



# GEORGIA

PEACH STATE PATHWAYS

Career, Technical, & Agricultural Education

## EDUCATION

**PATHWAY:** Early Childhood Education

**COURSE:** Health, Safety & Nutrition

**UNIT 16:** Career Opportunities



## INTRODUCTION

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**Annotation:**

This career exploration unit examines the professions of early childhood education and care. It looks at the career outlooks, educational requirements, salary and benefits of various professions.

**Grade(s):**

X	9 <sup>th</sup>
X	10 <sup>th</sup>
X	11 <sup>th</sup>
X	12 <sup>th</sup>

**Time:** 5 Hours

**Author:** Suzanne Mooney, ECE Instructor Whitfield Career Academy

**Additional Author(s):**

**Academic Reviewer:** Sharon Bickford

**Special Education Reviewer:** Holly Spivey

**Resources Used:**

Occupational Outlook Handbook, 2008-09 Edition - <http://www.bls.gov/OCO/>

The Child Care Professional (1999)

**Students with Disabilities:**

For students with disabilities, the instructor should refer to the student's IEP to be sure that the accommodations specified are being provided. Instructors should also familiarize themselves with the



provisions of Behavior Intervention Plans that may be part of a student's IEP. Frequent consultation with a student's special education instructor will be beneficial in providing appropriate differentiation.



## FOCUS STANDARDS

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### GPS Focus Standards:

#### EDU- HSN 2

**Students will determine career opportunities and professional requirements and issues for the child care industry.**

- a. Research and evaluate child care levels and responsibilities and demands and rewards for respective levels.
- d. Analyze the future employment outlook in the child care industry.
- e. Describe employment and entrepreneurial opportunities in the child care industry.
- f. Locate sources of employment information.

### GPS Academic Standards:

- SSEPF6. *The student will describe how the earnings of workers are determined in the marketplace.*
- ELA11W1. *The student produces writing that establishes an appropriate organizational structure, sets a context and engages the reader, maintains a coherent focus throughout, and signals a satisfying closure.*



## UNDERSTANDINGS & GOALS

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### Enduring Understandings:

- Students will be able to discuss the child care career levels including responsibilities, demands, and, rewards for each level.
- Students will be able to explain outlook for employment in early childhood education and care.
- Students will be able to describe the entrepreneurial opportunities in the field of early childhood end and education.
- Students will be able to locate sources of employment information.

### Essential Questions:

- What are the career opportunities in the early childhood field?
- What are the responsibilities of the different jobs in early childhood education?
- What is the outlook for jobs in early childhood care and education?
- What is an entrepreneur in early childhood care and education?
- Where can you find information about job openings in early childhood care and education?

### Knowledge from this Unit:



- Students will interpret what careers are related to early childhood and care.
- Students will demonstrate the responsibilities involved with careers in early childhood education and care.
- Students will interpret what the outlook is for jobs in the early childhood education and care field.
- Students will illustrate what it is to be an entrepreneur.
- Students will create a personal resume.

### Unit Vocabulary:

Entrepreneur	Future employment outlook	Lobbyist
Resume	Consultant industry	Demand
Economic changes	Career fair	Resourceful impact career
professional requirements	Networking	Interview



## ASSESSMENT(S)

**Assessment Method Type:** Select one or more of the following. Please consider the type(s) of differentiated instruction you will be using in the classroom.

- ☐ Pre-test
- ☐ Objective assessment - multiple-choice, true- false, etc.
  - ☐ Quizzes/Tests
  - ☒ Unit test
- ☒ Group project
- ☐ Individual project
- ☐ Self-assessment - May include practice quizzes, games, simulations, checklists, etc.
  - ☐ Self-check rubrics
  - ☐ Self-check during writing/planning process
  - ☐ Journal reflections on concepts, personal experiences and impact on one's life
  - ☐ Reflect on evaluations of work from teachers, business partners, and competition judges
  - ☐ Academic prompts
  - ☐ Practice quizzes/tests
- ☐ Subjective assessment/Informal observations
  - ☐ Essay tests
  - ☐ Observe students working with partners
  - ☐ Observe students role playing
- ☐ Peer-assessment
  - ☒ Peer editing & commentary of products/projects/presentations using rubrics
  - ☐ Peer editing and/or critiquing
- ☐ Dialogue and Discussion
  - ☐ Student/teacher conferences
  - ☒ Partner and small group discussions
  - ☒ Whole group discussions
  - ☐ Interaction with/feedback from community members/speakers and business partners
- ☐ Constructed Responses
  - ☐ Chart good reading/writing/listening/speaking habits
  - ☐ Application of skills to real-life situations/scenarios
- ☐ Post-test



**Assessment(s) Title:**

Career Project

**Assessment(s) Description/Directions**

- Students will be able to explain outlook for employment in early childhood education and care.
- Students will be able to describe the entrepreneurial opportunities in the field of early childhood end and education.
- Students will be able to locate sources of employment information.

