

ADMINISTRATOR COMPETENCIES IN RELATIONSHIP  
TO CHILD CARE PROGRAM TYPE

---

A DISSERTATION  
SUBMITTED IN PARTIAL FULFILLMENT OF THE REQUIREMENTS  
FOR THE DEGREE OF DOCTOR OF PHILOSOPHY  
IN THE GRADUATE SCHOOL OF THE  
TEXAS WOMAN'S UNIVERSITY

BY  
JOSEPHINE S. STEARNS

---

DENTON, TEXAS

MAY, 1982



The Graduate School  
Texas Woman's University  
Denton, Texas

February 5 1982

We hereby recommend that the dissertation prepared under  
our supervision by Josephine S. Stearns  
entitled Administrator Competencies in Relationship to  
Child Care Program Type

be accepted as fulfilling this part of the requirements for the Degree of \_\_\_\_\_  
Doctor of Philosophy

Committee:

Dissertation/Theses signature page is here.

To protect individuals we have covered their signatures.



## ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

Numerous persons have made this study possible: Texas Woman's University faculty, colleagues, friends and the child care administrators themselves. Sincere appreciation is extended to my committee members at Texas Woman's University. Dr. Vera Gershner, advisor and committee chairperson provided professional and personal assistance and friendship. The professional collaboration and supportive assistance of committee members Drs. Deanna Tate, instrument co-author, Carol Crews, Glen Jennings, Howard Stone, and David Marshall contributed to a very positive learning experience.

The continuing professional and personal encouragement of colleagues and other professional friends provided critical nurturance of professional growth. Contributing to this support were: Elizabeth Rand, emeritus University of New Hampshire; Dr. Verna Hildebrand, Michigan State University; Dr. Armin Grams, University of Vermont; Winifred Reynolds, California Polytechnic State University, retired; and Dr. Suzanne LaBrecque, North Texas State University.

A special word of gratitude is extended to the child care administrators without whose participation the completion of this research study would not have been possible.



## TABLE OF CONTENTS

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS . . . . .	iii
TABLE OF CONTENTS . . . . .	iv
LIST OF TABLES . . . . .	vi
LIST OF FIGURES . . . . .	vii
Chapter	
I. INTRODUCTION . . . . .	1
Historical setting . . . . .	1
Statement of Problem . . . . .	5
Purpose . . . . .	6
Design . . . . .	6
Instrumentation . . . . .	7
Hypotheses . . . . .	7
Basic Assumptions . . . . .	9
Definitions . . . . .	10
II. REVIEW OF LITERATURE . . . . .	14
Competency-based Education . . . . .	14
Administrative Competency . . . . .	16
Job and Tasks . . . . .	17
Training . . . . .	19
Cost Effectiveness . . . . .	21
Types of Child Care Centers . . . . .	27
Profit Centers . . . . .	27
Nonprofit Child Care . . . . .	29
Summary . . . . .	30
III. METHODOLOGY . . . . .	31
Design . . . . .	31
Population . . . . .	32
Sample . . . . .	32
Instrumentation . . . . .	33
Procedures . . . . .	34



## Chapter

IV.	RESULTS . . . . .	38
	Child Development Knowledge . . . . .	38
	Hypotheses I and II . . . . .	38
	Child Development Section A . . . . .	39
	Child Development Section B . . . . .	40
	Consideration of Hypothesis	
	I and II . . . . .	41
	Task Performance . . . . .	43
	Hypothesis III . . . . .	43
	Consideration of Hypothesis III . . . . .	44
	Hypothesis IV . . . . .	48
	Consideration of Hypothesis IV . . . . .	48
	Significant Finding . . . . .	48
	Task Performance Overall . . . . .	53
	High Task Performancy	
	by Category . . . . .	53
	High Task Performancy	
	by Item . . . . .	56
	Discussion . . . . .	56
	Limitations . . . . .	56
	Methodology . . . . .	57
	Implications . . . . .	63
	Recommendations . . . . .	64
	Summary . . . . .	66
V.	SUMMARY AND CONCLUSIONS . . . . .	68
	Conclusions . . . . .	71
APPENDICES		
A.	Profile of Administrator Skills . . . . .	73
B.	Framework for Training: History	
	and Overview . . . . .	101
C.	Administrator Consent Form . . . . .	109
D.	Tasks Performed Consistently by 79%	
	or Less of the Administrators . . . . .	111
REFERENCES	. . . . .	117



## LIST OF TABLES

### Table

I.	Sample . . . . .	33
II.	Number of Significantly Different Task Performances in Different Settings by Category . . . . .	45
III.	Significantly Different Practices in Profit and Nonprofit Settings . . . . .	46
IV.	Number of Significantly Different Performances in Various Programs by Category. . . . .	49
V.	Significantly Different Task Performances Reported by Program Frequencies. . . . .	50
VI.	Categories and Number of Tasks Performed by 80% of Administrators . . . . .	55
VII.	Tasks Performed Consistently by 80% or More of the Administrators . . . . .	58



## LIST OF FIGURES

### Figure

- |    |   |    |
|----|---|----|
| 1. | Summary of Related Research Studies . . . . | 23 |
|----|---|----|



## CHAPTER I

### INTRODUCTION

#### Historical Setting

Care of children in group settings has developed in response to professional needs, societal needs, or national needs. Works Project Administration (WPA) child care centers were maintained partially to utilize the talents of unemployed school teachers and 24-hour care was instituted to support women on alternate shifts in war plants in World War II (Goldsmith, 1972, p. 1). Two amendments to the Social Security Act Title IV-A effective January 1968, and Title XX, Grants to States for Services, effective October 1975, were created to meet the needs of children and families who were receiving funds under Aid to Families with Dependent Children (AFDC). Campus child care centers expanded in the 70's as increasing numbers of mothers returned to college (Parker, 1972, p. 14; Fein & Clark-Stewart, 1973, pp. 26-37; Ruopp R., Travers, J., Glatz, F., Coelen, C., 1979, p. 5-9). Child care in church settings grew as the proportion of working women grew. Three-hour nursery school programs serving as educational programs for children of mothers at home became a small portion of child care programs available.



The needs of working mothers regardless of class or of marital status, stimulated the expansion of child care outside the home.

In the 70's, licensing guidelines and managerial problems required a stable and consistent enrollment (Young & Jackson, 1973, p. 5). Increasingly group child care was available only on a weekly, monthly or long-term basis. Proprietary child care expanded rapidly and is projected as a burgeoning industry. Franchise operations, chains and individual units are all part of this group.

Child care today has its roots in the day care movement beginning in the 18th century and the nursery school movement early in this century. Primarily the day care movement served the welfare of children in low income families and was given impetus by such crises as the Industrial Revolution, the Great Depression, and World War II. Day care services included 10 to 12 hours of daily physical and emotional care of the young child, and professional personnel were usually trained in the area of social welfare (Goldsmith, 1972, p. 117; Steinfels, 1973, p. 86; Fein & Clark-Stewart, 1973, pp. 13-25).

The nursery school movement was started in the 20's and expanded in the 30's during the Depression. In contrast to day care, nursery schools served the



middle-class families and provided a half day educational program to children 3 to 5 years of age. Professional personnel were college trained; most were elementary teachers unemployed in the 30's. In the 40's, colleges expanded training programs in order to conduct research and to provide a broader informational base and special skills for teachers of young children (Decker & Decker, 1980, p. 13; Goldsmith, 1972, p. 117; Steinfels, 1973, p. 66).

In the 60's the Head Start program significantly changed the child care industry. Head Start combined the services of both day care and nursery school movements within one agency. The Head Start programs introduced a multifaceted approach to child care by including education, nutrition, social services, parent involvement, and personnel career ladder components.

The personnel career ladder offered a means of employment and training for parents (Steinfels, 1973, p. 85; Heller & Host, 1971, pp. 103-107). Parents were required to participate in the parent involvement program by being in the classroom, attending parent meetings, or making educational equipment. Parents could be employed in the system to work as aides in the classroom, in the nutritional program, or in other areas of the program. The



personnel career ladder developed a population of paraprofessionals working at various levels in the child care industry (Heller & Host, 1971, pp. 109-119).

In the 70's, the positions for employment in the child care industry became related to the career ladder concept. The people employed in the industry were paraprofessionals and professionals who had received training under the direction of a variety of programs; Child Development Associate training (CDA), Child Development/Early Childhood programs at community colleges, teacher certification programs in early childhood education, child development, and elementary education, and degree programs for social workers, nutritionists, and child development specialists.

In the 80's training for this variety of personnel is provided by colleges and universities as preservice and inservice as well as in degree programs or in continuing education. It is also provided by project personnel, by professional associations, and through staff development within state agencies. Because so many sources provide professional training, definition of needed competencies is essential both to effective training by varied sources and to the coordination of training by alternative levels and agencies.



A position needing special attention and frequently overlooked is that of the administrator. The child care administrator is a pivotal member of the professional team. However, historically, most have acquired their competencies through on-the-job experience. Today's level of knowledge related to child care administration permits systematic training and career development. The continuing expansion of child care increases the urgency of developing appropriate education. Defining the needed competencies of child care administrators is the foundation for such educational programs (Butler, 1974, p. 63; Decker & Decker, 1980, p. 48; Fox, 1977, p. 75; Keyserling, 1975, p. 18; Sciarra & Dorsey, 1979, p. 3; Yablans-Magid, 1981, p. 342).

#### Statement of the Problem

The continuing expansion and great variety of child care services require specific knowledge of competencies needed for all child care personnel. The academic training of administrators must relate to competencies needed for the various programs. Educational entities need descriptive data on tasks and responsibilities of administrators and on possible variations related to alternative child care settings in order to provide appropriate preparation.



### Purpose

This study explored the competencies of a randomly selected group of child care administrators through self-reports. Thirty-seven child care administrators completed the Profile of Administrators Skills (PAS). Differences were sought between administrators of profit and of non-profit settings, and between administrators of alternative programs. Programs represented included Head Start, Title XX, proprietary, church-sponsored, franchise, and industrial.

