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Playing Through the Ages Lesson Objective

Time: **40 minutes**

New York State Parenting Standard: **Standard 1: Roles and Responsibilities, Standard 2: Human Growth and Development,**

Aim: For students to understand how one play activity can be used to meet the needs of a number of children at different developmental ages and stages.

Objectives: Students Will:

- 1.) Gain knowledge of how children can play with one item/activity at different developmental stages.**
- 2.) Identify and/or create different play activities and analyze what children learn from each- including knowledge, social skill, emotional development, etc..**

Materials Needed:

Lesson outline, "Memory Game," Worksheet, Homework-sheet. (Review child development stages.)

Playing Through the Ages

Lesson Outline

To be introduced after Play the Work of Young Children

- I. Discuss how at times parents/caregivers are responsible for a number of children at different stages of development.
 - 1. Why would it be important to find/create an activity that is appropriate for many developmental stages?
 - 1. Allows all children to have the attention of the caregiver (no child feels isolated).
 - 2. For safety reasons: the caregiver can watch all the children without being concerned about a child that cannot taking part in their play.
 - 3. Other ideas?
 - B. Have student identify activities that are appropriate for many developmental stages – write on board.
 - 1. How is each activity developmentally appropriate – discuss each developmental stage.
 - 2. Are there any safety concerns? What are they? Is there a way to make it safer?
- II. Activity – Share “Memory” Game with the class (may wish to use more than one game for this activity)
 - A. Have students break into 4-5 small groups
 - 1. Review developmental stages 1-7 years
 - 2. Give each group a set of matching cards and a specific age (1-5 years) level they should play the game at.
 - 3. Have them play for 5 minutes and regroup.
 - 4. Have each group fill out the In-class activity sheet
 - 5. Have each group share how they used the game.
 - 6. What a child of each age would gain from playing this activity.
 - Consider: Social, physical, language and math skills.
 - 7. Identify safety concerns.
 - 8. How can a caregiver play this game different age children at the same time?
- III. Homework
 - A. Have students create a Hands-on Activity to do with a few children at different developmental stages.
 - 1. Have students identify the activity.
 - 2. For what age child(ren) is the activity appropriate?
 - 3. What will each age group gain from the activity?
 - 4. Are there any safety concerns with the activity?

Playing Through the Ages In-Class Activity Sheet

1. At what age level was your group playing? _____
2. How did your group play with this activity?
3. What do you think this age child could learn/gain from this activity?
4. Are there any safety concerns with this activity?

Playing Through the Ages Homework Activity Sheet

1. What is your activity?
2. What age children can play with this activity (at least 2 levels)? _____
3. How would each child play with this activity separately?
4. How would these different aged children play with this activity together?
5. What do you think each age child could learn from this activity?
6. Are there any safety concerns with this activity?