

# Child Care Basics

## Section 10.1

### *Child Safety*

■ **Main Idea** Keep children safe by childproofing, preventing accidents, and always being aware of where children are.

## Section 10.2

### *Babysitting*

■ **Main Idea** Caring for children is a serious and important job. Good babysitters are responsible, reliable, and help children grow and learn.





### Explore the Photo

Caring for a child requires training, knowledge, and responsibility. *How can you prepare for caring for a child?*



### Writing Activity

#### Coherent Paragraph

##### Childcare Tasks Made Easy

- Coherent means logical. Write a coherent paragraph about how to perform a childcare task such as changing a diaper, bottle feeding, or putting a child down for a nap. Reread your paragraph to see if it will make sense to the reader.

- **Writing Tips** Follow these steps to write a coherent paragraph.

1. Use a natural or recognized order.
2. Use transitions words, such as "first," "the next step," and "finally."
3. Repeat key words throughout the paragraph.

## Reading Guide

### Before You Read

**Adjust Reading Speed** Improve your comprehension by adjusting reading speed to match the difficulty of the text. Slow down and, when needed, reread each paragraph. Reading slower may take longer, but you will understand and remember more.

### Read to Learn

#### Key Concepts

- ✓ **Identify** ways to childproof a home.
- ✓ **Explain** the purpose of learning first aid.

### Main Idea

Keep children safe by childproofing, preventing accidents, and always being aware of where children are.

### Content Vocabulary

- childproof
- monitor
- intruder


### Academic Vocabulary

- precaution
- restrict

### Graphic Organizer

As you read, identify what you know, what you want to learn, what you learned, and how you can learn more about keeping children safe. Use a graphic organizer like the one shown to help you organize your information.

What I Know	What I Want to Learn	What I Learned	How I Can Learn More

 **Graphic Organizer** Go to this book's Online Learning Center at [glencoe.com](http://glencoe.com) to print this graphic organizer.

## Academic Standards



### English Language Arts

**NCTE 8** Use information resources to gather information and create and communicate knowledge.



### Science

**NSES F** Develop understanding of personal and community health; natural resources; environmental quality.



### Social Studies

**NCSS 1A Culture** Analyze and explain the ways groups, societies, and cultures address human needs and concerns.

**NCTE** National Council of Teachers of English

**NCTM** National Council of Teachers of Mathematics

**NSES** National Science Education Standards

**NCSS** National Council for the Social Studies

**C**aring for children is a big responsibility. The more often you care for children, the more you learn about protecting them and caring for their basic needs. Training and taking safety measures can prepare you to care for children in a variety of situations.

# Keep Children Safe

Safety should be a top priority for every person who cares for a child. Accidents and injuries can have tragic results. However, most can be avoided by paying attention and by taking some simple steps to avoid common hazards. Young children do not understand the dangers that surround them. In their eagerness to explore, they can easily hurt themselves by playing with a dangerous object or substance. Families with a child or children need to make their homes childproof. A **childproof** home is a safe environment where children can play and explore. A good way to identify hazards is to explore on your hands and knees. At that level, which is the level of a young child, it is easier to see potential dangers that you might not spot otherwise. **Figure 10.1** lists some **precautions**, or safety measures, caregivers can take to help keep children from getting hurt.

Even if a home has been childproofed, you still need to watch children carefully to make sure that they are safe. Infants will put just about anything in their mouths. It is extremely important that you make sure anything small enough to be swallowed is kept out of reach. If an object can fit in or through a roll that holds paper towels, it is too small for children under four years old.



## As You Read

**Connect** What can you do in your home to keep visiting children safe?

## Vocabulary

You can find definitions in the glossary at the back of this book.

### Figure 10.1 Childproofing

**Eager to Explore** Babies and young children love to explore, which very often includes putting things in their mouths and grasping anything that might look interesting. *What dangers are in your home that would need to be fixed to keep a child safe?*



- Put safety latches on cabinet doors and drawers.
- Use safety gates at the top and bottom of stairs.
- Put safety covers on electrical outlets.
- Move cleaning supplies and other dangerous items out of children's reach.
- Remove poisonous plants.
- Check all toys to be sure they are nontoxic and do not have any small or broken parts.



## Study Skills

### Avoid Distractions

Study in a quiet place. Turn off the television. If you have a cell phone, let voicemail answer your calls until you are done studying.





### Phone Safety

When you babysit in a home, you may be responsible for answering the telephone. Since you do not know who may be calling, it is important to follow some guidelines for talking with a stranger while babysitting:

- Never tell a caller that you are the babysitter and alone with children.
- Tell the caller that the parents are not available rather than they are not home.
- If you sense trouble, hang up and call a trusted adult for help.

It is very important to monitor young children at all times. **Monitor** means to watch carefully over someone or something. You may be surprised by how quickly toddlers can get themselves into new and sometimes dangerous situations. Toddlers are adventurous. They do not know yet what it means to be careful. It is up to caregivers to keep busy toddlers out of danger. Preschoolers are just starting to learn what it means to be careful. However, they are just as likely as toddlers to get into dangerous situations. Preschoolers need constant reminders to be careful.