### Design

This descriptive research was based on the self-reports of 37 child care administrators randomly selected to represent alternative types of child care. Data were collected in the summer of 1981 utilizing the Profile of Administrator Skills (PAS).

The competencies reported by the administrators were computed in frequencies in order to compare reported center behaviors with the competencies assumed in the instrument. Statistical analyses were completed to compare the child development knowledge scores of administrators of different centers, and to compare the tasks and practices performed by administrators of different centers.



### Instrumentation

The Administrator/Manager Assessment and Program Coordinator Assessment Instruments were developed by the Texas Early Childhood Careers Recognition Council (TECCRC) (Bordelon, Stone & Tate, 1981). These instruments were combined to develop the Profile of Administrators Skills (PAS) (Appendix A). The PAS encompassed knowledge of child development and ten categories of administrative responsibility: observation and recording, safe environment, healthy environment, learning environment, programming for optimal development, curriculum, home-center relationships, personnel, administration, and facility operation. The child growth and development section required a forced choice answer and was utilized to establish the Child Development Knowledge Score (CDK). The remaining ten categories involved a four point scale utilizing responses representing consistent, could improve, not observed, and not applicable.

### Hypotheses

In order to compare administrators from profit and nonprofit centers and from alternative programs, four null hypotheses were utilized:



H<sub>0</sub>1. The Child Development Knowledge (CDK) of administrators in profit and in nonprofit settings will not differ significantly.

- a. The level of score in Child Development Knowledge section A (CDK-A) evidenced by administrators in profit settings will not differ significantly from the level of CDK-A scores of administrators in nonprofit settings.
- b. The most frequently used practices of administrators in profit settings as reported in Child Development section B (CDK-B), will not differ significantly from the most frequently used practices of administrators in nonprofit settings

H<sub>0</sub>2. The Child Development Knowledge (CDK) of administrators of Head Start, Tittle XX, church sponsored, proprietary, franchise and industry related programs will not differ significantly.

- a. The level of scores in Child Development Knowledge section A (CDK-A) evidenced by administrators in six alternative programs will not differ significantly.



- b. The most frequent used practices reported in Child Development Knowledge Section B (CDK-B) will not differ significantly among administrators in the six alternative programs.

H<sub>0</sub>3. The reported level of consistent task performance of administrators in profit settings will not differ significantly from the reported level of consistent task performance of administrators in nonprofit settings.

H<sub>0</sub>4. The reported level of consistent task performance will not differ significantly among administrators in Head Start, Title XX, church-sponsored, proprietary, franchise and industry programs.

#### Basic Assumptions

This study assumed that administrator competencies are critical to center success and quality child care. The center communicates the leadership of its manager via maintenance of the program schedule, educational goals and objectives, staff interaction patterns, and children's behavior (Bogue & Saunders, 1981, p. 412).

The data were collected through self-report of a randomly selected group of child care administrators. The study assumed that the data on consistent task performance



was congruent with center behaviors and that task performance is equivalent with quality.

This study also assumed that the 10 categories of administrative responsibility derived from the Framework for Training by TECCRC provide valid parameters of specific competencies. The categories have been evolved through professional consensus of fifty professionals selected by three state agencies in Texas. The categories are congruent with the CDA categories originally established at the national level; therefore, these administrative competencies are related to the child development/early childhood career ladder. The categories are also congruent with recent literature on child care administration (Butler, 1974, p. 61; Hewes & Hartman, 1979, p. 63).

#### Definitions

Administrator. The person who is responsible for the personnel, financial, and operational decisions of the child care center.

Categories of administrative responsibility. Ten subdivisions identified on the Administrator/Manager Assessment Instrument (AMAI) and Program Coordinator Assessment Instrument (PCAI) established in the Framework for Training, developed by TECCRC.



Child Development Knowledge A (CDK-A). Exact answers are required for 54 of the 109 items in the child growth and development category of the PAS. The specific knowledge relates to physical, emotional, social and intellectual development plus nine questions related to appropriate help from an adult.

Child Development Knowledge B (CDK-B). The reporting of child care practices most frequently used. The specific practices relate to physical, emotional, social and intellectual development of infants, toddlers, preschool and school age children.

Church sponsored programs. Programs held at a church site for children 6 months to 5 years and older, emphasizing intellectual, social, emotional development plus religious training.

Competency. Knowledge, application, and behavior<sup>3</sup> related to administrative tasks. Competencies were reported by subjects and/or observed by researcher on site.

Consistency of task performance. Categories reported by child care administrators are identified as: consistently performed (\*); could be improved (CI); not performed (-); and not applicable (N/A).



Day care. Six to 10-hour per day program emphasizing physical, social, emotional, and intellectual nurturing of young children. Twenty-four hour programs for children with special needs were not included in this study.

Franchise programs. Individual child care centers managed or owned for a larger corporation. The conglomerate of centers usually have a common name and are operated for a profit.

Head Start programs. Programs emphasizing intellectual, social, emotional and physical development for children 3 to 5 years of age from economically disadvantaged environments. The program has social service, health, and parent education components.

Industry related program. Program of child care developed to provide a stable work force for the employer through the care of employees' children. The child program may provide child care for 8 to 24 hours on the industry's work site or in an area convenient to the employees.

Nonprofit programs. Centers not operated for profit and supported usually by public funds or church entities. If parent fees are utilized, more than 1/3 of the financial support is provided by the federal government, local fund raising agency, or a combination of both. The organization



uses its funds for personnel, equipment, and services. The funds are not invested for a financial gain to the investors.

Nursery school programs. Programs for children 3 to 5 years of age emphasizing intellectual, social, and emotional nurturing of young children for 3 hours per day.

Profile of Administrators Skills (PAS). The instrument is a combination of the Administrator/Manager and Program Coordinator Assessment Instruments developed by the Texas Early Childhood Careers Recognition Council (TECCRC) in the 1981 Framework for Training.

Profit programs. Child care centers operated for the purpose of financial return to the proprietors.

Proprietary programs. Child care centers are owned and managed by an individual for the purpose of profit to the proprietor.

Title XX. Full-day program emphasizing intellectual, social, emotional and physical development for children 3 months to 5 years from economically disadvantaged environments. The custodial parent is usually participating in an educational training program that is vocationally oriented. These programs are publically funded to meet established standards.



## CHAPTER II

### REVIEW OF LITERATURE

Within the last decade increasing attention has been directed to the development and refinement of competency-based education. Competency-based teacher education is the area which received the greatest emphasis. A limited amount of attention has been addressed to competency-based education for supervisors and administrators in public education. This review of literature is limited to competency-based education, administrative competency, and types of child care centers.

Authorities agree that competency-based education provides a process that a person may learn in a college setting but continues to use for professional development throughout the individual's career (Andreyka, 1976; Elam, 1971, p. 4; Feldvebel, 1974; Hall & Jones, 1976, p. 67; & Wolf, 1976). As Feldvebel (1974) states, the level of competency is "an extension of the continuum from theory to performance" (p. 6).

#### Competency-based Education

Competency-based education is a process that provides individual instruction directed to predetermined needs in



knowledge base, skill performance, and problem solving techniques (Elam, 1971, p. 8; Hall & Jones, 1976, p. 12; Hollingsworth, 1974). An essential element of competency-based programs as defined by Elam (1971, p. 22) is that competencies are criterion referenced, are individually demonstrated and assessed, and show specified achievement. Hall and Jones (1976, p. 67) and Feldvebel (1974) agree that the most important aspect of competency-based education is that the individual can demonstrate the specific competency.

Involvement in field experience related to the area of expertise is important to the acquisition of some competencies. Andreka (1976), Elam (1971, p. 6), and Hall and Jones (1976, p. 11) identify the need for competency-based programs to include relevant experiences that relate to future career goals. In addition the training needs to include professional meetings and workshops for professionally employed.

A competency program requires both an assessment and an evaluation of behavior. Several authorities agree that the assessment needs to be performed at the field site (Hall & Jones, 1976, p. 12; R.O.M.E., 1974). The analysis process may include the use of a variety of tools such as questionnaires, observations, checklists, individual or



group interviews (Hollingsworth, 1974). The information obtained is analyzed to determine areas in which competencies are deficient. According to Hollingsworth (1974), the assessment process helps to determine the individual's criterion achievement level, the appropriateness of instructional content and methods and the criterion for levels of achievement.

#### Administrative Competency

The administrative position of a director/manager in a child care center requires mastery of an extensive list of competencies. Authorities agree that the responsibilities of management skills include planning for curriculum and staff development, providing leadership in school policy and community involvement, maintaining facilities, and managing financial affairs. Curriculum planning involves the development of an educational program that meets the needs of the children and families of the center. Staff development and recruiting procedures reflect the philosophy and goals of the center. School policy includes identifying limitations and developing a compatible philosophical base for the interests of the children, staff, and families. Financial management encompasses seeking operational funds, maintaining an operational budget for all expenses, and supervising building



maintenance (Butler, 1974, p. 61; Decker & Decker, 1980, p. 48; Hewes & Hartman, 1979, p. 63; Sciarra & Dorsey, 1979, p. 2; Stevens & King, 1976, p. 303).

Research studies conducted in the 70's reviewed the related competencies needed in the related field of child care occupations, administrative job inventory, and administrative training. These studies related to jobs and tasks, to training, and to cost efficiency in the child care industry (Fox, 1977; Iowa State University & University of Northern Iowa, 1974; Krashinsky, 1978, Ruopp, 1979; Texas Early Childhood Careers Recognition Council, 1981; Zaccaria & Hollomon, 1976).

### Jobs and Tasks

The first child care job inventory research study reflected in the literature was conducted in 1974 by the Department of Home Economics at Iowa State University and the University of Northern Iowa (Iowa Department of Instruction, 1974). The purposes of the study were to determine the primary jobs available which required less than a baccalaureate degree; to identify and determine frequency performance of tasks; to formulate relevant task clusters; and to determine tasks common to all child care occupations. The sample of 136 different persons completed a questionnaire which provided a possibility of 239



separate responses related to specific job tasks. Using a 5-point scale, the subjects responded to a scrambled order of 251 individual child care tasks. An additional personal data questionnaire was completed by each subject.

