

ASSISTANT TEACHER 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. General knowledge about how to prepare/store **breast milk, formula, solid foods**.
2. Able to handle **upset/crying children**, sometimes for hours at a time as well as knowledge on how to **calm**.
3. **Diapering knowledge**.
4. **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 and redirect a child 100 times if necessary.
5. **Physical stamina:** Quick reflexes, readiness to handle accidents and emergencies at any time. Lots of cleaning. Maintaining toys & equipment in the room. Ability to be in contact with illness. Able to kneel, bend, stoop, and sit on the floor to attend to children's needs.
6. **Strength:** Must be able to lift and carry any size child; on average 30 pounds. Ability to bend over and reach into cribs to lift infants out. Lift and carry necessary supplies
7. **Communication skills:** explain and redirect clearly and in few words. Can communicate to coworkers. Your most valuable asset is your coworker. You must be able to work as a team.
8. **Supervise:** monitor safety of children within sight and sound at all times. Have a constant eye for potential behavior and emergency concerns.
9. **Social perceptiveness:** being aware of a child's reactions and understanding why they acted that way. How can you fix it or prevent it.
10. **Nurturing:** children need the feeling of safety and comfort. You should be authoritative but kind and empathetic.
11. **Emergency training:** you are expected to take corrective action in case of choking, unconsciousness, fire, tornado, threat of attack, bleeding/cuts, vomiting, and bumps.
12. **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.
13. **Reliable:** consistently reliable to be here in on time. Kids need structure and routine. We're their caregiver for some; it's most of their day. They depend on us and so do your coworkers
14. **Background check:** Each staff is responsible for obtaining and passing a background check.
15. Able to report to room teachers.