### Intruders


Keeping children safe involves more than childproofing the child's living areas. It also means protecting children, and yourself, from intruders. An **intruder** is someone who uses force to get into a home. Caregivers need to take the following precautions:

- Make sure that all doors and windows are locked.
- Do not open the door for strangers.
- Do not let callers know that you are alone with the children.
- Call a neighbor, another trusted adult, or dial 9-1-1 if a stranger does not go away.



**Predict** Why is it necessary to watch infants and children who are in childproof areas?



 **Safe Toys** Infants explore by putting things in their mouths. *How can you help keep an infant from choking?*

## Prevent Accidents

When caring for young children, you need to take precautions to prevent accidents. Some common accidents are falls, injuries, fires, and poisoning. It is a very good idea to take a first-aid course. Some parents will only hire caregivers and babysitters who know basic first aid. Small cuts, scrapes, contact with common poisonous plants, and nosebleeds are minor injuries that can be treated with first aid.

If a child gets hurt and requires emergency care, stay calm and call for help. A broken bone, serious bleeding, and burns require emergency care. Insect stings and animal bites can be very dangerous, too. Call the child's parents, a neighbor, or dial 9-1-1 for help.

## Falls and Injuries

Falls are the leading cause of accidental deaths in the home in the United States. When caring for children, follow these guidelines to help prevent falls and other common injuries:

- Never leave an infant alone on a changing table, sofa, or bed. The infant may roll over and fall off.
- Make sure all stairways are blocked with safety gates.
- **Restrict**, or limit, crawling infants and toddlers only to places they can explore safely.
- Never leave a child alone in or near a bathtub or pool.
- Keep children away from electrical wires and outlets.
- Remove all breakable or dangerous objects.
- Make sure that toys are age-appropriate and free of loose parts.
- Do not allow plastic bags near children. Plastic bags can cover their mouths or noses and lead to suffocation.
- Keep knives and other sharp objects away from children.
- Always watch children to keep them from running into the street.
- Children should always ride in a properly installed child car seat.
- Never leave children alone in a car or a home.

### SCIENCE YOU CAN USE



#### Disposable vs. Cloth Diapers

Though most parents use disposable diapers for infants, there is also the option of using cloth diapers. Compare the environmental effects of disposable diapers versus cloth diapers and laundering them.

**Procedure** Interview parents and conduct research to find out how many diapers an infant goes through in his or her first year of life.

**Analysis** Use this information to determine the environmental effects of both disposable and cloth diapers. Which choice has the least impact on our environment?

**NSES F** Develop understanding of personal and community health; natural resources; environmental quality.



**Learn First Aid** Basic first aid is a must for caregivers. *What are some minor injuries that do not require emergency care?*



## Fires

Fires are the second leading cause of accidental death in the United States. Follow these guidelines to help prevent fires in the home:

- Be sure that there are smoke alarms on every floor of the home.
- Keep all matches and lighters away from children.
- When cooking, avoid wearing clothing with long, full sleeves.
- Turn pot and pan handles away from the edge of the stove, and keep the oven door closed.
- Never allow a child to be alone in the cooking area.

If you smell smoke or see a fire while you are caring for children, get the children out safely first. Then call the fire department (9-1-1) after you are safely away from the fire. Use a cell phone if you have one. If not, ask a neighbor to call. Do not try to put out the fire yourself.

Try not to panic if you are trapped by smoke or fire. Stay close to the floor. If you can, put a wet cloth over your nose and mouth and crawl to safety. If you cannot get out, close the door to the room and stuff wet towels around the cracks in the door. Call for help immediately.



### House Fires

According to the National Fire Protection Association (NFPA), it takes less than five minutes for a fire to spread through a house. Follow these tips when you are babysitting:


- Ask the parents for their emergency evacuation plan.
- Be aware of stoves and ovens if you cook while babysitting.
- Supervise children's activities at all times.

## Poisonings

Common sense is the best way to keep children away from dangerous household substances. All poisonous items should be kept in locked cabinets. If that is not possible, keep the items on a high shelf, out of the reach of children.

The first step to take if you suspect a child has been poisoned is to call 9-1-1 or the poison control center. Get this number before you start any babysitting job, and keep it near the phone. You can find the number of the nearest poison control center in the telephone book or by calling directory assistance.



 **Dangerous Products** Many common household items are dangerous and even deadly. Keep them out of a child's reach. *What can you do to help prevent poisoning while you are babysitting?*

### Section 10.1 After You Read

#### Review What You Have Learned

1. **Explain** what precautions a caregiver can take to protect against an intruder.
2. **Name** the two leading causes of accidental deaths in the United States.

#### Practice Academic Skills

##### English Language Arts


3. Write a guide to parents-to-be or new parents to explain how they can childproof their home for an infant. Conduct research to find out what equipment or supplies they might need. You may want to ask your own parents for ideas. If possible, illustrate your guide with graphics or drawings.

**NCTE 8** Use information resources to gather information and create and communicate knowledge.

##### Social Studies

4. Interview a person who was raised in a culture different from yours. Name and describe three values about children in his or her culture. Explain how these values affect childcare. Present your findings to the class in an oral report.

**NCSS 1A** Analyze and explain the ways groups, societies, and cultures address human needs and concerns.

 **Check Your Answers** Check your answers at this book's Online Learning Center at [glencoe.com](http://glencoe.com).



# Section 10.2 Babysitting

## Reading Guide

### Before You Read

**Stay Engaged** One way to stay engaged when reading is to turn each of the headings into a question, then read the section to find the answers.

