Developmentally Appropriate Programming for Babies and Toddlers

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Welcome to today’s Infopeople Webinar!

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Hello!

I’m Brooke from La Crosse. And I’m Amy from Skokie.

Developmentally Appropriate Programming for Babies & Toddlers

An Infopeople Webinar
February 9, 2017
Presented by
Brooke Newberry & Amy Koester

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Hello!

I’m Brooke from La Crosse. And I’m Amy from Skokie.
On Our Agenda Today

- Developmentally Appropriate Programming for 0-23 months
- Great Programming for Babies & Infants
- Developmentally Appropriate Programming for 24-35 months
- Great Programming for Toddlers
- Great Resources
- Time for Questions

Developmentally Appropriate Programming for Children 0-23 Months

Let's Talk Developmental Milestones

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Physical/Motor Development</th>
<th>Sensomotor Development</th>
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- Ascends stairs in childlike way  
- Separation anxiety  
- Parallel play or engaging as onlooker  
- Object permanence  
- Uses 10 words | | | |

Optimal Program Space

• Activity low to the ground
• Items of sensory interest are within view and easy grasp
• Child-sized
• Structures can support child’s weight
• Board books accessible
• Space for solitary play & interaction
• Out-of-bounds areas inaccessible

Optimal Program Format

• Length relatively short (30 minutes max, 10-20 minutes better)
• Opportunities for movement
• Clean & consistent opening rituals, including waving “goodbye”
• Smaller program size for better engagement
• Caregivers present at all times & interacting

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Optimal Program Content
- Include singing/music
- Include opportunities for one-on-one book sharing
- Include opportunities for play with developmentally appropriate toys
- Narrate/explain all program activities
- Model modifications for action rhymes & movement songs

Optimal Program Staffing
- Have a consistent program leader
- Leader actively encourages caregiver participation
- Leader responds positively to movement, vocalizations from children
- Leader will ideally have training specific to serving this age children

Great Programming for Babies & Infants

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POLL:
How long is your typical program for babies/infants?

Optimal Baby/Infant Storytime Format
- Short books
- Repeated songs
- Play opportunities
- Caregiver engagement
- Restricted space

Programming for Babies/Infants Beyond Storytime
- Paint in a bag
- Bubble wrap wall
- Ribbon crawl

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Developmentally Appropriate Programming for Babies and Toddlers

Programming for Babies/Infants Beyond Storytime
- Music
- Eyebrows
- Sensory board

Programming for Babies/Infants Beyond Storytime
- Ball pit
- Scarf pull
- Water play

Optimal Parent/Caregiver Messages
- Singing slows down language. This allows children to build vocabulary and identify that language is made of parts.
- Every time you read the same book, your child is learning new things. Repetition is key!
- When your baby babbles, talk back to him! It’s his way of communicating with you and you are increasing his conversational skills and vocabulary.
- Narrate your day to your child. This increases her vocabulary and the knowledge of the world around her.

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- Scribbles with crayons
- Can aim & throw an object
- Can turn doorknobs, screwtops
- Walks backward
- Can descend stairs in childlike way

- Self-centered & selfish
- Mimics observed mannerisms
- Uses "no" frequently
- Concrete use of objects
- Understands & uses some symbols
- Uses transition objects (e.g., security blanket)

- Uses 250 words
- Uses pronouns
- Uses two-word sentences
- Caregivers can better understand communication

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Developmentally Appropriate Programming for Babies and Toddlers

Optimal Program Space
- Includes room for gross motor play
- Child-sized props/furniture
- Objects accessible throughout the program
- Space is organized for discrete activities
- Picture books reflecting diversity are available
- Play materials can easily be moved and secured

Optimal Program Format
- Opening ritual sharing names, with children stating their own names
- Encourage participation regardless of ability
- Ensure time for children to complete activities
- Children choose between limited options
- Children help clean up
- Smaller program size for better engagement

*This info is on your handout

POLL: What activities do you regularly include in your two-year-old programs?

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Optimal Program Content

- Reading is frequent & in close adult contact
- Singing, fingerplays, action rhymes taught & repeated
- Activities described aloud with appropriate vocab
- Process art/crafts
- Opportunities for pretend play
- Follow-the-leader activities

*This info is on your handout

Optimal Program Staffing

- 1-2 program leaders
- Leader confirms vocalizations & asks for clarification
- Model & narrate appropriate behaviors
- Engage children in play
- Engage caregivers to get to know children
- Leader will ideally have training specific to serving this age children

*This info is on your handout

Great Programming for Toddlers

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Optimal Toddler Storytime Format

- Short books with action
- Introducing key concepts
  - Letters, numbers, colors, shapes
- Consistent songs and rhymes
- Nametags
- Opportunities for play
- Lots of talking!

Programming for Toddlers Beyond Storytime

- Drive in movie
- Parachute play

Programming for Toddlers Beyond Storytime

STEAM
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Developmentally Appropriate Programming for Babies and Toddlers

Great Resources for Serving Babies & Toddlers

Policy & Research Groups
- Zero to Three
- Erikson Institute
- American Academy of Pediatrics
- Centers for Disease Control & Prevention

*This info is on your handout

Professional Resources
- Association for Library Service to Children
- Colorado Libraries for Early Literacy
- Every Child Ready to Read, 2nd Edition
- National Association for the Education of Young Children
- Supercharged Storytimes
- Your state library

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Blogs

- Jibbly - Lindsey Krabbenhoft & Dana Horrocks
- Mel's Desk - Melissa Depper
- Miss Meg's Storytime - Meg Scheibel
- Reading with Red - Brooke Newberry
- Read, Sing, Play - Kendra Jones
- Storytime Katie - Katie Salo

*This info is on your handout

What are your questions?

Thank you!

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Amy Koester | amy.e.koester@gmail.com | showmelibrarian.blogspot.com

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