The results identified a tentative career ladder, job description and six job categories. The job categories were determined by the task clusters most frequently used in the performance of a specific job. A one-way matrix was developed for each occupation. The matrix shows the descending frequency of task performance of a specific occupation. Using the matrix, the identified six jobs were Day Care Mother, Foster Parent, Houseparent, Nursery School/Day Care Center Owner/Director, Nursery School/Day Care Teacher, Nursery School/Day Care Center Teacher Aide/Assistant/Volunteer.

Beginning late in 1974 the Texas Committee on Early Child Development Careers explored identification of career levels. The Action Format reflects the consensus of 50 professionals representative of agencies training institutions and professional associations (Bordelon & Tesar, 1976).

Zaccaria and Holloman (1976) developed and analyzed a job inventory study in Texas. The job inventory was administered to 684 individuals representing a range of



day care positions in private, nonprofit, proprietary, and federally funded centers. For this study, four instruments were developed with each involving a Child Day Care Center Job Inventory of 167 tasks. The research identified nine original duties which have a number of tasks listed under each category. The nine original duties of the inventory were clustered into 10 job descriptions, five of which were related to teaching and five to administration. According to these researchers, this was the first attempt to "use scientific procedure and research findings in developing job descriptions and career progression for child care personnel" (Zaccaria & Holloman, 1976, p. 13).

### Training

A 1977 Texas Department of Human Resources research study directed by Fox revealed that the majority of child care administrators had not had college or university level courses related to the operation of a child care center. A questionnaire completed by 300 subjects identified that the training courses taken were related to areas of child development, educational theory, and child care management. The research indicated that future training at the college and university level is needed in management and day care facility operation (Fox, 1977).



The Framework for Training (1981) is the product of a 5-year project developed and published by the Texas Early Childhood Careers Recognition Council, whose membership is representative of every major Texas early childhood organization (Appendix B). The Framework encompasses the five objectives established by the 1976 Texas Committee on Early Childhood Development Careers and published in the Action Format for Early Childhood Development Careers (Texas Department of Community Affairs, 1976).

The Action Format reflects a consensus of 50 early childhood professionals, working on a regular basis beginning in November of 1974. The background history of this development is summarized in Appendix B.

The objectives identified as segments of the Framework include a matrix of career levels, skill areas, and specializations; the training topics and related tasks of 11 positions; the suggested performance criteria for task completion; and the competency-based assessment instruments for each of the 11 positions. The research and development for the Framework of Training was funded by monies from a Membership Action Grant from the National Association for the Education of Young Children, Texas early childhood organizations, and Title XX training funds from the Texas Department of Human Resources.



The portion of the Framework for Training to be used in this research are the competency-based instruments for the positions of administrator/manager and program coordinator. The two instruments are adapted and combined into one assessment instrument named the Profile of Administrators Skills (PAS) (Appendix A).

### Cost Effectiveness

Krashinsky (1978) observed 93 day care centers in Toronto and Ottawa and found the per diem costs to vary among the centers. Using multiple regression of least squares the researcher identified a significant relationship between the degree of government subsidization and the per diem rate. The statistics can be interpreted into a per diem rise of 30 cents in commercial centers and 36 cents in nonprofit centers. The researcher suggested moving the subsidized children from public child care centers to private centers to reduce the per diem costs. The results of the study showed the additional operational costs of public child care centers are associated with higher salaries, higher child/adult ratio, and reduced donated services.

Yoakam (1978) had twenty child care directors participate in the evaluation of their administrative competencies. Child care specialists evaluated the degree to



which the selected center attained model status. Each director selected three parents from its center to evaluate the center. A high correlation resulted between the score of the Competency Evaluation Instrument and the Parent Rating Scale indicating that the more competent directors administrate a more model-like child care center. ✓

In 1974, the Office of Child Development initiated the study which was to become the National Day Care Survey (NDCS) directed by Ruopp, R. and Travers, J., Glantz, F., Coelen, C., (1979) for Abt Associates, Inc., of Cambridge, Massachusetts. Sixty-four day care centers located in the three cosmopolitan communities of Atlanta, Detroit, and Seattle were studied. The research investigated the cost effects of staff/child ratio, group size, and caregiver qualifications. These three areas are critical factors in state and federal regulations. Based on the results of the research, NDCS recommended amendments to the federal day care requirements that addressed group size, caregiver/child ratio, and caregiver child-related education/training.

Studies related to child care administration began to appear in the 70's. They are limited in number and are related primarily to definition of roles, training needs, and cost effectiveness. Figure 1 summarizes them by instrument, problems, and results.



Figure 1

## Summary of Related Research Studies

Author/Sample	Instrument	Problem	Results
Departments of Home Economics Education Iowa State University, University of Northern Iowa, Iowa Department of Public Instruction, 1974--136 persons.	Questionnaire listing 251 individual tasks, scrambled in random order, personal data questionnaire.	Determine the primary jobs available in child care in Iowa which require less than a baccalaureate degree; identify and determine frequency of performance of tasks for child care workers in the various occupations; formulate relevant clusters of tasks; determine tasks common to all child occupations and those unique to each occupation.	Tentative career ladders and job descriptions and six categories were identified; Day Care Mother, Foster Parent, Houseparent, Nursery School/Day Care Center Owner/Director, Nursery School/Day Care Center Teacher Aide/Assistant/Volunteer.
Bordelon, K. and Tesar, S., Texas 1976, 50 persons	Questionnaire	Determine the career levels and child care professional specializations in Texas.	<u>Action Format</u> reflects a consensus of 50 early childhood professionals working on a regular basis. 1974-1980.



Figure 1--Continued

Author/Sample	Instrument	Problem	Results
Zaccaria and Hollomon, Texas, 1976--648 persons.	Survey of specific tasks; consequences of Inadequate performances; Task Learning Difficulty; Training Priority evolved Child Day Care Center Job Inventory of 167 tasks.	Develop, administer and analyze job inventory of individuals in day care centers.	Cluster groups evolved five job descriptions of teaching type and five of administrative type. Career progression for teaching contained three levels. Level I, entry level; Level II, skilled teaching, Level III, teacher/administrator.
Fox, Texas, 1976--300 persons.	Questionnaire	Assess the training needs and preferences of child care administrative personnel and design and implement a multilevel leadership training institute for early childhood program leaders.	No specific courses related to child care center operations available at college and university level. Most courses taken related to child development, educational theory--a few child care management courses available.



Figure 1--Continued

Author/Sample	Instrument	Problem	Results
Krashinsky, 1978, Toronto and Ottawa-- 93 child care centers.	Show test for equality between coefficients for commercial and nonprofit centers.	Examine and compare the cost effectiveness of child care programs operated by private entities or public agencies.	Government subsidized child care tends to cost more. Rise in costs are associated with salary rises, increase in quality care, child/adult ratio is greater, and decrease in donated goods and services.
Yoakam, 1978 20 child care directors.	Competency Evaluation Instrument Parent Rating Scale.	Utilize the Competency Evaluation instrument to describe the child care directors competencies and to use the Parent Rating Scale to determine the quality of child care centers as judged by parents and child care specialists.	Competency of director related to quality of center.
Ruopp, National Survey, 1979-- 64 day care centers-- Atlanta, Detroit, and Seattle.	Telephone interviews, site interviews	Determine cost effects of staff/child ratio, group size and caregiver qualifications in the operation of a child care center.	Care giver/child ratio major determinant of cost. Caregiver qualifications have a slight effect on wages received. Wages are extremely low.



Figure 1--Continued

Author/Sample	Instrument	Problem	Results
Texas Early Childhood Careers Recog- nition Council, 1981--750 persons.	Questionnaire	Identify career levels and child care profes- sional specializations; coordinate staff train- ing plan; and develop competency assessment instruments.	<u>Framework for Training</u> identified six career positions and 20 possible training areas. The competency assess- ment instruments devel- oped for six career positions. Six career positions include admin- istrator, manager, program coordinator, social worker, teacher, assistant teacher, and teacher aide.



### Types of Child Care Centers

Child care was provided in a variety of settings in the 70's. Bane (1979) reported on the costs, arrangements, and types of payment for child care used by working parents. The variety of child care arrangements ranges from at home with a relative, at the home of a relative, nursery school, day care center, parent cooperative, and funded programs. The dollar costs span from the least expensive through government subsidized programs. In 1977, Title XX Social Services served 799,000 children at an estimated cost of 809 million dollars. In the same year, Head Start served 349,000 children at an estimated cost of 448 million dollars.

The settings included in this research were child care centers operated for profit or not-for profit (nonprofit). They were selected from the six areas of Head Start, Title XX, church sponsored, proprietary, franchise and industry related.

### Profit Centers

According to Aikman (1977, p. 15) profit organizations may be a sole proprietorship, a partnership, or a corporation. The sole proprietorship is owned and operated by a single individual. The individual assumes full personal



liability for the financial consequences for the center's operation including liability of debts, breaches of contract, torts, taxes, tax penalties, and regulatory fees. The sole proprietor has the full authority for decision making.

Partnership can be general or limited. In general partnerships, two or more individuals are associated for the purpose of the financial business commitment. The individuals have equal commitment and responsibility to the child care center's obligations. Each partner is coequal in financial obligation, and decision making. In limited partnerships, the individual is liable to the amount of financial investment contributed to the center's operation (Aikman, 1977, p. 19).

A corporation is an entity organized for the purpose of making a profit. The legal existence of the corporation is separate from the persons who created and operate the center. The financial liability, breach of contract, torts or tax penalties are charged to the corporation. The Board of Directors are the governing body which is legally liable for the decision process. The director of the center works under the direction of the Board (Aikman, 1977, p. 21).



