

Month-By-Month Plan

Child Care Experience™ Program

This month-by-month guide helps you bring the Child Care Experience (CCE) Program to life throughout the entire school year.



Year at a Glance With the CCE Program

SEPTEMBER



*Understanding
Infant Health &
Development*

OCTOBER



*Introduction to
Infant Care*

NOVEMBER



*Emergency
Response
& Safe Care*

DECEMBER



*Communication
& Documentation*

JANUARY



*Scheduling &
Teamwork*

FEBRUARY



*Opening a Child
Care Center*

MARCH



*Advanced Care &
Problem Solving*

APRIL



*High Difficulty
Care & Safety*

MAY



A Day in the Life

Bringing our Child Care Experience™ Program to Life: A Pacing Guide



Why this Guide?

Preparing students for real-world child care roles takes structure, practice, and hands-on application. This guide is designed to help you bring the Child Care Experience (CCE) Program to life in your classroom month by month, skill by skill, so your learners build confidence in infant care, safety, communication, and professional readiness.

Whether you're implementing the program for the first time or refining an existing course, this resource helps you map out a successful year of experiential learning.

What's Inside?

- A month-by-month instructional plan
- Skill-building lesson sequences
- Guidance for using CCE Babies and accessories
- Scenario-based learning ideas
- Scaffolded simulation recommendations
- A capstone experience

How to Use This Guide

Here are a few simple ways to get the most out of this resource:

- **Plan your semester at a glance.** Each month includes ready-to-use activities, making it easy to map out your course calendar.
- **Pair hands-on simulations with classroom instruction.** The sequence moves from foundational care skills to multi-infant, real-time caregiving scenarios.
- **Customize based on your class size and schedule.** Adjust simulation ratios, lengths, and scenario complexity to fit your time and resources.
- **Reinforce soft skills and professionalism.** Communication, documentation, teamwork, and problem-solving are woven throughout.
- **Use scenario cards often.** Daily prompts build student confidence in both routine and unexpected child care situations.

This guide is flexible — adapt activities as needed and return to sections throughout the year as students are ready for deeper challenges.

Who This Guide is For

This resource was created for:

- Family & Consumer Sciences teachers
- Child development and early childhood education instructors
- Career and Technical Education (CTE) programs
- Educators preparing students for caregiving, child care, or education pathways

If you're helping students build practical caregiving skills, this guide is for you.



SEPTEMBER: Infant Developmental Stages



Learning Focus

Students explore the major developmental domains of infancy and begin building a foundational understanding of how infants grow, learn, and change over time.

Lessons to Teach

Lesson 2: The Developmental Domains of Infancy (PIES)

 *Approximate Teaching Time: 50-60 min*



OCTOBER: Basic Infant Care Skills



Learning Focus

Introduce foundational caregiving events using CCE Babies in demo mode.

Lessons to Teach

Lesson 1: Infant Feeding and Nutrition

 *Approximate Teaching Time: 45-60 min*

Key Concepts to Emphasize



Feed



Burp



Rock



Change Diaper



Soothe



Hands-On Simulation

- 3-Month & 9-Month CCE Babies (demo mode)
- Practice care events one at a time



NOVEMBER: Infant Health and Safety



Learning Focus

Teach Emergency procedures and begin multi-skill care loops. Continue to practice basic infant care skills with a 1:1 care ratio in a continuous loop. Set up demos that increase in difficulty, practicing first between two skills, then three, then four, and finally all five in a continuous loop.

Lessons to Teach

Lesson 6: Introduction to Emergency Infant CPR (3-Month CCE Baby)

 *Approximate Teaching Time: 45-60 min*

Lesson 7: Infant Airway Obstruction (9-Month CCE Baby)

 *Approximate Teaching Time: 45 min*

Hands-On Simulation

- CPR Practice
- Airway obstruction simulations
- Continuous care loops



Classroom Application

- Scenario-based learning using Infant Health & Safety cards
- Think-pair-share discussions
- Written assessments

Simulation Progression

- Begin with 1-2 skills
- Gradually increase to all 5 care skills in a continuous loop

FALL SEMESTER



DECEMBER: Soft Skills in Child Care Careers



Learning Focus

Develop professional communication and documentation skills.