### Read to Learn

#### Key Concepts

- ✓ **List** the information you should find out before accepting a babysitting job.
- ✓ **Name** four needs that require attention when caring for infants.
- ✓ **Describe** how to distract a toddler after his or her parents leave.
- ✓ **Plan** what you should have when caring for preschoolers.

### Main Idea

Caring for children is a serious and important job. Good babysitters are responsible, reliable, and help children grow and learn.

### Content Vocabulary

- reliable
- redirect


### Academic Vocabulary

- appreciate
- imitate

### Graphic Organizer

As you read, identify five ways you can show that you are a reliable babysitter. Use a graphic organizer like the one shown to help you organize your information. The first one is filled in for you.

How I Can Show That I Am Reliable
1. Keep a constant, careful eye on the children.
2.
3.
4.
5.

 **Graphic Organizer** Go to this book's Online Learning Center at [glencoe.com](http://glencoe.com) to print this graphic organizer.

### Academic Standards



#### English Language Arts

**NCTE 4** Use written language to communicate effectively.



#### Mathematics

**NCTM Problem Solving** Solve problems that arise in mathematics and other contexts.



#### Social Studies

**NCSS V B** Analyze group and institutional influences on people, events, and elements of culture in both historical and contemporary settings.

**NCTE** National Council of Teachers of English

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**NSES** National Science Education Standards

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**B**abysitting is often the easiest kind of job for young people to find. It provides good experience. It gives teens an opportunity to interact with children. It also gives teens a chance to learn about responsibility and discipline. The best babysitter is a person parents can rely on to care about their children.

# Babysitting Responsibilities

When you babysit, you are totally responsible for the safety and well-being of the children in your care. If you do your job well, you will gain valuable experience and earn money. You will also have an opportunity to play with children and teach them new things.

Before you begin looking for a babysitting job, you should take a course in first aid through a local hospital, a community center, or the American Red Cross. You could also volunteer as a parent's helper. This is someone who cares for an infant or a young child under a parent's supervision. Parents looking for babysitters will **appreciate**, or be thankful for, someone who has taken steps to prepare for the serious job of babysitter.

When parents ask you to babysit, find out the following information before you accept the job:

- the number of children and their ages
- the time you should arrive
- how long the parents plan to be gone
- the rate of pay you will receive

If everything about the job sounds good to you, check with your parents to make sure that the job meets with their approval. After you accept the job, write down the date, time, and place. Give your parents the telephone number at the home where you will be babysitting. If possible, you should also give your parents the cell phone numbers of the parents for whom you are babysitting.



## As You Read


**Connect** Think about your favorite babysitter. Why was he or she your favorite?



## Study Skills

**Be Comfortable** Find a good table and chair or desk for studying. If you are comfortable, you are more likely to focus and study longer.



 **Parent's Helper** Volunteer to be a parent's helper to gain childcare experience. *How can this prepare you for babysitting jobs?*

## Babysitting Resource Binder

In this activity you will create a resource binder for babysitting. Before you begin, read through the entire Hands-On Lab assignment. Write down any questions that you have about the activity. Reread the text or ask your teacher for help if you need it.



### Supplies

- ✓ 3-ring binder
- ✓ 3 section dividers
- ✓ Paper and pens

### Develop Your Plan

- Divide your binder into three sections: Families, Emergencies, and Entertainment.
- Gather information on burns, CPR, choking, poisons, drowning, insect bites, and other injuries.
- Gather meal and entertainment ideas.

### Implement Your Plan

- In the Families section, write down the names of all the adults for whom you babysit. Include addresses, home, work, and cell phone numbers, e-mail addresses, and children's names.
- In the Emergencies section, write down telephone numbers for the local fire, police, and rescue units, poison control center, and local hospitals. Include the name and number of each child's doctor.



- In the Entertainment section, write your ideas for games, toys, and activities. You may also want to include fun meal ideas, such as pancakes with faces made of fruit and yogurt.
- Take your binder with you on each babysitting job and use it as a reference.

### Evaluate Your Results

What other information could you add to your binder? How can having the information in the binder help you on babysitting jobs? Write one or more paragraphs to explain your answer.



**Projects and Activities** Go to this book's Online Learning Center at [glencoe.com](http://glencoe.com) for more projects and activities.

## Babysitting Job Tips

The first time you babysit for a family, ask the parents if you can arrive a little early. That way, you have a chance to get to know the children while the parents are still at home. It is a good idea to ask the parents to go over a few of the family rules in front of the children. Be sure to ask about:

