



BOTSWANA COLLEGE OF DISTANCE AND OPEN LEARNING

Diploma in Integrated Early Childhood Development

SUBJECT NAME: Environment for Learning

SUBJECT CODE: EF 201

Year 2 Semester 1

SESSIONAL EXAMINATION

November 2012

Marks – 100

Instructions

1. This paper has three sections; A, B and C.
 2. Answer questions according to instructions under each section
 3. Write your answers in the answer sheets provided.
 4. Start each section on a new page
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SECTION A: STRUCTURED QUESTIONS (40 MARKS)

Instruction: Answer all questions in this section.

1. Briefly explain how to promote the following core values in early years practice:
 - a) Openness (2 marks)
 - b) Honesty (2 marks)
 - c) Respect for others (2 marks)
2. In two (2) ways show how a practitioner can help children develop a positive self-concept. (4 marks)
3. Briefly discuss any two (2) factors that affect school ethos. (4 marks)
4. Why is it important to ask young children open-ended questions? (2 marks)
5. With an example for each, differentiate between “creating worlds” and “shunting information” (4 marks)
6. Why should practitioners avoid “pressuring” children during child conferencing? (2 marks)
7. State three (3) reasons to show why it is important to involve parents in early years practice. (6 marks)
8. Discuss one (1) reason that justifies the value of focusing on the “process not the end” when engaging children in creative activities? (2 marks)
9. State three (3) reasons to show why it is important to involve children in decision making (3 marks)
10. Briefly discuss what children may learn from the following environments:
 - a) home (2 marks)
 - b) church (2 marks)
 - c) field trips (2 marks)

SECTION B:**CASE STUDY****(20 MARKS)****INSTRUCTIONS:** Choose only one (1) case study from this section.**Case Study 1**

After inspecting Seletsi Day Care centre, Mr Modibedi (PEO 2) remarked,
“The learning environment for early years learning should be able to stimulate all senses. It should be inclusive and show children that they are valued. Children “are experts in their own lives” and “meaning makers” so the early years learning environment should “speak for itself!”

Questions

1. Which learning areas can be used to stimulate children in the following senses?
 - (a) touch (2 marks)
 - (b) hearing (2 marks)
 - (c) sight (see) (2 marks)
2. State two (2) characteristics of an inclusive environment. (2 marks)
3. Which learning activity can allow children to express who they are? (2 marks)
4. What two (2) things can an early years’ practitioner do to show children that they are valued? (4 marks)
5. Describe three (3) things that you would do to your classroom to make it “speak for itself”. (6 marks)

Case Study 2

Children in early years setting should be taught to take care of the environment. They should grow up with the attitudes of ‘treating the earth as though we intend to stay’. Practitioners should initiate creative activities that teach children to re-cycle and re-use materials and plan meaningful outdoor activities as “the best classroom and the richest cupboard is roofed only by the sky”.

Questions

Answer all questions

1. Briefly discuss any three creative activities you could plan for learners to teach them to re-cycle or re-use materials in the environment. (6 marks)
2. Why should children grow up with the attitude of conservation? (2 marks)

3. State any two materials that children can pick from the environment for their discovery corner. (2 marks)

4. Explain how **play** as an outdoor activity can develop children:

(a) mentally. (2 marks)

(b) morally (2 marks)

(c) socially (2 marks)

5. Explain any two precautions that a practitioner should take to ensure that the outdoor environment is safe for children. (4 marks)

SECTION C: ESSAY QUESTIONS (40 MARKS)

INSTRUCTION: Choose two (2) essays from this section and answer them
Each question carries 20 marks.

Mark schedule:

Introduction: 2 marks

Body: 4x4=16 marks

Conclusion: 2 marks

Question 1

With the help of examples, (one for each) discuss any four (4) ways that practitioners can use to help children look after the environment. (20 marks)

Question 2

“The best classroom and the richest cupboard is roofed only by the sky” With reference to this statement, discuss any four (4) factors that a practitioner should consider when setting a conducive learning area for outdoor activities. (20 marks)

Question 3

With examples, discuss four (4) factors that a practitioner should consider when selecting materials for young children. (20 marks)

All the best!