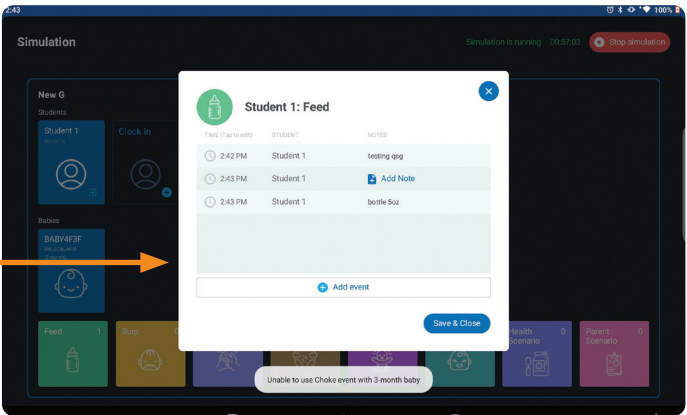
Lessons to Teach

Lesson 4: Communication with Parents

Approximate Teaching Time: 70-80 min

Hands-On Simulation

- Short simulations with 1-2 infants
- Focus on logging care in Baby Care Journal
- Written parent communication required



Classroom Application

- Child Care Career Cards (19 scenarios)
- Education & Training Cards (18 scenarios)



SPRING SEMESTER



JANUARY: Career Exploration



Learning Focus

Explore caregiver ratios, scheduling, and teamwork.

Lessons to Teach

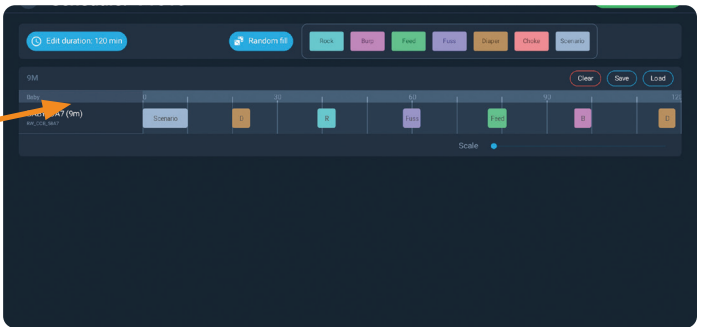
Lesson 3: Lesson & Daily Schedule Planning

Approximate Teaching Time: 95-120 min

Hands-On Simulation

Simulation Setup

- 1:2 or 2:3 ratios
- 10-minute easy schedules
- 15-minute medium schedules
- Add random scenarios



FEBRUARY: Entrepreneurship



Learning Focus

Understand business operations and advanced scheduling.

Lessons to Teach

Lesson 5: Entrepreneurship - Opening a Child Care Center

Approximate Teaching Time: 85-105 min

Hands-On Simulation

Simulation Setup

- 1:3 or 2:4 ratios
- 10-minute easy schedules (overlapping events)
- 15-minute medium schedules
- Add random scenarios



MARCH: Building Infant Care Skills



Learning Focus

Increase complexity, problem-solving, and teamwork.

Lessons to Teach

Lesson 8: The Child Care Experience

 *Approximate Teaching Time: 60-130 min*

Hands-On Simulation

Simulation Setup

- 15-minute medium schedules (overlapping events)
- 10-minute hard schedule
- Multiple random scenarios

Scenario Cards

- Infant-Toddler Cards (20 selected)

Instructor Notes



APRIL: Building Infant Care Skills



Learning Focus

Master complex care scenarios.