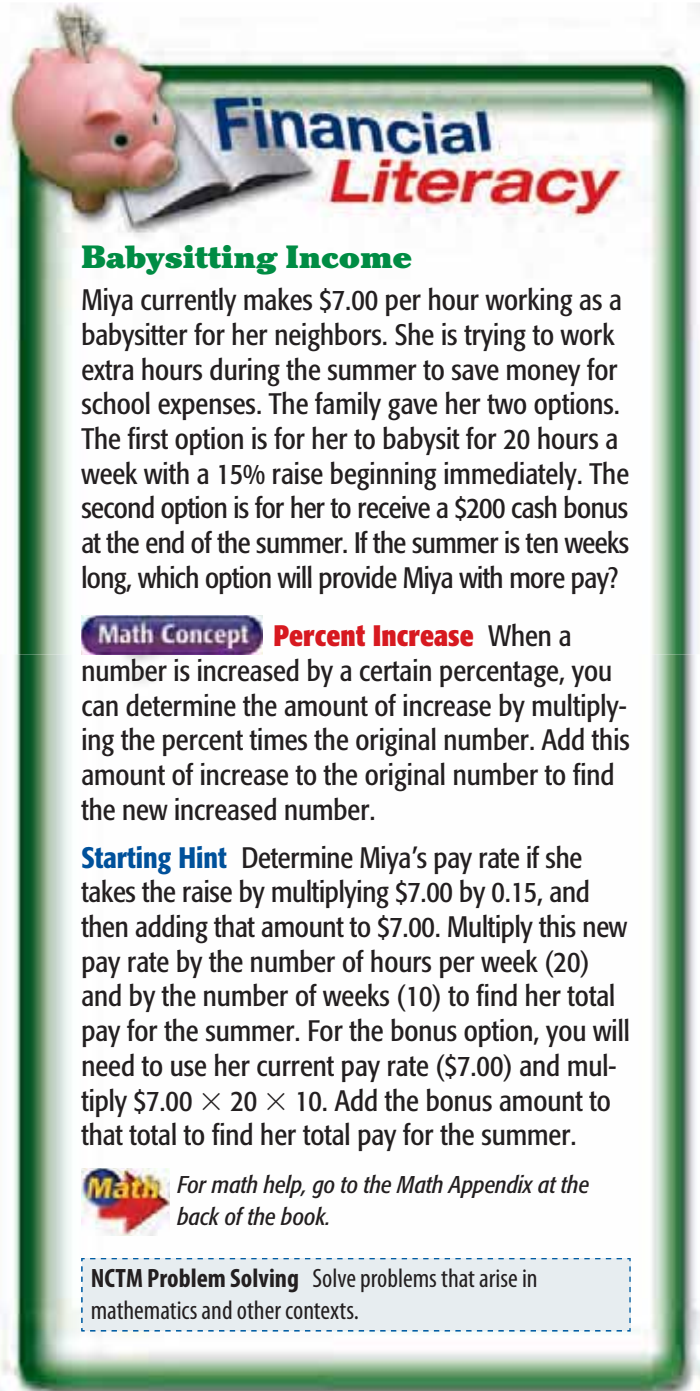
- television viewing
- homework
- telephone use
- visits from friends
- snacks
- bedtime

Discuss any rules or limits that might cause problems later. Meet the family pets. Find out if the family has a swimming pool. Take a walk through the house with the parents to become familiar with the layout and emergency exits. Find out if there are any rooms that the children should not enter, such as a room that has not been childproofed.

If you are friendly and caring with children, it can help them feel comfortable with you in charge. Show the children that you enjoy being with them. Let them know you are interested in what they want to do or say. Try to get them involved in something enjoyable so they stay happy and busy. Take time to put the children you are babysitting at ease. **Figure 10.2** on page 218 lists some suggestions you can follow to help children feel comfortable with you.

If the children are comfortable with you, the parents will seek you out again. **Reliable** babysitters can be counted on. Parents need babysitters they can trust with the safety and care of their children. Reliable, trustworthy babysitters are likely to be asked to babysit in the future. They establish good relationships with the parents and children. Parents who are happy with your work may recommend you to their friends who have young children. To show that you are a reliable babysitter:

- Keep a constant, careful eye on the children.
- Ask questions to show you are serious about the job.
- Leave the home as neat as you found it.



### Financial Literacy

#### Babysitting Income

Miya currently makes \$7.00 per hour working as a babysitter for her neighbors. She is trying to work extra hours during the summer to save money for school expenses. The family gave her two options. The first option is for her to babysit for 20 hours a week with a 15% raise beginning immediately. The second option is for her to receive a \$200 cash bonus at the end of the summer. If the summer is ten weeks long, which option will provide Miya with more pay?

**Math Concept** **Percent Increase** When a number is increased by a certain percentage, you can determine the amount of increase by multiplying the percent times the original number. Add this amount of increase to the original number to find the new increased number.

**Starting Hint** Determine Miya's pay rate if she takes the raise by multiplying \$7.00 by 0.15, and then adding that amount to \$7.00. Multiply this new pay rate by the number of hours per week (20) and by the number of weeks (10) to find her total pay for the summer. For the bonus option, you will need to use her current pay rate (\$7.00) and multiply  $\$7.00 \times 20 \times 10$ . Add the bonus amount to that total to find her total pay for the summer.

**Math** For math help, go to the Math Appendix at the back of the book.

**NCTM Problem Solving** Solve problems that arise in mathematics and other contexts.

## Figure 10.2 Help Children Feel at Ease

**Join in the Fun** Like you, children are more comfortable when the people around them are enjoying themselves. *What can you do to show a child that you are ready to play?*



- When talking children, sit or kneel so that you are at eye level.
- Ask children how you can join in their play. For example, "Those farm animals look like fun! Can I help you feed the cows?"
- Smile and speak kindly.
- Some children do not like people outside of their family to give them hugs and kisses. Let the child decide if and when affection is appropriate.
- Be patient. Listen to what they say without correcting them or trying to finish their sentences.

- Do not allow your friends to visit.
- Do not open the door for strangers.

