

Common Course Outline

EDTR 224 Language Arts for Children

3 semester hours (3 classroom hours per week)

The Community College of Baltimore County

Overall Course Description:

Language Arts for Children

Provides an overview of language development and language arts curriculum for the first early childhood years, primarily birth to age six. Designed for prospective early childhood and elementary teachers, this course will cover language acquisition, language development and emergent literacy, with emphasis both on theory and developmentally appropriate curriculum planning. Students are expected to participate in directed field experiences and will learn to create language arts curriculum components. Prerequisite: EDTR 121

Overall Course Objectives:

Upon completion of this course, the student will be able to:

- Explain the major theories of language acquisition and language development for children from birth to age three
- Discuss and apply the principles of emergent literacy and beginning literacy development for children age two to six
- Identify, design and implement activities and materials that support emergent literacy and early literacy development
- Integrate emergent literacy and literacy development within all areas of a developmentally appropriate early childhood curriculum
- Demonstrate an ability to assess the literacy development of individual children
- Identify a variety of ways to assist families in supporting literacy development
- Demonstrate skill in promoting language and literacy development within a classroom or other early childhood setting

Major Topics:

- Language development
- Emergent literacy
- Components of literacy
- The literate environment
- Language enrichment and enhancement
- Emergent reading and writing skills
- Early language arts curriculum activities

Requirements:

- Exams
- Class discussion and group activities
- Activity/curriculum plan
- Guided field experience
- Final project