**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, obtain a high school diploma, a college degree, and at least 2,500 at the most hours of experience.
2. 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 for potential behavior an emergency concerns.
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 in child care environments.
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 the actor 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. **Assist in the creation of a classroom environment** conducive to learning and appropriate to the physical, social, and emotional development of children.
22. Perform duties as planned by lead teacher.
23. Implement curriculum.
24. Interact with the children in a way which conveys respect and nurturing.
25. Support the social and emotional development of children.
26. Engage in active play with children; this will often mean getting down on the floor to interact with them.
27. Provide activities and opportunities that encourage curiosity, exploration, and problem-solving appropriate to the development levels of the children.
28. Help maintain accurate and appropriate records for children in the assigned classroom.
29. Attend to the personal hygiene of each child in your care, including changing diapers or soiled clothing and washing hands.
30. Maintain a safe environment based on safety standards set by the center and state guidelines.
31. Assist in the cleaning and straightening of the child care rooms.
32. Work cooperatively and effectively as a team member by communicating and contributing information on a continuous basis.
33. Assist in the development and facilitation of interactive parent and child literacy activities.
34. Maintain open, friendly, and cooperative relationship with each child’s family and encourage their involvement in the program.
35. Demonstrate behavior that is professional, ethical, and responsible.
36. Perform other reasonable duties and responsibilities as assigned by the director.
37. **Administer meds** and nebulizer treatments as needed.
38. **Background check:** Each staff is responsible for obtaining and passing a background check with fingerprints within two weeks of being hired.
39. **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.
40. Able to report to lead teacher.