### Nonprofit Child Care

Aikman (1977, P. 15) identifies that a not-for-profit (nonprofit) center can make a profit. However, the profit cannot be paid to its organizers. The profit can be reinvested in the center for supplies, salaries for personnel, or program improvements. Nonprofit centers may be operated by a larger tax exempt organization or government funded agency.

Maxwell (1972) summarizes the efforts of several large corporations participating in employee-subsidized child care. Corporate administrators agreed that employer-subsidized child care is not for every company. Careful planning is needed to determine if child care will solve a specific problem for the corporation. Child care needs to be compatible with employee's needs, children's ages, and corporation's goals.

It is recognized that not much financial planning is available to day care administrators (Henderson, 1975). Henderson developed a hypothetical center that met specified space and program regulations and financial requirements. After extensive discussion of cash flow, Henderson concluded that to be profitable, the hypothetical center needed to maintain a weekly income of approximately \$3,000 to be profitable.



### Summary

The literature related to child care administration is recent and limited. Literature on competency based education reflects the need for task definition based on field performances, and the need for pre- and post assessments for training programs. However, the preparation of child care administrators is hampered by the lack of clear task definitions. Efforts have been made to identify competencies or tasks of child care personnel, but few studies related to administrator competencies. The literature suggests that administrator tasks may differ by profit or nonprofit status, or by the type of center setting.



### CHAPTER 3

#### METHODOLOGY

This study was designed to identify the competencies of administrators employed in alternative types of child care centers. It explored the child development knowledge, preferred child care approaches, and tasks consistently performed by a group of child care administrators from a north Texas metropolitan area. The study was completed in the summer of 1981.

#### Design

This descriptive research was based on the self-reports of 37 child care administrators randomly selected to represent alternative type of child care. The sample represented profit and nonprofit centers and the program categories of Head Start, Title XX, proprietary, franchise, church, and industry. Data were collected in the summer of 1981 utilizing the Profile of Administrator Skills (PAS). Statistical analyses were completed to compare the child development knowledge scores of administrators of different centers, and to compare the tasks and practices performed by administrators of different centers.



### Population

The Dallas regional office of the Texas Department of Human Resources provided a list of 715 licensed child care facilities in Dallas County and Plano. These facilities were identified as: family day care homes, group day care homes, day care centers, kindergarten and nursery school, and private school, grades kindergarten and above. Of the 715 licensed facilities, 417 were day care centers. From this population, the sample of 45 for this study was drawn.

### Sample

The subjects were administrators of child care centers selected through a cluster sampling technique. Each cluster represented a specific type of child care center differentiated by its major source of financial support. Of the population of 45, comparable numbers were not available for each cluster. Each potential subject was contacted, and a total of 37 participated within the time frame of the study. The sample is summarized in Table 1 by center type and population, sample drawn, and subjects participating.



Table I

## Sample

Kind of Center	Popula- tion	Sample Drawn	Sample Partic- ipating	% Popula- tion
1. Nonprofit				
a) <u>Public</u>				
Head Start	8	4	3	38
Title XX	33	10	8	24
b) <u>Private</u>				
Church Sponsored	125	10	8	3
2. Profit				
a) <u>Proprietary</u>	500	10	9	1
b) <u>Franchise</u>	47	10	8	18
c) <u>Industry-related</u>	<u>2</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>1</u>	50
Totals	715	45	37	

Instrumentation

The Profile of Administrator Skills (PAS) was a combination of the Manager Assessment and the Program Coordinator Assessment (Bordelon, Stone & Tate, 1981). For this study the Child Growth and Development section was modified to provide a knowledge section requiring exact answers and a professional practice section requiring the



reporting of the most frequently used approach. The remainder of the instrument covering ten categories, each involved a four point scale. In these sections the subject reported one of four choices: 1) consistently performed on the site; 2) could improve; task was usually done and could be done more often or better; 3) task not performed at the site; 4) task did not apply to that site.

One hundred and nine of the items related to child development knowledge which was examined in two parts. Child Development Knowledge A consisted of 54 items requiring exact knowledge of development and Child Development B consisted of 55 items reflecting the most frequently used procedures. The remaining 159 items of the PAS were representative of ten other areas of administrative concern: observation and recording, safe environment, healthy environment, learning environment, programming for optimal development, curriculum, home-center relationships, personnel, administration, and facility operation.

### Procedures

1. Human Research Review Committee. Approval from the Human Research Review Committee of Texas Woman's University was obtained prior to beginning the research. Permission was secured from each agency and each participant prior to the site visit (Appendix C).



2. Pilot study. Through a pilot study with a comparable sample, data collection and analysis procedures were evaluated. Ten subjects from Denton county were selected for the pilot. They represented three forms of nonprofit centers and two forms of profit centers. Non-profit types were Head Start, Title XX, and church sponsored. Profit types included proprietary and franchised centers. There was no industry related center available in Denton county for the pilot.

The pilot study provided a test of reliability by the test-retest method. The second administration of the PAS instrument was completed ten days after the first administration. Comparison of the scores supported reliability at the .50 level.

The pilot study also revealed the efficacy of eliminating the structured interview utilizing the PAS instrument. Instead subjects were asked to complete the PAS instrument in advance of the on-site visit. This permitted completion of the form in privacy, and diminished researcher influence.

3. Randomization. Subjects were identified by randomly selecting child care centers within clusters. The clusters were: Head Start, Title XX, Church, Proprietary, Franchise, and Industry. Of the population of 715 licensed



facilities, unequal numbers of centers were available in each category (Table II). Utilizing a table of random numbers, a sample of ten was drawn when numbers permitted. Of those selected, 37 completed PAS questionnaires and were utilized for the study.

4. Coding. All data were coded on Scan-tron 2200 forms which have 200 items per form. Therefore, each participant had two forms credited to their identifying number in order to record 268 items. Their identifying number reflected the type of center: Head Start (1-10); Title XX (11-20); church (21-30); proprietary (31-40); franchise (41-50); and industry (51-60).

The researcher prepared the Scan-tron forms from the completed PAS questionnaires. The Scan-tron 2200 forms have five possible answers for each item: A, B, C, D, and E. The child growth and development section of the PAS was designed with five possible answers to adapt it to this type of data analysis. Items 110 to 268 of the PAS instrument required the subject to select one of four symbols: \* Task consistently performed on site; CI Could Improve, task usually done and could be done more often or better; - Task not performed on site; and N/A Not Applicable. The researcher coded these responses respectively to the ABCD categories.



In these procedures the researcher transferred data directly to Scan-tron sheets as an alternative to the summarizing of data on a Fortran sheet and key punching. Since 268 items were included for each subject these procedures seemed to diminish error and expedite processes.

5. Analysis. The Scan-tron 2200 forms were submitted directly to the DEC-20 system computer for analysis. The Statistical Package for the Social Sciences (SPSS) Version 8, was utilized for analysis. Those analyses appropriate to these nonparametric data were the Mann-Whitney U Test, comparing independent samples, and the Kruskal-Wallis one way analyses of variance. Data related to the consistency of administrator performance were tabulated for reporting of frequencies.

6. Research follow-up. Upon completion of the study, a report of the results was sent to each of the subjects participating in the pilot and in the study itself.



## CHAPTER IV

### RESULTS

The sample of thirty-seven administrators reported on the PAS consisting of 268 items. Of the total items, 109 items in the Child Development Knowledge portion were divided into 54 items in section A requiring a correct answer and 55 items in section B identifying the preferred child care practices. The remaining 110 items referred to the level of task performance completion used at the child care sites.

The reporting of the results in this section is divided into four sections: 1) child development knowledge relating to Hypothesis I and II, 2) task performance relating to Hypothesis III and IV, 3) task performance overall, and 4) discussion.

#### Child Development Knowledge

##### Hypotheses I and II

Hypothesis I sought to identify differences in child development knowledge by administrators in profit and non-profit settings. Hypothesis II sought to identify differences in child development knowledge by administrators in different types of programs. The child development



knowledge section was divided into two sections, A and B. Section A, 54 items, related to descriptions of physical, intellectual, social, and emotional development for four age levels: infants, toddlers, preschool, and school age. Section B, 55 items, described approaches most frequently used with the same age groups.

#### Child Development Section A

The data on these 54 child development knowledge items were explored in relationship to profit/nonprofit setting using the Mann Whitney U test and the Chi-square of independent samples. The data on these same 54 child development knowledge items were explored in relationship to program type using the Kruskal-Wallis ANOVA and Chi-square.

Profit/nonprofit Settings. The Mann Whitney U test for differences in central tendency was utilized to detect how the quality points (1st, 2nd, or 3rd) were ranked by profit and nonprofit administrators. The test identified one item out of the 54 items as being significant at the .05 level. Item 56 yielded a Z of -1.99 (Siegel, 1956, p. 118).

Program Type. The Kruskal-Wallis ANOVA for three or more categories was utilized to detect differences in central tendency. No significant levels were identified. /



The Chi-square statistic was utilized with data from the 54 items to evaluate the distribution in relationship to program types. Of the 54 items studied, two items, item 28 and item 34, reflected significant differences by type of program. Item 28 yielded a Chi-square of 13.33 with 5 df and a significance of 0.02. Item 34 had a Chi-square of 11.33, with 5 df and a significance of 0.05.

Only one item out of 54 items analyzed by Mann Whitney U was significant; only two items out of 54 items analyzed by the Chi-square statistic were significant. Because of these findings and also the possible distortion, the hypotheses relating to program type and Child Development Knowledge A could not be rejected (Huck, Cormier, Bound, 1974, p. 219).

#### Child Development Knowledge B.

This section of Child Development Knowledge consisted of 55 items describing approaches most frequently used. The items reflected four age groups: infant, toddler, preschool and school age. In each case, the administrator chose from five possible approaches.

Profit/nonprofit Settings. Utilizing the Chi-square analysis, two items out of 55 were significantly related to program setting. Item 16 relating to intellectual stimulation of toddlers had a Chi-square of 6.97 with



2 df and a significance of 0.03. Item 72 related to biting by preschoolers had a Chi-square of 4.48 with 1 degree of freedom and a significance of 0.03. In both instances, cell frequencies of less than five appeared, and therefore, an inflated or distorted calculated Chi-square could be expected (Huck et al., 1974, p. 219).

