

Resource: Child Development Associate (CDA) Areas

Area 1: Health & Safety

Training addresses safe environment to prevent and reduce injuries, promotes good health and nutrition and provides an environment that contributes to the enjoyable environments that encourage play, exploration and learning.

Area 2: Physical/Intellectual

Training on a variety of equipment, activities, and opportunities to promote physical development of children, activities and opportunities that encourage curiosity, exploration, and problem solving appropriate to the developmental levels and learning styles of children.

Area 3: Social/Emotional

Training which teaches providers to actively communicate with children and provides opportunities and support for children to understand, acquire and use verbal and non-verbal means of communicating thoughts and feelings, and stimulate children to play with sound, rhythm, language, materials, space and ideas in individual ways and to express their creative abilities.

Area 4: Parent Relationships

Training which helps strengthen parent/provider communication, encourage parent involvement in child care programs and supports the child's relationship with his or her family.

Area 5: Program Management

Training to ensure effective operations of program, organization, record keeping, teamwork, supervising, etc.

Area 6: Professionalism

Training which provides skills to promote decisions using early childhood theories and practices, promotes quality in child care services, improving personal and professional growth.

Area 7: Observing/Recording Behavior

Tools and strategies for objective information collection and discipline techniques.

Area 8: Child Development

Training on developmental milestones and cultural influences.