
Child and Adult Care Professions and Education

Unit: Acquisition of Knowledge Base

Problem Area: History of Human Development

Lesson: Child and Adult Care Professions and Education

■ **Student Learning Objectives.** Instruction in this lesson should result in students achieving the following objectives:

- 1 Compare and contrast the historical and modern views of child care and education.**
- 2 Compare and contrast the historical and modern views of adult care and education.**

■ **List of Resources.** The following resources may be useful in teaching this lesson:

“The Eldercare Law Resource Guide: Long Term Care.” *Illinois Legal Aid*. Accessed July 10, 2008. <http://www.illinoislegalaid.org/index.cfm?fuseaction=home.dsp_Content&contentID=4238>.

Gonzalez-Mena, Janet. *Foundations of Early Childhood Education: Teaching Children in a Diverse Society*, 3rd ed. McGraw-Hill, 2005.

Papalia, Diane E., Sally Wendkos Olds, and Ruth Duskin Feldman. *A Child’s World: Infancy Through Adolescence*, 11th ed. McGraw-Hill, 2008.

Siegler, Robert, Judy Deloache, and Nancy Eisenberg. *How Children Develop*. Worth, 2003.



Stephens Brehm, Sharon. "Blueprint for Change: Achieving Integrated Health Care for an Aging Population." *American Psychological Association*. Accessed July 13, 2008. <http://www.apa.org/pi/aging/blueprint_report.pdf>.

"Using Research on Early Childhood Development and Education: NAEYC Resources." *National Association for the Education of Young Children (NAEYC)*. Accessed July 10, 2008. <http://www.naeyc.org/resources/research/research_03_01.asp>.

"Using Research on Early Childhood Development and Education: Other Resources." *National Association for the Education of Young Children*. Accessed July 10, 2008. <http://www.naeyc.org/resources/research/research_03_02.asp>.

■ **List of Equipment, Tools, Supplies, and Facilities**

- ✓ Overhead or PowerPoint projector
- ✓ Visual(s) from accompanying master(s)
- ✓ Copies of sample test, lab sheet(s), and/or other items designed for duplication
- ✓ Materials listed on duplicated items
- ✓ Computers with printers and Internet access
- ✓ Classroom resource and reference materials

■ **Terms.** The following terms are presented in this lesson (shown in bold italics):

- ▶ gerontology
- ▶ interdisciplinary approach
- ▶ Montessori program
- ▶ nature
- ▶ nurture

■ **Interest Approach.** Use an interest approach that will prepare the students for the lesson. Teachers often develop approaches for their unique class and student situation. A possible approach is included here.

Help students think about and discuss who they are today. Ask students, "How did you become who you are today? Were you born with the genetic wiring to become who you are? Are your surroundings, including family members, your home, and your school part of the picture? How many of us were part of a Montessori preschool? Is your development thus far attributable to both your genetics and your environment? What do researchers know about how people develop?" This very debate has been ongoing for some time. Some of the most popular human development researchers argue opposite sides, and the debate continues today.

SUMMARY OF CONTENT AND TEACHING STRATEGIES

Objective 1: Compare and contrast the historical and modern views of child care and education.

Anticipated Problem: How do historical views of child care and education contrast with modern views?

- I. Historical and modern views of child care and education
 - A. The discussion of the development of the human being is believed to have been in existence since the beginning of time.
 1. Recorded history proves discussions by Aristotle and Plato in ancient Greece, 14th century B.C. (Siegler, Deloache, and Eisenberg 2003).
 2. The two philosophers spoke of how to properly discipline a child.
 - B. Historically speaking, philosophers were intrigued with the influence of nature and nurture.
 1. **Nature** is a person's development based on heredity or genetic composition.
 2. **Nurture** is a person's development based on environmental influences.
 3. Many historical studies of children focused on changing the environment to understand how different nurturing could create diverse outcomes in child development and education.
 - C. With modern technology, researchers are discovering more information about brain development and the combination of nature and nurture, especially with infants.
 1. Intelligent computer programs can detect infant emotions before they are able to communicate verbally.
 2. Brain imaging can show working parts of the brain that can be used in studies of intelligence of nonverbal individuals (Siegler, Deloache, and Eisenberg 2003).
 - D. Due to the shift in modern research, education of young children has also progressed.
 1. A child's education has evolved from a focus on behavioral discipline to a focus on the child's needs and interests.
 2. **Montessori programs** are an educational concept for young children. Montessori settings involve child-centered activities with an emphasis on a developmentally appropriate environment (Gonzalez-Mena, 2005).
 3. Caregivers can now obtain degrees and certificates in child development, early childhood education, and elementary education, to better understand the developmental needs of children.

Many techniques can be used to help students master this objective. Use VM–A to show the progression of children’s education.

Objective 2: Compare and contrast the historical and modern views of adult care and education.