Lessons to Teach

Lesson 8: The Child Care Experience

 *Approximate Teaching Time: 60-130 min*

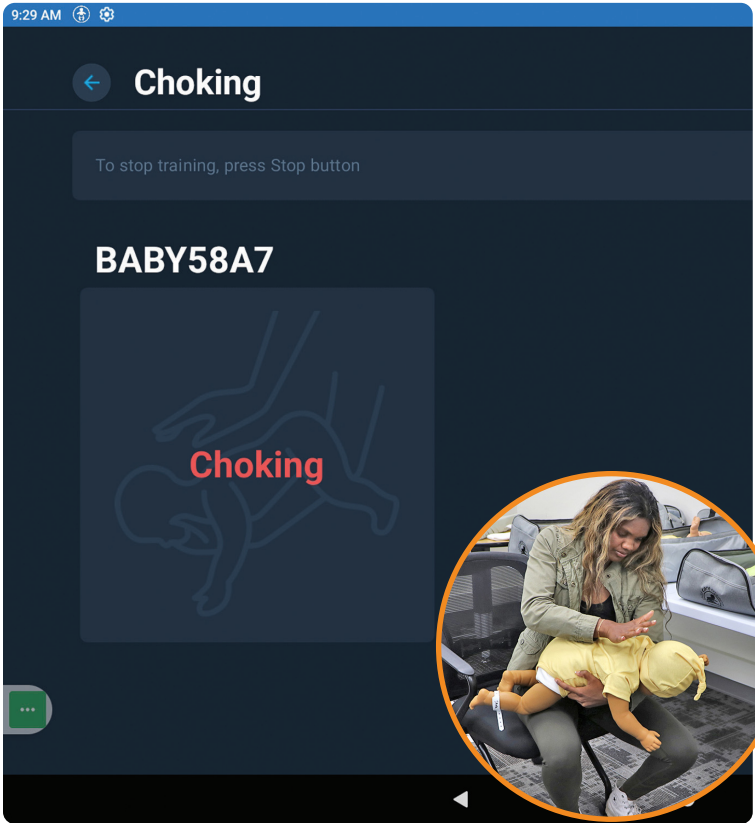
Hands-On Simulation

Simulation Setup

- Ratio: 1:3 or 2:4
- 15-minute hard schedule
- Include choking events

Scenario Cards

- Infant-Toddler Cards (18 scenarios)



MAY: Capstone Experience



Learning Focus

Demonstrate full skill mastery.

Capstone Simulation

Simulation Setup

- 30-minute medium
- 30-minute hard
- 60-minute medium-hard
- 1:4 ratio



Wrapping Up Your Child Care Experience Year

By the time students complete the full CCE Program, they've developed a strong foundation in infant care, health and safety, communication skills, and professional readiness. With hands-on practice, real-time problem solving, and scenario-based learning woven throughout the year, your learners have taken meaningful steps toward future success in child development and child care settings.

Celebrate Student Growth:

- **Recognize the progress your students have made.** From mastering basic care routines in the fall to managing complex, multi-infant simulations in the spring, each milestone reflects increasing confidence and competence.
- **Highlight both technical and soft skills.** Problem-solving, teamwork, documentation, and communication are essential skills that translate directly to the workplace.
- **Use the capstone simulations as a showcase moment.** Encourage students to reflect on what they learned, what challenged them, and how their skills grew.

Next Steps & Extension Opportunities

Consider expanding learning by:

- Connecting students with job shadowing or volunteer opportunities in local child care centers
- Incorporating additional career exploration or entrepreneurship lessons
- Hosting a portfolio or presentation day where students share insights and evidence of learning
- Encouraging certification pathways or continued coursework in early childhood education



Discover more hands-on childcare training tools

We hope this guide supports you throughout the year and gives you the tools you need to create meaningful, engaging learning experiences in your classroom. If you'd like additional learning aids and resources focused on childcare career preparation, visit our website: www.realityworks.com