Program Type. Utilizing the Chi-square analysis, the 55 items on Child Development Knowledge B were explored in relationship to program type. Three analyses reflected significant differences at the .05 level. These items were item 17 relating to spilled paint with a one-year-old, item 47 relating to a toilet accident of a toddler, and item 76, helping a preschooler in learning to get along with other children. In each of these cases, the low cell frequency suggests a possible distortion of the calculated Chi-square. The respective computations were: item 17, Chi-square 28.88, 15 df, and  $p < .02$ ; item 47, Chi-square 18.58, 10 df, and  $p < 0.05$ ; item 76, Chi-square 25.10, 15 df, and  $p < 0.05$ .

### Consideration of Hypotheses I and II

Hypothesis I. This hypothesis sought relationships between child development knowledge and program setting. Both Child Development Knowledge A (development) and Child Development Knowledge B (practices) were explored in



relationship to profit or nonprofit settings. Eleven of the 54 items in Child Development Knowledge A were significantly related to program type. The nonprofit settings disproportionately omitted the items for infants and toddlers or missed the items. Child Development Knowledge B (practices) was explored in relationship to profit and non-profit settings. Only two items out of 55 were calculated as significant and low cell frequency suggested possible distortion.

The hypothesis that child development knowledge of administrators in profit and in nonprofit settings would not differ significantly was not rejected. *differ*

Hypothesis II. This hypothesis sought to identify differences in child development by administrators in different types of programs. Both Child Development Knowledge A (development) and Child Development B (practices) were explored in relationship to alternative program types: Head Start, Title XX, Church sponsored, proprietary, franchise and industry related. Within the Child Development A section (development) of 54 items, only item 17 showed a level of significance. Child Development section B (practices) was explored in relationship to alternative program types. Of the 55 items: items



47 and 76 were calculated as significant and low cell frequencies suggested possible distortion.

The hypothesis that Child Development Knowledge (CDK) of administrators in alternative programs would not differ significantly was not rejected. *diff*

### Task Performance

For purposes of this study, task performance was identified through 159 items relating to 10 categories of administrative responsibility: observation and recording, safe environment, healthy environment, learning environment, programming for optimal development, curriculum, home-center relationships, personnel, administration and facility operation. The administrators reported how the task was performed at their child care site. The four possible responses were:

- \* The task is consistently performed on your site
- CI Could Improve (The task is usually done and could be done more often and better)
- Task is not performed at your site
- N/A The task does not apply to your site.

### Hypothesis III

The third hypothesis explored the relationship between administrative setting and consistency of task performance. The Chi-square of significance was utilized to analyze these data.



Significant Findings. Of the 159 relationships examined, 19 resulted in a Chi-square value significant at the  $p = 0.05$  level. The nineteen significant relationships are summarized by category on Table II. Seven of the 10 categories contained some significant relationships. The three categories in which no significant relationships were identified were: observation and recording; safe environment; and facility operation. The percentage of items performed at significantly different levels varied from twenty three percent in learning environment down to 7% in personnel, health, and environment.

#### Consideration of Hypothesis III.

Eleven of the 17 relationships were based on low cell frequencies. Furthermore, only 19 out of 159 items were found to differentiate administrators in profit and non-profit settings significantly.

Table III provides a frequency distribution of significantly different practices in profit and nonprofit settings. In each case the low frequency might indicate some distortion of Chi-square finding. Because of the low cell frequency, and the small ratio of significant relationships revealed, Hypothesis III was not rejected.



Table II  
 Number of Significantly Different Task  
 Performances in Different Settings by Category

Distribution of Common Task Items

Administrative Responsibility Category	Item Numbers	Number of Items Per Category	Number of Sig- nificant Items Per Category	%
Learning Environment	163-171	9	2	23
Curriculum	185-220	36	7	19
Home-center Relationships	221-236	16	3	19
Program for Optimal Development	172-184	13	2	15
Administrative Styles and Skills	250-265	16	2	13
Personnel	237-249	13	1	7
Healthy Environment	136-162	27	2	7
Observation and Recording	110-125	16	0	
Safe Environment	126-135	10	0	
Facility Operation	266-268	3	0	
Total		159	19	11.9



Table III  
Significantly Different Practices in Profit and Nonprofit Setting

Category	Consistent		Total %	Could Improve		Total %	X <sup>2</sup>	P
	NP	P		NP	P			
<u>Healthy Environment</u>								
Clean and maintain program materials (137)	14	14	80.0	7	0	20	5.83	.026
Maintain bathroom (138)	15	14	85.3	5	0	14.7	4.10	.043
<u>Learning Environment</u>								
Transitions (170)	9	11	57.1	12	3	42.9	4.38	.04
Positive guidance techniques (171)	11	14	71.4	10	0	28.6	9.33	.00
<u>Program Optimal Development</u>								
Objectives based on goals (174)	11	13	68.6	10	1	31.4	6.39	.012
Program objectives with use of routine procedures (178)	13	14	79.4	7	0	20.6	6.17	.01
<u>Curriculum</u>								
*Provide language model (187)	11	13	68.6	9	0	25.7	10.17	.02
Encourage vocabulary building (188)	11	14	71.4	10	0	28.6	9.33	.00
Provide Creative expression (190)	13	13	74.3	8	1	25.7	4.21	.04
Support concept development (197)	15	13	84.8	5	0	15.2	3.83	.05
Encourage expression of feelings (198)	13	13	78.8	7	0	21.2	5.78	.02

\*Some entries do not add to 100% because of two additional categories not observed and do not apply.



Table III-Continued

Category	Consistent		Total %	Could Improve		Total %	X <sup>2</sup>	P
	NP	P		NP	P			
<u>Curriculum</u>								
Help child develop body awareness (200)	14	12	81.3	6	0	18.8	4.43	.04
*Establish and implement realistic and clear expectations for behavior (210)	13	13	76.3	7	0	20.6	7.16	.03
<u>Home-center Relationships</u>								
*Discuss child rearing practices (224)	9	12	60.0	10	2	34.3	6.63	.04
Appropriate referrals for children with special needs (232)	14	13	81.8	6	0	18.2	4.77	.03
*Conduct workshops (234)	7	2	27.3	6	2	24.2	7.99	.05
<u>Personnel</u>								
Supervise support staff (243)	13	13	83.9	5	0	16.1	4.31	.04
<u>Administration</u>								
*Secure funding sources (252)	5	7	36.4	8	0	24.2	14.50	.00
<u>Facility Operation</u>								
*Work with governing/advisory board (265)	16	4	58.8	4	1	14.7	13.43	.004

\*Some entries do not add to 100% because of two additional categories not observed and do not apply.



#### Hypothesis IV

This hypothesis explored the relationships of consistency of task performance to program type: Head Start, Title XX, church-sponsored, proprietary, franchise, and industry. The Chi-square of significance was utilized.

#### Consideration of Hypothesis IV

Because of the low cell frequency, and the small ratio of significant relationships revealed, Hypothesis IV could not be rejected.

#### Significant Findings

Of the 159 relationships examined, 26 were calculated at the  $p < .05$  level or less with the Chi-square test. These are summarized in Table IV which shows the number of significantly different task performances by category.

Table V provides a frequency distribution by program types of significantly different task performances. In each case the low cell frequency might indicate some distortion of the Chi-square finding.



Table IV  
Number of Significantly Different  
Performances in Various Programs by Category

Administrative Responsibility Category	Item Numbers	Number of Items Per Category	Number of Sig- nificant Items Per Category
Facility Operation	266-268	3	1 33%
Personnel	237-249	13	4 31%
Learning Environment	163-171	9	2 23%
Curriculum	185-220	36	8 22%
Home-Center Relationships	221-236	16	3 19%
Administrative Styles and Skills	250-265	16	3 19%
Healthy Environment	136-162	27	3 11%
Safe Environment	126-135	10	1 10%
Program Optimal Development	172-184	13	1 8%
Observation and Recording	110-125	16	1 6%
Total		159	26 16%



Table V  
Significantly Different Task Performances  
Reported by Program Frequencies\*

Tasks Item	Consistently							Could Improve							df	X <sup>2</sup>	p
	HS	TTXX	CS	P	F	I	% Total	HS	TTXX	CS	P	F	I	% Total			
<u>Observation</u>																	
Behavior of administrators (124)	6	6	1	3	7	0	67.6	3	2	1	1	0	0	20.6	15	25.89	.04
<u>Safe Environment</u>																	
Store materials (130)	7	3	1	6	8	1	76.5	1	5	1	1	0	0	23.5	5	11.17	.05
<u>Healthy Environment</u>																	
Maintain environment (137)	8	4	0	7	8	1	80.0	1	4	2	0	0	0	20.0	5	16.94	.00
Maintain bathrooms (138)	8	5	0	7	8	1	85.3	1	2	2	0	0	0	14.7	5	15.52	.01
Proper handling of soiled linens (143)	9	7	1	7	6	1	91.2	0	0	1	0	0	0	2.9	10	19.11	.02
Purchase food based on inventory (159)	7	7	2	7	8	0	88.6	2	1	0	0	0	0	8.6	10	38.90	.00
<u>Learning Environment</u>																	
Arrange learning centers (166)	5	4	2	4	7	0	64.7	3	3	0	3	1	0	29.4	15	40.26	.00
Plan privacy spaces (168)	2	4	1	3	6	0	45.7	5	4	1	4	2	0	45.7	15	44.51	.00
Provide positive guidance techniques (171)	6	3	2	6	8	0	71.4	3	5	0	1	0	1	28.6	5	11.81	.04

\*Percentages do not usually total 100% since columns for not observed and does not apply are not included.

Legend: HS, Head Start; TTXX, Title XX; CS, Church Sponsored; P, Proprietary; F, Franchise; I, Industry.