**Attachments for Assessment(s):**

## LEARNING EXPERIENCES

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**Sequence of Instruction**

1. Identify the Standards. Standards should be posted in the classroom for each lesson.

EDU- HSN 2 - **Students will determine career opportunities and professional requirements and issues for the child care industry.**

- a. Research and evaluate child care levels and responsibilities and demands and rewards for respective levels.
- d. Analyze the future employment outlook in the child care industry.
- e. Describe employment and entrepreneurial opportunities in the child care industry.
- f. Locate sources of employment information.

2. Review Essential Questions.

1. What are the career opportunities in the early childhood field?
2. What are the responsibilities of the different jobs in early childhood education?
3. What is the outlook for jobs in early childhood care and education?
4. What is an entrepreneur in early childhood care and education?
5. Where can you find information about job openings in early childhood care and education?

3. Identify and review the unit vocabulary. (above)

**Activity 1:** How much Education is needed? – Game



**EQ- 1. What are the career opportunities in the early childhood field?**

- 1) Before class, write different child care careers on individual slips of paper. If you laminate them you'll be able to use them for a longer period of time.
- 2) Make and post one sign in each corner of the room indicating different educational levels (high school diploma, two-year college degree, four year college degree, graduate degree).
- 3) Hand each student the name of a career as he or she enters the classroom.
- 4) Ask students to move to the level of education they think is needed to qualify for their assigned career.
- 5) One group at a time have each student name their job and what type of work they "think" is involved.
- 6) Let them know if they're in the wrong group and ask them to move, but don't tell them which group they should join.
- 7) Go through each group and briefly discuss the jobs and possibly some of the requirements.
- 8) You'll notice that many students have no idea there are SOOOO many jobs related to child care. These are just a few.

Jobs are related to education. Below is a table for the amount of education particular jobs require:

High School Diploma	Two-Four Years of College*
Teacher's aid Teacher's assistant Bus Driver Cook Custodian Receptionist Secretary Bookkeeper	Nanny Teacher in a child care center Home visitor Center Director Assistant Director Child care resource and referral specialist
Bachelor's Degree* (Four Years of College)	Master's Degree* (Four Years of College Plus Graduate School)
Parent educator Educational coordinator Dietitian Nutritionist Family and consumer sciences instructor University lab school instructor Parent involvement coordinator District Manager of child care center chain Play therapist in pediatric hospital program Representative for child and adult care food program Licensing specialist Director of child care resource and referral agency	University or college instructor Author of professional journal articles Legislative lobbyist Social worker School psychologist Child care consultant Music therapist Researcher Attorney in child care law firm Architect with firm specializing in child care settings Director of play therapy in a hospital
*Specializing in Early Childhood and/or Child Development	



Activity taken from The Child Care Professional (1999)

## **Activity 2:** Background Information for Teacher

EDU- HSN 2 - **Students will determine career opportunities and professional requirements and issues for the child care industry.**

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**EQ -** 1. What are the career opportunities in the early childhood field?

### **LECTURE NOTES**

Taken from: Working with Young Children (2008); The Child Care Professional (1999);  
Child Care Professional Curriculum (1999)

Students will be able to discuss the child care career levels - including responsibilities, demands, and, rewards for each level.

As the demand for child care increases due to the social and economic changes in our society, opportunities for a career in early childhood care have increased. There has never been a greater demand for child care. All of this has lead to a variety of career opportunities. There are **NUMEROUS** child care related jobs and you may want to include more from the previous activity:

- **Nannies-** provides care in a child's home
- **Au Pairs-** person who lives with a family and performs tasks similar to those of a nanny
- **Directors of child care facilities-**person over a for-profit or non-profit day care
- **Family child care providers-**keep children in their home
- **Lead teachers-**in charge of planning activities and care of children in classroom
- **Assistant teachers-**assists lead teachers in the care of the children
- **Child care resources and referral specialists-**person who provides resources for day care centers and refers parents to quality child care facilities
- **Licensing specialists-**works for state and observes whether or not day care centers are following state licensing guidelines
- **Child care entrepreneur-**creates and runs his or her own business such as a family day care.

Go to the following websites for additional information on responsibilities, demands and rewards.

- <http://www.bls.gov/oco/ocos170.htm#nature>
- <http://www.bls.gov/oco/ocos170.htm#training>
- <http://www.bls.gov/oco/ocos170.htm#employ>

### **How to Look for a Job**

#### **Step1**



Go to career fairs. Attending career fairs is a great investment of time and effort during the job search because you can directly approach a great number of employers in a day. You can send out resumes to hiring staffs, instead of having to complete applications one by one. Hiring managers also attend these fairs, so you could personally meet the one responsible for hiring you.