Anticipated Problem: What were historical views of adult care and education and what are modern views?

II. Historical and modern views of adult care and education

- A. Before the early 1900s, many aging adults were cared for by their own children or family members when they were no longer able to care for themselves.
- B. As the technological boom in the 1900s has allowed human beings to live longer, healthier lives, there is a never-before-seen need for massive adult care systems and for education about aging adults.
 - 1. **Gerontology** is the study of the physical, cognitive, and emotional development of aging adults. An interdisciplinary approach to adult care and education is recommended.
 - 2. **Interdisciplinary approach** is an approach to adult care that focuses on the involvement of several disciplines for the education of one major topic.
 - 3. Several key professionals in diverse areas are viewed as necessary participants in the care and education of aging adults (Stephens Brehm, 2008).
 - a. Health care workers are an important element of adult care and provide necessary medical care.
 - b. Professional psychologists and counselors work with aging individuals’ mental health and help guide family members in understanding and caring for an aging individual.
 - c. Social services professionals may also be needed to educate aging adults about health care literacy, including medical terms, procedures, billing, and insurance paperwork.
 - d. Family financial educators and financial counselors help aging adults and their families with financial planning, estate planning, and consumerism issues related to medical expenses and possibly assisted-living housing expenses.
 - e. Lawmakers are needed to create laws that protect the aging population from physical, mental, and financial abuse from family members, caregivers, and strangers. (See *The Eldercare Law Resource Guide: Long Term Care* in the Resource listing of this lesson plan.)

Many techniques can be used to help students master this objective. Use VM–B to demonstrate the interdisciplinary approach of adult care and education. Use LS–A to review historical and modern child and care environments and professionals.

- **Review/Summary.** Use the student learning objectives to summarize the lesson. Have students explain the content associated with each objective. Student responses can be used in determining which objectives need to be reviewed or taught from a different angle.
- **Application.** Use the included visual masters and lab sheet to apply the information presented in the lesson.
- **Evaluation.** Evaluation should focus on student achievement of the objectives for the lesson. Various techniques can be used, such as student performance on the application activities. A sample written test is provided.

■ **Answers to Sample Test:**

Part One: Matching

1. b
2. c
3. d
4. a
5. e

Part Two: Short Answer

1. Answers will vary but should include two of the following:
 - ◆ Education evolved from a focus on discipline to a focus on the child's needs and interests.
 - ◆ Montessori programs have been introduced.
 - ◆ Child-centered activities are used.
 - ◆ Developmentally appropriate environments are created.
2. Answers will vary but should include two of the following:
 - ◆ Health care workers
 - ◆ Psychologists and counselors
 - ◆ Social services professionals
 - ◆ Family financial educators and financial counselors
 - ◆ Lawmakers

Part Three: Completion

1. environment
2. discipline
3. degrees
4. their own children or family members
5. education

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► Part One: Matching

Instructions: Match the term with the correct definition.

- a. gerontology
- b. interdisciplinary approach
- c. Montessori program
- d. nature
- e. nurture

- ____ 1. An approach to adult care that focuses on the involvement of several disciplines for the education of one major topic
- ____ 2. An educational concept for young children that involves child-centered activities with an emphasis on a developmentally appropriate environment
- ____ 3. A person's development based on heredity or genetic composition
- ____ 4. The study of the physical, cognitive, and emotional development of aging adults
- ____ 5. A person's development based on environmental influences

► Part Two: Short Answer

Instructions: Complete the following.

1. Historically, the education of children was focused on behavioral discipline. Name two ways children are educated today.



2. Name two professionals who help care for adults in an integrated program.

► Part Three: Completion

Instructions: Provide the word or words to complete the following statements.

1. Many historical studies of children focused on changing the _____ to understand how different nurturing could create diverse outcomes in child development and education.
2. Education of children evolved from a focus on _____ to a focus on the child's needs and interests.
3. Caregivers can now obtain _____ and certificates in child development, early childhood education and elementary education to better understand the developmental needs of children.
4. Prior to 1900, many aging adults were cared for by _____ when they were no longer able to care for themselves.
5. There is a never-before-seen need for massive adult care systems and _____ about aging adults.