Being responsible for children is a serious and important task. It can also be a lot of fun. Children of different ages have different needs and require different types of care. Learning how to take care of infants, toddlers, and preschoolers will help you meet their needs and enjoy your time with them.



**Predict** What is likely to happen if you are a reliable babysitter?

## Infant Care

Infants are cute, fun to cuddle, and easy to entertain. Infants cannot do things for themselves. They rely entirely on their caregivers for all of their physical, emotional, and social needs. Infants communicate their needs for sleep, food, comfort, and attention by crying.

When an infant cries, check to see if she has dirty diapers. Offer a bottle to see if she is hungry. She may be too hot or too cold. Maybe something on her clothing is irritating her skin. She may need to be burped. If none of these things calm her, try rocking with her or walking her around the room. Some babies are comforted by riding in their strollers.

If possible, secure the infant in her stroller and take her for a walk. If you cannot go outside, walk her around the house. The movement of going back and forth down a hallway can soothe a cranky baby.

## Holding Infants

Infants cannot hold their heads up without help. To support an infant's head, place one hand under his head and the other hand and arm under the lower part of his back. Then you can lift him safely to your shoulder or cradle him in the bend of your arm and elbow area.

## Diaper Changes

Ask the parent to show you the diaper changing area and where to put dirty diapers. When you change a diaper, gather everything you need before you begin. Infants can roll off changing tables and beds. Never leave an infant alone or even turn your back to the infant while changing a diaper.

## Feeding Time

A young infant drinks mother's milk or formula. Cradle the infant in your arm when you give a bottle. After he stops drinking, hold him over your shoulder, and lightly pat his back until you hear a burp. It may take a few moments for the burp to come. Be patient. Also know that infants do not always burp.



## Character Counts

### Reliability

Joann is babysitting for a new family. When she first arrived, the parents made it clear that they did not want any other teens in their home while they were gone. After the children went to bed, Joann's friend, Brenda, dropped by with a movie that just came out on DVD that Joann really wanted to see. There is plenty of time to watch the movie before the parents return.

### You Make the Call

Is there really anything wrong with watching a movie while the children sleep? Write a paragraph that explains what you think Joann should do.

### More Than Nutrition

Babies rely entirely on their caregivers for all of their physical, emotional, and social needs.

*What benefits do infants receive from being fed besides nutrition?*

## Diaper a Baby

**A**n infant needs several diapers a day. The most important thing to remember when changing a baby's diaper is safety. Never leave an infant unattended at any time during the process. It takes practice, but by following some basic guidelines, changing a diaper can be a fairly smooth process.



**Step 1. Gather the supplies.** You will need a diaper, baby wipes or washcloth, and diaper rash ointment (optional). Make sure all your supplies are within reach before setting the baby on the changing surface.

**Step 2. Find a safe place for the baby.** Most likely, there will be a changing table in the baby's room. If not, you can set a towel or blanket on a bed or even on the floor. Wherever you choose to change the baby, make sure the surface is secure and free of any hazards.

**Step 3. Remove the dirty diaper.** Lay the baby on his or her back. Unfasten the diaper tabs. Raise the child's bottom off the dirty diaper by gently grasping the ankles and lifting. Use baby wipes or a wet washcloth to clean the baby's bottom, wiping front to back. Remove the diaper from the baby's reach.

**Step 4. Put on the clean diaper.** Apply diaper rash ointment if needed. Pull the front of the new diaper between the baby's legs. While holding the front of the diaper over the baby's belly, open one side tab and pull it across to the front placement mark. Open the other side tab and pull it into place so the diaper is snug, but not too tight. Redress the baby, then place him or her in a safe place, such as a crib or playpen.

**Step 5. Clean up.** Dispose of the dirty diaper by wrapping the tabs all the way around it to form a ball. Clean up the changing area and thoroughly wash your hands.

## Safe Sleeping

To put an infant to sleep, place her on the side or back, never on the stomach. Be sure to pull up the side of the crib and fasten it securely. When the infant is sleeping, check her often to make sure that everything is all right. Keep toys and other objects out of the crib, and make sure she is not too hot or too cold. Many experts agree that it is best to avoid blankets and pillows in cribs.



**List** What can you check when an infant is crying?

## Toddler Care

Toddlers require a lot of attention. They need help and understanding as they grow and make new discoveries. They also demand a lot of attention because they are busy moving from one thing to another. Toddlers are starting to enjoy the company of others. They will want you to play with them and keep them entertained. However, they may not stay interested in the same activity for very long!

## Meal Time

Children between one and three years old are able to eat many of the foods that adults enjoy. However, they are still learning proper way to eat, chew, and swallow. Make sure you only feed the child food that his parents approve. Foods should be soft and cut into small pieces to avoid choking. Never leave a toddler unattended while she is eating. Be patient. Some young children eat very slowly, and they tend to be messy.

## Activities and Skills

Coordination and understanding improve a great deal during the toddler years. While toddlers enjoy showing off their growing independence, most will need extra comfort when their parents leave. Ask the parents for a selection of their favorite toys or a beloved blanket. You may need to redirect them with a toy, puzzle, or game. When you **redirect** children, you turn their attention to something else. They will usually get over missing their parents in a few minutes.



