crying infants**, sometimes for hours at a time
6. Knowledge in how to **calm** a fussy baby
7. **Diapering knowledge** for infants
8. **Patience:** children can be frustrating. Need an abundance of this virtue to work in this loud, fast paced, stressful environment. Must be able to stay calm. Can redirect a child 100 times if necessary.
9. **Physical stamina:** Quick reflexes, readiness to handle accidents and emergencies at any time. Lots of cleaning. Maintaining toys & equipment in the room. To withstand being in contact with illness health issues and able to bend over and reach into cribs to lift infants out. Able to kneel, bend, stoop, and sit on the floor to attend to children’s needs.
10. **Strength:** Carrying/lifting of children and supplies. Must be able to lift and carry any size child; on average 30 pounds.
11. **Communication skills**: explain and redirect clearly and in few words to infants. Can communicate to coworkers. Your most valuable at asset is your coworker. You must be able to work as a team.
12. **Supervise:** monitor safety of children within sight and sound at all times. Have a constant eye
13. **Nurturing:** children me the feeling of safety and comfort. You should be authoritative but kind and empathetic.
14. **Responsible**: you can provide constant supervision and make responsible decisions. Parents and coworkers trust you.
15. **Experience:** background of working with kids and or knowledge of child development.
16. **Emergency training:** you are expected to take corrective action in case of choking, unconsciousness, fire, tornado, threat of attack, bleeding/cuts, vomiting, and bumps. All staff members must be certified. If you miss center annual certification/training, you are responsible for completing it within a certain time frame on your own. (only teachers are required CPR/First Aid)
17. **Enthusiasm:** you have to actually like and enjoy spending time with kids if you are going to succeed here. You must be upbeat, silly, imaginative, and join children on activities.
18. **Reliable**: consistently reliable to be here on time. Kids need structure and routine. We’re their caregiver for some to most of their days. They depend on us and so do your coworkers.
19. **Social perceptiveness**: being aware of a child’s reactions in understanding why he/she acted that way. How can you fix it or prevent it.
20. **Creativity:** think outside the box. To be able to play, instruct, motivate, and encourage.
21. **Background check:** Each staff is responsible for obtaining and passing a background check with fingerprints within two weeks of being hired.
22. **In-service:** Each staff member must complete in-service hours by Dec 31st of each year. This varies depending on how many hours a week you work.
23. Able to report to room assistant teachers and teachers.