



**Ephrata High School**  
**Course Syllabus**  
**Caring For Children**  
**5325**



### *I. Course Description*

Childcare skills are becoming increasingly important with the increase of dual career families and working single parents. Both men and women need these skills, skills that can be developed by taking Caring for Children. This course is for anyone interested in working with children. The needs and development of children are studied through films, observations, projects, and resource people. The class organizes, plans, and operates a 6 to 9 week playgroup for preschool children as part of their learning experiences.

### *II. Materials & Equipment*

Secondary sources from periodicals and informational pamphlets

### *III. Course Goals & Objectives*

Students will be able to:

- Understand the role children play in their lives and the value of studying child development
- Identify the qualities and roles of the caregiver
- List several child care –related careers
- Apply the aspects of development at all levels of children studies: infant, toddler, preschool.
- Explain the benefit of studying family structures, trends and the family life cycle to benefit us as a caregiver and/or future parent
- Apply standards of development at all levels of children studied: infant, toddler, preschool.
- Identify several child development theories and apply that information in creating lesson plans.
- Get a more accurate feeling of the responsibilities of parenting by taking a RealCare Infant Simulator home for two evenings.
- After studying the qualities of a preschool child, create or co-create a lesson plan for a two sessions of two hours in length.
- Set up a childcare lab for 12-14 children ages 3 to 5.
- Develop an operating ability to observe and analyze child development and growth.
- Create a portfolio to show what they know and are able to do as a result of taking this course.

### *IV. Course Topics (Summary Outline)*

Children: A Part of Your Life?

Understanding Childhood and Development

The Role of Caregiver

Family

Ready For Parenthood / Role of Parent

Infant Development

Infant “Show and Tell” (as time permits)

Electronic Infant Simulator

Toddler Development

Toddler “Show and Tell” (as time permits)

Prekindergarten Development and Care

Day Care and Nursery School

Playgroup Set-up

Play

Toys/Games

Music

Nutrition

Language Development / Communication

Discipline

Parent Packets

Room Set-up

Playgroup (two times per week for 5-6 weeks)

Observations

Outside playgroup

In house

Prenatal Development / Pregnancy

Heredity and Birth Defects

Birth

Special Interest Topics (depends upon interests of group)

### *V. Assignments & Grading*

A combination of tests, quizzes, classroom assignments, homework, projects, food preparation labs, and participation may be used to evaluate students. Assessments of food preparation and projects are guided by rubrics that show a set of criteria on which the judgment of performance is based. All work will be assigned a point value. At the end of each marking period, a comparison between points accumulated and total points possible will determine percentage grade for the quarter