### Interaction

Toddlers enjoy showing their new discoveries to the people around them. *What can you do to encourage a toddler to explore his or her world?*





## COMMUNITY CONNECTIONS

**Help for Parents** New parents often need a break from the demands of a newborn. Find an organization in your community that provides breaks or training for new parents, and see if you can volunteer to babysit while the parents get some time for themselves.

Children at this age like to **imitate**, or copy, what their caregivers do. Fun activities for toddlers include playing with a toy vacuum cleaner, lawn mower, or telephone. They might also enjoy plastic dishes and food, plastic or wooden tools, or a bucket and shovel.

If the toddler has learned to use the toilet, you may have to help him or her in the bathroom. Depending on the child's level of skill, help him or her unfasten clothes and get onto the toilet or potty seat. Afterwards, help the child wash his or her hands. Clean up any accidents, and replace the diaper or underpants if needed.



**Explain** How can you help a toddler use the toilet?

## Preschooler Care

Preschoolers are curious and often look forward to being with caregivers they like. They like to be kept busy, and they want others to interact with them.



**Creative Playtime** Involve children in activities while you babysit.  
*What creative ideas do you have for playtime?*

## Meal Time

Preschoolers are often picky eaters. Be sure to follow their parent's list of acceptable foods and snacks. Preschoolers have all of their teeth and are much more experienced with eating. However, they can still be messy. As with toddlers, be patient and keep an eye on the child while he or she is eating.

## Activities

Babysitting preschoolers can be exhausting, but it can be a good experience if you plan well. During this period, children's motor skills and imagination improve. Their creativity and curiosity seem endless. Plan to have a list of back-up activities to help keep them entertained. Fun activities for most preschoolers include play dough, puzzles, dolls, construction sets, coloring with crayons, and using paints. Ask the child to tell you to draw something, such as a favorite animal or a familiar character. The child will enjoy watching what you create. Then have the child do the same thing. If you can manage to keep an active preschooler busy, you can help him or her be more willing to go to sleep at bedtime.

### Section 10.2 After You Read

#### Review What You Have Learned

1. **Identify** which family rules you should discuss with parents before they leave.
2. **Recall** the instructions for properly holding an infant.
3. **Explain** why it is important to stay with a toddler who is eating a meal.
4. **Describe** what you can do to prepare a busy preschooler for bedtime.

#### Practice Academic Skills



#### English Language Arts

5. Create a flyer to advertise the babysitting services of a teen who has had a good deal of babysitting practice. Include his or her experience, special skills, contact information, and the fee charged. Use graphics to make the flyer colorful and interesting.

**NCTE 4** Use written language to communicate effectively.



#### Social Studies

6. Write a short essay about the impact of daycare on society. How is daycare used and provided in today's society? How are children affected by daycare?

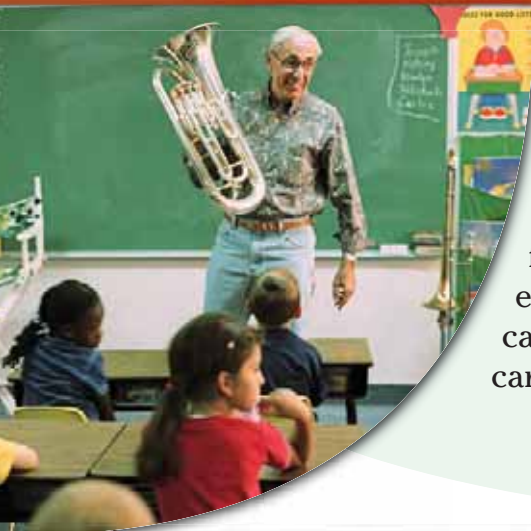
**NCSS V B** Analyze group and institutional influences on people, events, and elements of culture in both historical and contemporary settings.



**Check Your Answers** Check your answers at this book's Online Learning Center at [glencoe.com](http://glencoe.com).

# Discovering Careers

## Focus on Careers in Child Care ▼



Do you enjoy caring for children? Do you seek out opportunities where you can teach or be a role model for children? If you answered yes to either of those questions, you might want to consider a future career in child care. The following chart explores several careers in the child care industry.

### Career Activities ▼

#### At School

1 Select three of the careers listed. Research the education, training, and work experience required for each career. Write a summary of your results.

#### At Home

2 With your parent, put together a list of the regular tasks he or she did for you when you were an infant or toddler. Use the list to come up with the job description of "Parent."

#### At Work

3 Make a list of five or more jobs aside from those listed on this page for people who want to work with children. Compare your list with those of your classmates.

#### In the Community

4 Contact and interview someone in your community who works in the child care industry. Ask this person to describe what his or her typical work day is like. Share what you learned with your class.

Job Title	Job Description
<b>Pediatric Speech Therapist</b>	Develops programs for children with speech and language disorders, hearing disorders, and oral motor disorders.
<b>Child Care Instructor</b>	Organizes and leads activities of preschool children in nursery schools and daycares. Directs snack time, nap time, and toileting.
<b>Special Needs Aide</b>	Attends to personal needs of disabled children. Secures children in medically-required equipment. Helps children perform physical activities.
<b>School Music Director</b>	Plans and develops music education program. Coordinates vocal and instrumental music activities.
<b>T-Ball Coach</b>	Organizes and teaches preschool-age children how to play baseball. Helps develop basic throwing, running, and catching skills for young children.

Learn More Online  [glencoe.com](http://glencoe.com)

**Career Investigations** Go to this book's Online Learning Center for activities and worksheets to help you explore careers.