Table V-Continued

Tasks	Item	<u>Consistently</u>							<u>Could Improve</u>							df	X <sup>2</sup>	p
		HS	TXX	CS	P	F	I	% Total	HS	TXX	CS	P	F	I	% Total			
<u>Program Optimal Development</u>																		
	Provide eating arrangements (180)	5	4	2	7	6	0	72.7	1	3	0	0	1	0	15.2	15	43.01	.00
<u>Curriculum</u>																		
	Provide language model (187)	5	5	1	5	8	0	68.6	4	3	1	1	0	0	25.7	15	45.00	.00
	Encourage vocabulary building (188)	6	3	1	7	8	0	71.4	3	5	1	0	0	1	28.6	5	13.56	.02
	Encourage exploring problem solving (189)	4	3	2	5	8	0	62.9	5	5	0	2	0	1	32.1	5	11.33	.05
	Support concept development (124)	8	5	2	6	7	0	84.8	1	3	0	0	0	1	15.1	5	11.50	.04
	Help develop body control (200)	8	4	2	5	7	0	81.3	1	4	0	0	0	1	18.8	5	13.04	.02
	Demonstrate adults trustworthiness (213)	9	5	1	7	8	1	88.6	0	3	1	0	0	0	11.4	5	11.53	.04
	Provide non-sexist curriculum materials (218)	6	2	1	4	7	0	58.8	1	6	0	2	1	0	29.4	15	25.68	.04
<u>Home-Center Relationship</u>																		
	Provide support to families (222)	8	6	0	3	8	0	71.4	0	2	2	2	0	0	17.1	15	31.80	.01
	Communicate with parents (228)	7	4	3	7	7	0	75.8	2	4	1	0	0	1	24.2	5	13.64	.02



Table V-Continued

Tasks	Item	Consistently							Could Improve							df	X <sup>2</sup>	p
		HS	TTXX	CS	P	F	I	% Total	HS	TTXX	CS	P	F	I	% Total			
<u>Personnel</u>																		
	Develop, implement and revise personnel policies (239)	8	5	2	7	7	0	35.3	1	1	0	0	0	0	5.9	15	43.27	.00
	Open and close center or or delegate (241)	9	6	1	7	7	0	90.0	0	1	0	0	0	0	3.0	10	21.04	.02
	Supervise classroom personnel (242)	7	5	0	7	6	1	78.8	2	4	0	0	0	0	15.2	10	23.77	.01
	Supervise support staff (243)	8	3	0	7	7	1	83.9	0	5	0	0	0	0	16.5	4	17.14	.00
<u>Administration</u>																		
	Secure funding resources (252)	4	1	0	2	5	0	36.4	1	5	2	0	0	0	24.2	15	33.84	.00
	Establish and collect child fees (254)	9	6	0	7	7	1	90.9	0	2	0	0	0	0	6.1	10	37.60	.00
	Maintain financial records (255)	8	4	1	6	5	1	80.6	0	2	1	1	0	0	12.9	15	34.09	.00
<u>Facility Operation</u>																		
	Evaluate center operation	7	4	1	4	7	0	67.6	1	4	1	3	0	0	26.5	15	43.97	.00



### Task Performance Overall

This study sought to describe the task performance of child care administrators as well as to explore possible differences by setting and program type. The competency based instruments of the Framework for Training were combined to create the Profile of Administrative Skills used as a self-report in this study. The instruments designed for positions of administrator/manager and program coordinator in the Framework for Training were combined. Open-ended format responses were restructured to provide for closed answers format suitable for data analysis (Appendix A).

### High Task Performance by Category

The data on task performance revealed that 80% or more of the respondents indicated that 81 tasks were consistently done in their center. Consistency of task performance varied by category. Higher levels of consistency were reflected in the categories of: 1) healthy environment 85%, 2) safe environment 80%, 3) personnel 77%, and 4) facility operation 67%. The number of tasks consistently performed by 80% or more of the administrators are summarized within each category in Table VI. The percentage of tasks reported as performed by 80% or more are provided



in decreasing order by category. The largest percentage (85%) of tasks were performed by 80% or more of the administrators in the category of Healthy Environment.

The lowest percentage (11%) of tasks were performed by 80% or more of the administrators in the area of Learning Environment.



Table VI

Categories and Number of Tasks  
Performed by 80% of Administrators

Category	Number of Items per Category	Number of Common Tasks Consistently Completed 80% or more	% of Total
Healthy Environment	27	23	85
Safe Environment	10	8	80
Personnel	13	10	77
Facility Operation	3	2	67
Administration	16	9	56
Curriculum	36	17	47
Home-Center Relationships	16	5	31
Program Optimal Development	13	3	23
Observation and Recording	16	2	13
Learning Environment	9	1	11
Total	159	81	54



### High Task Performance by Item

Table VII summarizes the common tasks items 110 to 268 that had a percentage of 80 or more, as well as the percentage and number of participating administrators. The item is asterisked if the item is one that is required as a minimum standard by the licensing code of Texas. Appendix D provides the remaining data on task performance.

### Discussion

#### Limitations

Instrument: Since the PAS is not standardized, the findings cannot be compared to norms of other administrative samples. This study provides some data relating the test to administrators' performance in field settings. All the tasks were performed by some administrators. In addition, more than 80% of the administrators reported 81 tasks were consistently performed.

It is not within the scope of this study to evaluate the adequacy of the on-site behaviors of the administrators studied. Support for accurate responses was provided through the protection of anonymity and through the private completion of the items. However, individual perceptions might still be distorted, or incongruent with center behaviors.



### Methodology

Interpretation of the data analysis was difficult in the Child Development Knowledge portion because most respondents elected to answer only those questions related to the age level of children in their center. It is the assumption of the study and of the instrument that a comprehensive understanding of child development is a major competency needed by child care administrators.

The data in the Child Development Knowledge section of this study are clouded by the fact that the incorrect answers might reflect either misinformation or lack of responses. The validity of correct answers can be questioned on a philosophical basis also. Generalizations on the Child Development Knowledge section cannot be supported at this time. Methodologically, it would have been possible to: 1) emphasize to subjects the need to respond to all items; and 2) quickly review completed questionnaires on site to insure the completeness of the responses. Any replication should include these processes.

The sample was representative of diverse programs in the metroplex. However, only two industry centers were identified as possible subject sources and only one participated. The size of the sample proved to be prohibitively small for the desired analysis since low frequency cells made the findings suspect.



Table VII

Tasks Performed Consistently by 80%  
or More of the Administrators

Category	Admn.		Category	Admn.	
	Tasks	% N		Tasks	% N
<u>Safe Environment</u>			<u>Safe Environment</u>		
*Post emergency numbers conspicuously (132)	100	34	Stop and redirect unsafe activities (127)	94.3	33
*Maintain first aid kit (135)	100	35			
<u>Healthy Environment</u>			<u>Healthy Environment</u>		
*Assure that staff health requirements are met (144)	100	34	*Follow procedures for care of ill children (153)	94.3	33
*Maintain immunization and health records (145)	100	34	*Store medication properly (154)	94.3	33
Recognize child abuse and report properly (150)	100	32	*Provide proper care as needed for wounds and infections (152)	94.3	33
			*Supervise preparation and hygiene storage of food (160)	94.3	33
<u>Safe Environment</u>			Regulate heating, cooling, lighting and ventilation (142)	94.1	32
*Administer proper first aid (133)	97.1	34			
<u>Healthy Environment</u>			<u>Personnel</u>		
*Providing for heating, cooling, lighting and ventilation of building (140)	97.1	34	Hire and dismiss employees (238)	94.1	32
*Review and use individual health records (146)	97.1	33			
Report to director any signs of illness, discomfort unusual behavior shown by children (148)	97.1	33	<u>Administration</u>		
Plan and post menus based on nutrition needs (158)	97.1	33	Maintain staff personnel records (260)	94.1	32
*Serve nutritious meals and snacks	97.1	33	Post and maintain attendance (261)	94.1	32
			<u>Home-Center Relationships</u>		
			Discuss with parents any signs of illness, discomfort or unusual behavior of child (231)	93.9	31



Table VII--Continued

Category	Admn.		Category	Admn.	
	Tasks	% N		Tasks	% N
<u>Personnel</u>			<u>Home-Center Relationships</u>		
Supervise support staff (243)	83.9	26	Provide appropriate referrals for parents of children with special needs (232)	81.8	27
<u>Observation &amp; Recording</u>			<u>Personnel</u>		
Plan for group (116)	82.9	29	Promote interpersonal staff relationships (247)	81.8	27
Plan for group (117)	82.9	29	<u>Curriculum</u>		
<u>Curriculum</u>			Help child become aware of and develop control over his body (200)	81.3	26
Provide comfort and security by holding and touching children (201)	82.9	29	<u>Home-Center Relationships</u>		
Plan activities that provide for success and that challenge but do not frustrate (203)	82.9	29	Seek and share information about child with parents (227)	81.3	26
Give appropriate guidance as child solves problems (214)	82.9	29	<u>Administration</u>		
<u>Healthy Environment</u>			Purchase or secure nonprogram supplies (256)	80.6	25
Recognize unusual behavior (149)	82.4	28	<u>Healthy Environment</u>		
<u>Program Optimal Development</u>			Clean and maintain program materials and learning environment (137)	80.0	28
Plan and implement daily schedule to meet needs and interests of children (177)	82.4	28	Recognize physical problems such as vision, speech, hearing and motor problems (151)	80.0	28
<u>Administration</u>					
Delegate responsibility (251)	82.4	28			
<u>Curriculum</u>					
Recognize child as a unique individual (199)	81.8	27			
Reinforce evidence of child's self-control (208)	81.8	27			



