**Course**

**Instructor**

**Final Assignment – Due \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

For this assignment, you will need to synthesis what you’ve learned in this course and articulate your own teaching philosophy and approach in regards to science and math. You will imagine that you are a teacher in an early childhood classroom, childcare center, or family daycare (as some of you already are). Think about what you would want to communicate to parents about your program’s philosophy, goals, and teaching approach in the areas of science and math. Imagine that **you** are the decision maker about the program design and teaching approach.

Your assignment is to write Parent Information Handouts with detailed descriptions explaining how your program (real or imagined) incorporates math and science to support developmentally appropriate learning goals for children. You will write two handouts, one for Math and one for Science. The purpose of the handouts is to provide clear, concise, and easily readable information to inform, educate, and excite parents.

**You must include the components below:**

At the top of your paper, describe the kind of site you are imagining (for example, preschool, parent co-op, Kindergarten, in-home day care, etc.) and provide the ages of the children you are focusing on. Tailor your responses to reflect this teaching situation.

**Math Handout**

1. Explain your perspective on how young children learn math. Support your views by making at least one connection to research or professional resources (California Preschool Foundations in Mathematics, NAEYC articles, *Big Ideas of Early Mathematics* textbook, etc.).
2. Clearly describe or list your learning goals for children in math.
3. Describe how your program and environment is structured to promote children's mathematical explorations and learning. Explain why these experiences are valuable for children’s development.

**Science Handout**

1. Explain your perspective on how young children learn science. Support your views by making at least one connection to research or professional resources (California Preschool Foundations in Science, NAEYC or other professional articles, etc.).
2. Clearly describe or list your learning goals for children in science.
3. Describe how your program and environment is structured to engage children in science exploration and learning. Explain why these experiences are valuable for children’s development.

**Length:** Write 2-3 pages about Math **and** 2-3 pages about Science. Total 4-6 pages, double-spaced. Clearly label the Math and Science sections. Feel free to add graphics or photos, but these additions should NOT be counted in your page count.

*\*For this assignment, it will be helpful to review the math textbook, articles, and other readings given out in class, your completed homework assignments and the PowerPoint presentations.*

**Grading:** 30 total possible points (15 for Math section, 15 for Science section)

Scoring will be based on how well your paper reflects a synthesis of the material covered in the course, thoroughness of required components, and the clarity and organization of your writing. Points will be deducted for grammatical and spelling errors so make sure to carefully edit your work.

Remember, parents/family members are the intended audience, so use a professional tone that is neither overly academic nor too informal.

**Final Assignment – Grading Rubric**

**PARENT HANDOUT - MATH**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Required Component** | **Points** |
| 1. Explain your perspective on how children learn math. Support your views by making at least one connection to research or professional resources. | \_\_\_\_\_\_/5 |
| 2. Clearly describe your learning goals for children in math. | \_\_\_\_\_\_/5 |
| 3. Describe how your program and environment is structured to promote children's mathematical explorations and learning. Explain why these experiences are valuable for children’s development. | \_\_\_\_\_\_/5 |

**PARENT HANDOUT - SCIENCE**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Required Component** | **Points** |
| 1. Explain your perspective on how children learn science. Support your views by making at least one connection to research or professional resources. | \_\_\_\_\_\_/5 |
| 2. Clearly describe your learning goals for children in science. | \_\_\_\_\_\_/5 |
| 1. Describe how your program and environment is structured to engage children in science exploration and learning. Explain why these experiences are valuable for children’s development. | \_\_\_\_\_\_/5 |

Total points \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_/30