### Chapter Summary

#### Section 10.1 Child Safety

Children do not understand the dangers that surround them. Families can childproof their homes to create a safe environment for children to play and explore. Even if a home has been childproofed, children must be watched carefully to make sure they are safe. To keep children safe, protect them from intruders, take precautions to prevent accidents, learn how to handle emergencies, and keep children away from dangerous household products.

#### Section 10.2 Babysitting

When you babysit, you are totally responsible for the safety and well-being of the children in your care. Prepare for babysitting by learning first aid and volunteering as a parent's helper. Being responsible for children is a serious and important task. Infants rely on their caregivers for all their needs. Toddlers need help and understanding as they grow and make new discoveries. Preschoolers are curious and often look forward to being with caregivers they like.

### Words You Learned

1. Use each of these content vocabulary words and academic vocabulary words in a sentence.

#### Content Vocabulary

- childproof (p. 209)
- monitor (p. 210)
- intruder (p. 210)
- reliable (p. 217)
- redirect (p. 221)

#### Academic Vocabulary

- precaution (p. 209)
- restrict (p. 211)
- appreciate (p. 215)
- imitate (p. 222)

### Review Key Concepts

2. **Identify** ways to childproof a home.
3. **Explain** the purpose of learning first aid.
4. **List** the information you should find out before accepting a babysitting job.
5. **Name** four needs that require attention when caring for infants.
6. **Describe** how to distract a toddler after his or her parents leave.
7. **Plan** what you should have when caring for preschoolers.

### Critical Thinking

8. **Evaluate** whether or not you should allow a well-coordinated 18-month-old child play with a toy that is designed for a 3-year-old child.
9. **Predict** what you would do if a child in your care was exposed to poison ivy.

## Real-World Skills and Applications

### Problem-Solving

- 10. Learn What to Expect** You have been recommended as a great babysitter. A new family has called you to find out if you are able to babysit this weekend. List five questions to ask the family about what you can expect on your first night of babysitting.

### Technology Applications

- 11. Write an Evaluation** Using word processing software, create an evaluation to give to parents after you have completed a babysitting job them. Choose areas for the parents to evaluate that would be helpful for your growth and development in caring for children. Have parents rate each area with a number, for example: 1 = poor, 2 = needs improvement, 3 = fair, 4 = good, and 5 = excellent. Leave space for them to add their own comments.

### Financial Literacy

- 12. Plan Ahead** Your school's formal Winter Dance is coming up in just three months, but you are worried about the costs of attending the event. Your parents have agreed to help you by paying half of your expenses, but you still need to come up with your share. You estimate that a new outfit and shoes will cost \$350, tickets to the dance will cost \$89, and transportation will be another \$65. To cover your half of the expenses, you would like to take a babysitting job. If the job pays \$7.00 per hour, how many hours will you have to work each week to raise enough money to pay for your share of expenses? Assume there are four weeks in a month.



- 13. Puppet Play** Children love to use their imaginations. A favorite activity for young children is to use puppets for storytelling. Make puppets from socks, yarn, ribbon, buttons, markers, and pieces of scrap fabric. You could also use lunch-size paper bags. Take your puppets to your next babysitting job and let the kids tell stories and play with the puppets. Bring extra supplies to let the children make their own puppets.

- 14. Babysitting History** In the 1900s on the American plains, the care of children was the responsibility of all family members and they were not paid for it. Children were expected to care for themselves and siblings much earlier than they are today. Choose a time in history and find out how children were cared for during that period. Did they call it "babysitting?" Did sitters get paid? If so, how much? Present your findings to the class.



- 15. Babysitting Training** With permission from your parents or teacher, go online to find what kind of training is offered to prepare babysitters for their work. Find out about training for CPR, first-aid techniques, child development, and activities for children. Include this information in your Life Skills Binder.

## Academic Skills



### English Language Arts

16. **Seeking Babysitters** Imagine that you are a parent seeking a babysitter for your two children. Use the information from this chapter as well as any personal experience you may have to write an advertisement that would attract qualified babysitters. The ad would appear at local high schools and colleges. Describe the duties you expect to be performed, and list the qualifications you expect from the babysitter.

**NCTE 4** Use written language to communicate effectively.



### Social Studies

17. **Car Seats** Find information about child safety seats for use in vehicles. How have they changed since they were invented in the 1920s? What are the current standards for car seats? What is the proper use and position of the car seat? How do they help children stay safe? Are there laws in place about using car seats? Explain your answers in a short report.

**NCSS VIII C Science, Technology, and Society** Analyze how core values, beliefs, and attitudes of society shape scientific and technological change.



### Mathematics

18. **Comparing Numbers** During the summer, LaTisha has been working many evenings as a babysitter for families in her neighborhood. Last week, she worked two nights at the Aquino house, and four nights for the Brooks family. What is the ratio of nights worked at the Aquino house to nights worked at the Brooks house? For the week, what was LaTisha's ratio of nights that she did not work to nights that she did work?

#### Math Concept

**Ratios** A ratio is a comparison of two numbers that can be represented in different forms: as a fraction (for example,  $\frac{1}{2}$ ), with a colon (1:2), or as a phrase ("1 to 2"). Whichever form is used, the ratio should be reduced to the lowest terms.