Table VII--Continued

Category	Admn.		Category	Admn.	
	Tasks	% N		Tasks	% N
<u>Curriculum</u>			<u>Curriculum</u>		
Promote association of words with objects, events, and people (196)	88.2	30	Assist child to plan, accept and understand simple group rules (207)	85.7	30
<u>Home-Center Relationships</u>			<u>Healthy Environment</u>		
Explain to parents center policies, programs and regulations (230)	88.2	30	Bathrooms (138)	85.3	29
<u>Facility Operation</u>			<u>Home-Center Relationships</u>		
Implement and support center policies (267)	88.2	30	Maintain confidentiality of information about child and family (221)	85.3	29
<u>Personnel</u>			<u>Personnel</u>		
Conduct or plan staff training based on staff training needs and evaluations (246)	87.9	29	Develop, implement and revise personnel policies (239)	85.3	29
Seek and share ideas and suggestions with other staff (246)	87.9	29	<u>Administration</u>		
Share ideas and information on center operations and activities (249)	87.9	29	Purchase or secure program supplies, equipment and materials (257)	85.3	29
Establish staffing patterns to assure management responsibilities and to promote stability in child care (240)	87.9	29	<u>Facility Operation</u>		
<u>Safe Environment</u>			Develop and administer center policies on program operation, transportation, parent involvement, social services, health nutrition training, advertising and public relations (266)	85.3	29
*Conduct fire and hazard drill according to written plan (131)	85.7	30	<u>Curriculum</u>		
			Support development of concepts, time, space, numbers, size, shape and color (197)	84.8	28



Table VII--Continued

Category	Admn.		Category	Admn.	
	Tasks	% N		Tasks	% N
<u>Safe Environment</u>			<u>Administration</u>		
*Enforce safety rules of center (126)	91.4	32	Establish and collect child care fees (254)	90.9	30
*Keep environment in safe conditions (128)	91.4	32	Assist in maintaining compliance with local, state, and federal regulations (259)	90.9	30
<u>Healthy Environment</u>			<u>Safe Environment</u>		
*Kitchen and Kitchen equipment (139)	91.4	32	Keep environment free of hazards (129)	88.6	31
*Model and promote proper personnel hygiene (156)	91.4	31	*Post first aid chart (132)	88.6	31
*Assure proper handling of soiled linens (143)	91.2	31	<u>Healthy Environment</u>		
Recognize signs of physical illness (152)	91.2	31	Purchase food based on inventory (159)	88.6	31
Follow procedures for administering medications (155)	91.2	31	<u>Curriculum</u>		
<u>Administration</u>			Encourage development of self-help skills (202)	88.6	31
Insure compliance with local, state and federal regulations (258)	91.2	31	Demonstrate to child that adults are trustworthy and loving (213)	88.6	31
Keep employee time records (264)	91.2	31	Encourage and expect child to respect rights, feelings, and property of others (215)	88.6	31
<u>Personnel</u>			*Encourage appropriate social play (216)	88.6	31
Determine staff qualifications and job responsibilities (237)	90.9	30	<u>Learning Environment</u>		
Open and close center or delegate (241)	90.9	30	Provide areas for group activities (167)	88.2	30



Table VII--Continued

Category	Admn.		Category	Admn.	
	Tasks	% N		Tasks	% N
<u>Program Optimal Development</u>					
	Establish center philosophy (172)	80.0 28			
	Toileting and handwashing (182)	80.0 28			
	Promote and encourage development of small and large muscles through use of equipment and materials (186)	80.0 28			
<u>Curriculum</u>					
	Provide opportunities for child to make choices and act independently (204)	80.0 28			
	Provide for new child's adjustment to group and setting (205)	80.0 28			
	Provide for activities that present a variety of choices for both boys and girls (217)	80.0 28			

\*All asterisked items are required as minimum standards under Texas licensing.



Since two response modes represented not performed or not appropriate, one could not philosophically expect equal distributions in all cells. However, the statistically computed Chi-square may be distorted by the low frequency cell phenomenon.

### Implications

The problem identified for this study has been approached through providing one body of descriptive data on a representative sample of administrators from diverse settings and programs. There was no task on the Profile of Administrator Skills (PAS) that was consistently perceived as inappropriate. Thus, this instrument may be supported as a framework for training.

The hypotheses directed to identifying significant differences between administrators in diverse settings and programs could not be rejected. These findings might suggest a commonality of administrative tasks as a focus for training child care administrators.

The administrators' reports on their knowledge and tasks are another step in the process of training, evaluating, and recognizing child care administrators. This study was an extension of the continuing process of building early child development careers in Texas through



such linkages as the Texas Early Child Development Careers Committee and the Texas Early Childhood Careers Recognition Council.

### Recommendations

Further research is needed to continue the process of developing a competency-based approach to training and evaluating child care administrators. The findings in this study would suggest a variety of concerns for future consideration:

1. Use of alternative samples. The 37 administrators were representative of the metroplex area of northern Texas. Samples from other locations in Texas or from other states would be appropriate.
2. Use of a larger sample. The possible differences by type could be reexamined with a larger sample providing more subjects in each cell.
3. Exploration of additional possibilities for competencies. Several subjects informally referred to budgetary tasks.
4. Procedures requiring response to all child development knowledge items. If one assumes training is designed to prepare administrators for varied



settings, the overall knowledge of child development is essential.

5. On-site observation for confirmation of, or as an alternative to, self-report. Observations might also be utilized with a small sample of the larger sample group.
6. Exploration of existing sources of administrative knowledge and training. The varied and inconsistent levels of knowledge would suggest a variety of backgrounds and perhaps the need for the design of specialized training programs.

Expanding child care needs suggest continued efforts on the part of researchers and educators to prepare effective administrators. This study suggests the following recommendations for researchers:

1. Utilization of samples representing other geographical areas, larger populations, or other ethnic groups.
2. Methodology utilizing observation instead of, or in addition to, self reports or interviews.
3. Refinement of the instrument, particularly in the child development area and perhaps in further expansion of tasks.



Educators can use the existing instrument for needs assessment by child care administrators, for planning of training, and for self-evaluation by administrators. The Q-sort technique offers one system to identify priorities or needs.

The responses from the administrators in this study provides evidence of the relevance of the identified tasks to their diverse centers. This field-developed evidence supports the further development of these competencies as a framework for training, evaluation, and recognition systems. Modification of the instrument for alternative uses provides another fruitful opportunity for educational researchers.

### Summary

Data on a 268 item Profile of Administrative Skills were provided by 37 child care administrators. The sample included those in the randomly selected sample who completed the PAS within the required time frame. The sample was representative of 713 licensed child care centers in the metroplex area, profit and nonprofit settings, and six program types: Head Start, Title XX, church related, proprietary, franchise, and industry related.



Four null hypotheses were tested using Mann-Whitney U, Kruskal-Wallis, Chi-square, and t tests. Hypotheses I and II explored relationships between child development knowledge and setting or program type. Hypotheses III and IV explored relationships between task performance and setting or program type. An alpha level of .05 was established.

A low ratio of significant findings appeared in relationship to child development knowledge and in relationship to task performances. Low cell frequencies appeared because of sample size and because one response category was directed to identifying the task as inappropriate. Because of the low ratio of significant findings and because of the possible statistical distortion due to low cell frequency, none of the null hypotheses could be rejected.

Very few items were judged to be inappropriate by any administrator. Conversely, the 159 tasks were generally seen as appropriate. Eighty percent or more of the administrators indicated 81 of the tasks were performed consistently in their center. The categories of tasks most consistently performed by administrators in profit and nonprofit settings, and in all program types were: healthy environment, program for optimal development,



curriculum, home-center relationships, personnel, administrative styles and skills.



## CHAPTER V

### SUMMARY AND CONCLUSIONS

This descriptive study of the competencies of 37 child care administrators was based on self reports utilizing the Profile of Administrative Skills (PAS), containing 268 items. The PAS contained two types of child development items totalling 109, and 159 items relating to ten areas of administrative tasks.

Texas licensing authorities identified 713 licensed child care facilities in the metroplex area of north Texas. Through cluster sampling, 45 were randomly selected to represent the setting and program types. Of these, 37 administrators completed the PAS in the summer of 1981.

It was hypothesized that both child development knowledge and task performance would be related to profit and nonprofit settings and to the program type; Head Start, Title XX, Church-sponsored, proprietary, franchise, or industry related. Mann-Whitney U, Kruskal-Wallis, Chi-square, and t tests were utilized in evaluating the data. An alpha of .05 was established.

This study tended to confirm the commonality of administrative tasks in child care centers. Neither



setting nor program type significantly differentiated task performance in this study. The 159 tasks were generally seen as appropriate, and 81 items were consistently performed by 80% or more of the administrators. The categories of tasks most consistently performed were: healthy environment, safe environment, personnel, and facility operation.

Only two of the 55 Child Development Knowledge section B items were significantly different by setting and three of these were significantly different by program type. The null hypotheses relating to child development differences were not rejected.

Nineteen of the 159 tasks were significantly different by program setting. Nonprofit centers more frequently indicated could improve in task performance. Twenty-six out of the 159 tasks were significantly differentiated by program type. The null hypotheses relating to task performance were not rejected.

The significant findings reflected a low ratio of significant items, and were suspect because of low cell frequencies. The null hypotheses relating the competencies of administrators to setting and to program type were not rejected in this study.



### Conclusions

The results of this study indicated more similarities than dissimilarities among the child care administrators in profit and nonprofit settings and in charge of various program types. Such findings suggest a common base for the effective education of administrators utilizing the assumptions of competency based education.

The knowledge of child development provided the widest discrepancies between administrators from profit/nonprofit settings or from various program types. The responses seemed to reflect that the administrator's knowledge of child development was situation specific. This sample of administrators tended to respond only to questions related to the age group currently served. Few significant differences in approaches to child guidance were identified.

The Profile of Administrative Skills is not a standardized instrument and may be more appropriate for use in competency-based training programs than in research. All items reflected desired functions and may provide a basis for identifying training needs. Sensitivity to the complexity of administrative roles seemed to be enhanced for the participating administrators.

The Profile of Administrative Skills offers a helpful framework for the design of educational programs. The



structure of the PAS into consistently performed and could improve categories facilitates the identification of inservice training needs. The high percentage of performance of these tasks by administrators in the fields provides some validation for the use of this spectrum of competencies as the foundation for preservice training.



