BHCC-126
EARLY CHILDHOOD CARE AND EDUCATION
TUTOR MARKED ASSIGNMENTS

Course code: BHCC-126
Assignment Code: BHCC-126/ASST/TMA/2026-27
Session: July 2026- January 2027
Marks: 100

Note: Attempt any five questions.

The assignment is divided into ***two Sections*** 'A' and 'B'. You have to attempt at least ***two questions*** from each section in about 600 words each. All questions carry equal marks.

SECTION – A

1. Explain the concept of Early Childhood Care and Education (ECCE). Discuss its importance for the holistic development of young children.
2. Discuss the principles of developmentally appropriate practices in ECCE. Explain how these principles can guide the planning of learning experiences for young children.
3. Explain the importance of play in early childhood. Discuss different types of play and their role in children's physical, cognitive, social and emotional development.
4. Discuss the role of family and community in promoting quality early childhood care and education.
5. Explain the importance of a safe, stimulating and inclusive learning environment for young children. Discuss the role of the ECCE educator in creating such an environment.
6. Describe the major developmental domains during early childhood. Explain how an ECCE programme can address these domains in an integrated manner.
7. Discuss the importance of observation and assessment in early childhood settings. Explain how assessment information can be used to support children's development and learning.

SECTION – B

8. Explain the importance of nutrition, health and hygiene in early childhood. Discuss practices that can promote children's health and well-being in an ECCE setting.
9. Discuss the importance of early stimulation and responsive caregiving during the first three years of life. Explain how caregivers can provide developmentally appropriate experiences.
10. Explain the role of language and literacy experiences in early childhood. Discuss activities that can promote communication, vocabulary and emergent literacy.
11. Discuss the role of social and emotional development in early childhood. Explain strategies that an educator can use to promote emotional regulation, empathy and positive peer relationships.
12. Explain the concept of inclusion in ECCE. Discuss how an early childhood programme can respond to children with diverse abilities, backgrounds and learning needs.
13. Discuss the role of curriculum planning in ECCE. Explain how activities, routines, learning materials and play-based experiences can be organized to promote holistic development.
14. Explain the importance of professional competencies and ethical responsibilities of ECCE educators. Discuss the need for collaboration with families and other professionals

1. Explain the concept of Early Childhood Care and Education (ECCE). Discuss its importance for the holistic development of young children.

Answer

Early Childhood Care and Education (ECCE) refers to the organised and everyday care, protection and learning experiences provided to children from birth through the early years, commonly considered up to eight years of age. It includes care in the family, community services, anganwadis, preschools and the early primary grades. ECCE is wider than teaching children letters and numbers. It combines good nutrition, health, safety, affectionate relationships and opportunities to explore the world. Its purpose is to help each child grow and learn according to their needs, interests, pace and circumstances. Thus, care and education cannot be separated: a hungry, frightened or neglected child finds it difficult to participate confidently in learning.

Meaning and essential features

An effective ECCE programme recognises that children learn actively through play, movement, imitation, conversations, experimentation and relationships. It provides a predictable yet flexible routine, with time for free play, stories, music, rest, meals and outdoor activity. Children are encouraged to ask questions and make choices rather than merely repeat the educator's answers. Experiences should connect with home languages, local culture and familiar surroundings. Equal participation is important for girls and boys, children with disabilities and children from different social or economic backgrounds. Caregivers observe individual progress without expecting every child to reach a milestone on the same day.

Importance for physical development

The early years bring rapid growth of the body and the nervous system. Nutritious food, safe drinking water, sanitation, immunisation and regular health attention support healthy growth. Age-appropriate outdoor games such as running, balancing, climbing and throwing develop large muscles, coordination and strength. Threading large beads, drawing, folding paper and manipulating clay develop fine-motor control and hand-eye coordination. Care must be taken to match activities to children's abilities and to prevent injuries. Children who are physically active and well rested can generally participate more comfortably in the learning environment.