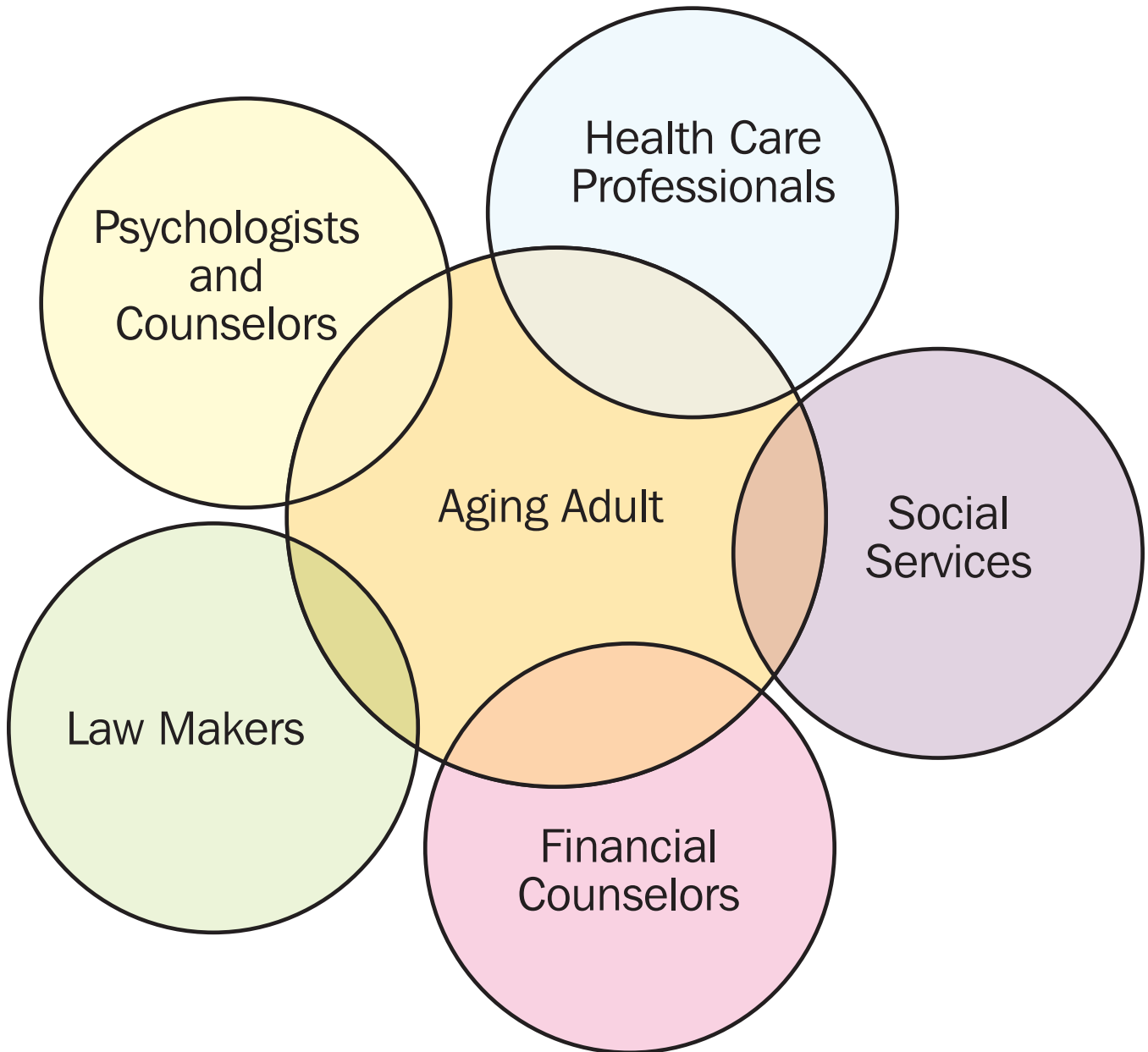
EVOLUTION OF CHILDREN'S EDUCATION

Educator	Time Period	Method of Education
J. H. Pestalozzi	Late 1700s/early 1800s	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Started a school in Switzerland with an emphasis on developing the child's nature
Frederich Froebel	Late 1700s/early 1800s	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Involved play in child care ◆ Felt teachers are "gardeners" of children who are the seeds ◆ Coined the term "kindergarten" which means garden of children
Maria Montessori	Late 1800s/early 1900s	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Started an educational program in which children are actively involved ◆ Children use their developmentally appropriate environment or classroom to self-lead their learning
John Dewey	Late 1800s/early 1900s	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Felt learning should be based on the interests of the child ◆ Children are active participants in their own learning

Source: Gonzalez-Mena, 2005.



INTERDISCIPLINARY APPROACH OF ADULT CARE AND EDUCATION



1700 Versus Today

Purpose

The purpose of this activity is to compare and contrast the care and education of children and adults from 1700 with practices today.

Objectives

1. Research and identify historical and modern environments and practices of child and adult care.
2. Compare and contrast historical and modern environments and practices of child and adult care.

Materials

- ◆ lab sheet
- ◆ writing utensil
- ◆ web sites from List of Resources

Procedure

1. Using your knowledge and research of child and adult care from 1700 and before, describe the probable environments and likely caregivers of the adult and child.
2. Using your knowledge and research of today's child and adult care, describe the probable environments and likely caregivers of the adult and child.

	1700	Today
Environments for adult care		
Caregivers of adults		
Environments for child care		
Caregivers of children		