#### **Step2**

Research employment websites online. More and more employers are posting employment opportunities on-line, so be sure to visit sites like Monster.com, Career Builder and Yahoo Hot Jobs to find a job.

#### **Step3**

Network, network, network. Never underestimate the power of networking. Tell your friends and family that you are looking for a job. They may know of some openings at their workplaces, or can partner you with someone they know who is looking to hire an employee with your skills.

#### **Step4**

Utilize your resources. Be resourceful during the job search. Sure, the Internet makes it easier to contact employers, but you also have other resources such as newspapers and magazines. Look for jobs the traditional way, perusing classified ads printed in the newspapers. Another “old time way” is to look in the yellow pages and call day care centers and ask if they are hiring and make an appointment for an interview.

**Activity 3:** Career Possibilities in Early Childhood Education and Care and the Outlook for Careers in Early Childhood Education

EDU- HSN 2 - **Students will determine career opportunities and professional requirements requirements and issues for the child care industry.**

- d. Analyze the future employment outlook in the child care industry.
- e. Describe employment and entrepreneurial opportunities in the child care industry.

Students will work on a career project throughout this unit. Part one is the completion of the responsibilities, demands and rewards of the career levels listed on the table below. *Feel free to choose other careers you would like your students to research from the table above in Activity 1.*

- 1) Pair students into groups of two. Have students prepare a career report (may be electronic or hard copy) that addresses each of the following topics:

Part I: Child care career levels including:

- responsibilities
- demands
- rewards

Part II: Outlook for employment in this early childhood education career.

Part III: Describe the entrepreneurial opportunities in this field of early childhood care and education.

Part IV: List five sources of employment information.

- 2) Each pair will present their project to the class and members of the class will fill in the Career Levels Table.
- 3) A blank Career Levels Table is included in the unit attachments.
- 4) Use the attached Career Rubric to help grade this project.



**Career Levels Table**

	<u>Responsibilities</u>	<u>Demands</u>	<u>Rewards</u>	<u>Sources of Employment</u>	<u>Outlook</u>
Nutritionist					
School psychologist					
Directors of child care facilities					
Family child care providers					
Lead teachers					
Dietitian					
Family and consumer sciences instructor					
Child care resource and referral specialists					
Licensing specialists					

**Activity 5: Alternate Career Activity**

- 1) Attached is a more in depth individual career activity.

**Activity 6: View videos and discuss / Read Articles and discuss**

- 1) Check with your guidance office for career videos. Some suggested videos are listed below.
- 2) Attached are two articles related to the impact our current economic plight has had on the child care industry. Read as a class and discuss.

**Activity 7: Resume**

- 1) Show the attached PowerPoint (created by Landis Hicks) on creating your own resume.
- 2) Have each student create a personal resume.
- 3) Microsoft has numerous templates or each student can create their own account on the Georgia Career Information Center website (GCIS). Check with your guidance office or career center for your school's user name and password. [www.gcic.peachnet.edu](http://www.gcic.peachnet.edu)

**Attachments for Learning Experiences:**

- Career Levels Table- Blank
- Alternate Career Project Guidelines
- Career Rubric
- Resume PowerPoint
- Economic Impact on the Child Care Industry – Article



- Impact GA - Article

**Suggested VIDEOS:** (More videos may be obtained from your career center or school guidance office.)

- “Careers in Early Childhood”
- “Entrepreneurial ship in Childcare”
- “Early Childhood Professions” ©04– Learning ZoneXpress 1-888-455-7003  
[www.learningzonexpress.com](http://www.learningzonexpress.com)



## CULMINATING PERFORMANCE TASK

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**Culminating Unit Performance Task Title:**

- Early Childhood Care Careers Table
- Career Project Rubric



## UNIT RESOURCES

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**Web Resources:**

- <http://www.bls.gov/home.htm>
- <http://www.khake.com/index.html>
- <http://www.bls.gov>
- <http://www.salary.com>
- <http://www.collegegrad.com/industries/edhea01.shtml>
- <http://www.georgiachildcare.org/>
- <http://www.gaccrra.org/>
- [www.gcic.peachnet.edu](http://www.gcic.peachnet.edu)
- <http://tipstrategies.com/archive/geography-of-jobs/>

**Materials & Equipment:**

- Computers with internet access
- Phonebooks



**What 21st Century Technology was used in this unit:**

x	Slide Show Software
	Interactive Whiteboard
	Student Response System
	Web Design Software
	Animation Software
	Email

	Graphing Software
	Calculator
	Desktop Publishing
	Blog
	Wiki
X	Website

	Audio File(s)
	Graphic Organizer
	Image File(s)
x	Video
	Electronic Game or Puzzle Maker