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| Early Head Start Lesson Plan Criteria | | |
| The following content areas are required components for the Teaching Strategies GOLD lesson plan template. Infant and toddler plans will reflect the physical, cognitive, and social-emotional needs of the children in the classroom. Developmentally appropriate activities will be incorporated into the daily routines and experiences outlined in the Creative Curriculum. Content areas will be completed with the minimum requirements outlined below. | | |
| Content | Expectations | Minimum number of activities identified on lesson plan |
| Indoor Experiences | * can be large or small groups * Includes art, sensory, music, stories, learning games | One per day |
| Outdoor experiences | * Introduce new physical activities, games * can include indoor gross motor activities | One per day |
| Social/emotional | * occurs throughout the day * introduce new social-emotional strategies to children * focus on self-regulation, problem solving, attachment, etc. | One new activity introduced each week |
| Physical | * support the physical growth of children * identify differentiation for young infants (6 weeks – 8 months) and mobile infants (9-18 months) | One new activity introduced each week for each age group |
| Language and literacy | * introduce books that are relevant to the season, learning theme * include activities that reinforce language concepts – songs, letter recognition, storytelling, rhyming | One new activity introduced each week |
| Math and discovery | * include activities that reinforce math and science concepts – counting, shapes, patterns, colors, earth science | One new activity introduced each week |
| Family partnership | * identify how families are included in the child’s learning experience * family fun days, special events, home-school connections | Weekly |
| Mighty minutes | * support transitions and learning goals * use throughout the day | One new MM introduced each week |