

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. Required to be 18 years of age and obtain a high school diploma.
2. General knowledge about how to prepare/store **breast milk, formula, solid foods appropriate to ages.**
3. Able to handle **upset/crying children**, sometimes for hours at a time as well as knowledge on how to **calm** a fussy or upset child.
4. **Diapering knowledge.**
5. **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.
6. **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.
7. **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
8. **Communication skills:** explain and redirect clearly and in few words to infants. Can communicate to coworkers. Your most valuable asset is your coworker. You must be able to work as a team.
9. **Supervise:** monitor safety of children within sight and sound at all times. Have a constant eye for potential behavior and emergency concerns.
10. **Social perceptiveness:** being aware of a child's reactions and understanding why they acted that way. How can you fix it or prevent it.
11. **Nurturing:** children need the feeling of safety and comfort. You should be authoritative but kind and empathetic.
12. **Emergency training:** you are expected to take corrective action in case of choking, unconsciousness, fire, tornado, threat of attack, bleeding/cuts, vomiting, and bumps.
13. **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.
14. **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.
15. **Assist in the creation of a classroom environment** conducive to learning and appropriate to the physical, social, and emotional development of children.
16. **Engage in active play with children;** this will often mean getting down on the floor to interact with them.
17. **Provide activities and opportunities** that encourage curiosity, exploration, and problem-solving appropriate to the development levels of the children.
18. **Help maintain accurate and appropriate records** for children in the assigned classroom.
19. **Attend to the personal hygiene of each child;** including changing diapers or soiled clothing and washing hands, faces, etc.
20. **Work cooperatively and effectively as a team** member by communicating and contributing information on a continuous basis.
21. **Maintain open, friendly, and cooperative relationships with each child's family**
22. **Demonstrate behavior that is professional, ethical, and responsible.**
23. **Administer meds** and nebulizer treatments as needed.
24. **Background check:** Each staff is responsible for obtaining and passing a background check