**Starting Hint** For each question, write a ratio as a fraction in the lowest terms. Make sure that the two numbers in your ratios are in the same order given by the question.

**NCTM Number and Operations** Understand numbers, ways of representing numbers, relationships among numbers, and number systems.



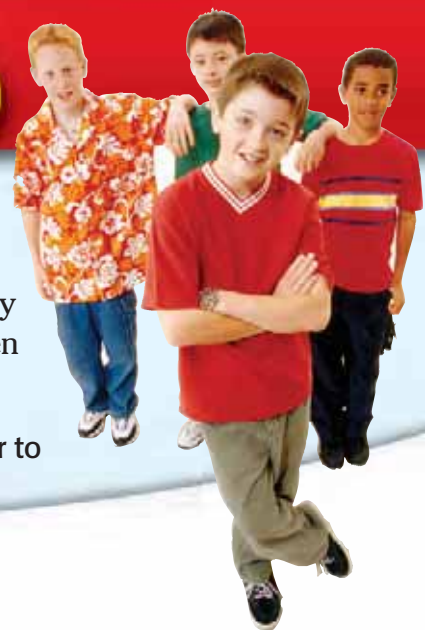
## Standardized Test Practice

### Multiple-Choice

Read the questions, then choose the appropriate answer.

**Test-Taking Tip** Look for negative words such as *not* and *no* in multiple choice questions. These words can be easily missed but can change the entire meaning of a sentence.

19. Which is not a characteristic of a good babysitter?
- Reliable
  - Social
  - Caring
  - Prompt



## Your Relationship with Children

Understanding how to take care of children can help you become a good caregiver. Watch a younger relative or friend to see how they play and learn. This project can help you to understand how young children learn through play.



**My Journal** Complete the journal entry from page 181, and refer to it to complete your list of favorite toys.

### Project Assignment ▼

#### In this project you will:

- Create a list of your favorite toys or games from when you were young.
- Choose an age group and research its development.
- Design a toy or game for a young child.
- Interview someone who cares for children.
- Present your design to your class.
- Include this project in the fourth section of your personal Life Skills binder.

#### Step 1

### Make a List of Your Favorite Toys and Games

Understanding what children enjoy can be easier if you remember the toys and games you liked when you were younger. Choose your favorite toy, and describe it. Write about why you loved it and what made it fun to play with.

#### Step 2

### Choose a Toy for an Infant, Toddler, or Preschooler

Review Section 9.2 to remind yourself of the developmental milestones of the three age groups. Think about a toy you could design that would help a child develop or practice these skills. Then write two or more paragraphs that answer these questions:

- ✓ What age group are you designing a toy for?
- ✓ Which milestones will your toy help develop or practice?
- ✓ Why do you think children will enjoy your toy?
- ✓ How can you ensure that your toy will be safe?

#### Step 3

### Interview Someone Who is Responsible for Children

Interview someone in your community who takes care of young children. Ask these questions:

- ✓ How old are the children you take care of?
- ✓ What are the children's favorite toys?
- ✓ What skills have they learned from playing with each one?

Use these interviewing skills when conducting your interview and these writing skills when writing the summary of notes from your interview.

#### Interviewing Skills

- Record interview responses and take notes.
- Listen attentively.

#### Writing Skills

- Use complete sentences.
- Use correct spelling and grammar.



### Step 4 Create and Present Your Toy or Game

Use the Life Skills Project Checklist on the right to plan and design a toy or game. Draw your design in a diagram or build it out of craft materials to show how it works, and give an oral presentation to the class.

Use these speaking skills when presenting your final report.


#### Speaking Skills

- Speak clearly and concisely.
- Be sensitive to the needs of your audience.
- Use standard English to communicate.

### Step 5 Evaluate Your Presentation

Your project will be evaluated based on:

- ✓ Completeness and organization of your list of favorite toys and games.
- ✓ The design of the toy or game for a young child.
- ✓ The description of how your toy or game is safe and appropriate for its age group.
- ✓ The summary written from interview notes.
- ✓ Grammar and sentence structure.
- ✓ Presentation to the class.
- ✓ Creativity and neatness.

 **Evaluation Rubric** Go to this book's Online Learning Center through [glencoe.com](http://glencoe.com) for a rubric you can use to evaluate your final project.

## Life Skills Project Checklist

### Research Toys and Games

- ✓ Create a list of toys and games you enjoyed when you were a child.
- ✓ Check the developmental milestones of infants, toddlers, and preschoolers.
- ✓ Interview someone in your community who takes care of children.
- ✓ Design or build a toy or game.

### Writing Skills

- ✓ Describe your favorite toy or game from your childhood.
- ✓ Explain how your design will be age-appropriate.
- ✓ Write a summary from your interview with someone takes care of children.

### Present Your Findings

- ✓ Prepare a short presentation to share and describe your toy or game design and explain how it is age-appropriate, safe, and fun.
- ✓ Invite the students of the class to ask any questions they may have. Answer these questions with responses that respect their perspectives.
- ✓ Add this project to your Life Skills binder.

### Academic Skills

- ✓ Conduct research to gather information.
- ✓ Communicate effectively.
- ✓ Organize your presentation so the audience can follow along easily.
- ✓ Thoroughly express your ideas.

**NCTE 4** Use written language to communicate effectively.

**NCTE 5** Use different writing process elements to communicate effectively.