APPENDIX A  
PROFILE OF ADMINISTRATORS SKILLS



Directions: To be completed verbally or in writing by the person being assessed.

I. Child Growth and Development

A. Infants (0 to 18 months)

1. These are things that infants and toddlers typically do in four developmental areas (physical, emotional, social, intellectual). Rank the behaviors in 1,2,3 order by their expected appearance in each box.

PHYSICAL
___ 1. Can creep (on all 4's).
___ 2. Sits propped up.
___ 3. Eyes can't focus.

EMOTIONAL
___ 4. Cries when uncomfortable, sleepy or hungry
___ 5. Cries for attention (turns red).
___ 6. Cries when parent appears.

SOCIAL
___ 7. Enjoys peek-a-boo
___ 8. Smiles at mother.
___ 9. Father becomes important

INTELLECTUAL
___ 10. Associates mother or caregiver with meals.
___ 11. Discovers hands.
___ 12. Begins active exploring

2. From the activities with babies below, select one in each area that you use most frequently.

13. Physical.

- A. Allow child to cry for short periods.
- B. Place clothed child on a blanket on the floor for freedom of body movement.
- C. Place nude child in lukewarm water for exercising.
- D. Place mobile on the crib within reach of child.
- E. Provide safe space on the floor for the child to explore.

14. Emotional.

- A. Hold child when child cries.
- B. Rock the child when crying commences.



Emotional continued

- C. Sing to the child when child begins to cry.
- D. Place child in a quiet environment for sleeping.
- E. Place child in a quiet environment to reduce crying.

15. Social

- A. Talk with the child while doing caretaking activities diapering, feeding.
- B. Sing with the child while holding the child.
- C. Place child in the same room with adults during active conversations and interpersonal interacting.
- D. Remove the child from overstimulating activities.
- E. Put baby in swingomatic.

16. Intellectual

- A. Talk with the child while doing caretaking activities diapering, feeding.
- B. Provide the child with a variety of places for doing active behavior i.e. crib, floor changing table, play pen.
- C. Hide toys under a blanket for the child to seek the toy.
- D. Read picture books to the child.
- E. Give child a variety of small objects to hold and let go i.e. rattle, fluffy toy, beads.

3. These are 4 typical things that happen with children. From the activities with a one year old, select one in each area that you use most frequently.

17. Spills Paint

- A. Remove the child from the spilled paint.
- B. Give child time to explore and use the paint.
- C. Encourage child to cleanup spilled paint.
- D. Use harsh words while removing child from spilled paint.
- E. Give child time to explore and use paint and then encourages child to clean up the spill.



18. Bites/Hits Another Child.

- A. Discipline the aggressor.
- B. Talk only with the hurt child.
- C. Talk only with the aggressor.
- D. Talk with the hurt child and the aggressor.
- E. Ignore the incident.

19. Falls Down and Skins Knee.

- A. Pick up child and hug him/her.
- B. Go to child and administer first aid to the knee.
- C. Have the hurt child come to her/him.
- D. Administer first aid, talk with child and comfort the child.
- E. Ignore the incident.

20. Has a Toilet Accident

- A. Change the child's clothing.
- B. Discipline child for incident and change clothing.
- C. Ignore incident.
- D. Encourage child to change clothes.
- E. Have non-threatening verbal interaction as child is encouraged to change his clothing.

## 4. Select the preferred adult behaviors in relationship to each new behavior or skill an infant acquires.

21. Creeping

- A. Place toys on the floor a distance from the child.
- B. Place toys on the floor under a blanket a short distance from the child.
- C. Attach a mobile on the legs of a chair.
- D. Adult can get on the floor a short distance from the child and encourage child to come to him/her.
- E. Place child on stomach on the floor and model crawling behavior.



22. Talking.

- A. Make sounds for the child to imitate - vary pitch and rate.
- B. Talk with the child while doing the caretaking tasks of diapering and feeding.
- C. Talk with the child at every possible opportunity when with him/her.
- D. Play records that present a variety of sounds.
- E. Sing songs and do finger plays with animation and movements.

23. Discovering Hands.

- A. Cover child hands with a clean diaper.
- B. Cover adults hands with a blanket.
- C. Have the adult hold one of the child's hands under a blanket.
- D. Play patty-cake or peek-a-boo.
- E. Finger plays with animation.

24. Focusing on objects.

- A. Provide five items for the child to manipulate.
- B. Place a toy under a blanket for the child to find.
- C. Mobile attached to side of the crib.
- D. Place fish bowl or aquarium near crib.
- E. Place pictures, objects at child's eye level -- floor, crib, changing table.

5. Select the age at which you would become concerned and seek appropriate help if these behaviors were not evidenced.

- |  |                    |
|--|--------------------|
| 25. A. (Head Control) If the child is unable to hold his head erect and steady w/out support by ____           | C. 18 mos. of age. |
| 26. b. (Walking) If the child does not take steps across the room w/out support and w/out falling down by ____ | A. 4 mos. of age.  |
| 27. c. (Sitting) If the child does not sit up on a flat surface without support, for a few minutes by ____     | B. 10 mos. of age. |



## B. Toddlers (19 months to 3 years)

1. These are things that infants and toddlers typically do in four developmental areas (physical, emotional, social, intellectual). Rank the behaviors in 1,2,3 order by their expected appearance.

## PHYSICAL

- \_\_\_ 28. Sits on a child's chair with only fair aim.  
 \_\_\_ 29. Can walk on tip toes  
 \_\_\_ 30. Can creep downstairs backward.

## EMOTIONAL

- \_\_\_ 31. Wants to "do it himself".  
 \_\_\_ 32. Waits for something for a short time.  
 \_\_\_ 33. Shows interest and pride in toileting success.

## SOCIAL

- \_\_\_ 34. Tells own first name.  
 \_\_\_ 35. Uses words like "mine" and "my".  
 \_\_\_ 36. Plays alongside another child with similar toys

## INTELLECTUAL

- \_\_\_ 37. Most of basic language is acquired.  
 \_\_\_ 38. Not yet frustrated by not being understood when talking.  
 \_\_\_ 39. Uses two-word phrases.

2. From the activities with toddlers below, select one in each area that you use most frequently.

40. Physical

- A. Encourage the child to walk, run jump.  
 B. Provide large wheel toys such as bikes and wagons for large muscle activity  
 C. Build block structures.  
 D. Provide puzzles, crayons, manipulatives for small muscle activity.  
 E. Provide time, place and space for large and small muscle activity.



41. Emotional

- A. Use a variety of art media paint crayons, playdoh and pasting to express self.
- B. Use dance and body movements to music, fast, medium, and slow.
- C. Talk with the child about his/her feelings related to a specific incident.
- D. Use honest body language and verbal communication about feelings.
- E. Provide non-threatening atmosphere for exploratory activities.

42. Social

- A. Talk with the child while participating in activities.
- B. Provide opportunities for peers of comparable age to play.
- C. Encourage the child to participate in activities.
- D. Provide group singing and dancing.
- E. Provide group time (stories, singing) which teaches child relationship of self to others.

43. Intellectual

- A. Talk with the child while participating in activities.
- B. Provide stimulating activities using a variety of media.
- C. Do puzzles together.
- D. Play games requiring the classification of objects.
- E. Read picture books with the child.

3. These are typical things that happen with children. From the activities with two year old below, select one in each area that you use most frequently.

44. Spills paint.

- A. Remove the child from the spilled paint.
- B. Give child time to explore and use the paint.
- C. Encourage child to cleanup spilled paint.



44. Spills paint continued-

- D. Use harsh words while removing child from spilled paint.
- E. Give child time to explore and use paint and then encourages child to clean up the spill.

45. Bites/Hits Child.

- A. Discipline the aggressor
- B. Talk only with the hurt child.
- C. Talk only with the aggressor
- D. Talk with the hurt child and the aggressor.
- E. Ignore the incident.

46. Falls Down and Skins Knees.

- A. Pick up child and hug him/her.
- B. Go to child and administer first aid to the knee.
- C. Have the hurt child come to her/him.
- D. Administer first aid, talk with child and comfort the child.
- E. Ignore the incident.

47. Has a Toilet Accident.

- A. Change the child's clothing.
- B. Discipline child for incident and change clothing.
- C. Ignore incident.
- D. Encourage child to change clothes.
- E. Have non-threatening verbal interaction as child is encouraged to change his clothing.

## 4. Select the preferred adult behavior in relationship to each new behavior or skill a toddler acquires.

48. Walking.

- A. Place a low piece of furniture in the room for the child to use as support.
- B. Provide large toys the child can push for support in walking.



- C. Hollow blocks on floor that child can step up and down.
- D. Walk with toddler holding 2 hands, then 1 hand.
- E. Stand short distance from standing child and encourage him/her to walk to you.

49. Talking.

- A. Talk with the child while doing an activity.
- B. Identify the sequence of steps that occur for an activity.
- C. Ask the child questions about his/her activity.
- D. Extend the child's verbal interaction by additional verbalization about the activity.
- E. Sing and do finger plays with child.

50. Dressing Oneself.

- A. Place clothing on a low surface for a child to reach.
- B. Provide garments that can be easily pulled on.
- C. Keep the child company while the child puts on garments.
- D. Observe child dressing self and help only when frustration level builds up.
- E. Provide toys to practice using buttons, zippers, snaps and laces.

51. Feeding herself/himself.

- A. Provide bite size portions of food.
- B. Provide food that can be picked up with fingers.
- C. Provide child size eating utensils and time to feed self.
- D. Provide a variety of textures and colors of food at a meal.
- E. Give child room temperature and moderately seasoned, tender portions of food.

5. Select the age at which you would become concerned and seek appropriate help if these behaviors were not evidenced.

- |   |                      |
|---|----------------------|
| 52. a. (Language) If a child does not speak in sentences before ____                                      | B. 2 years of age.   |
| 53. b. (Feeding) If the child not hold a glass and drink from it, and use a spoon to feed himself by ____ | C. 3 years of age.   |
| 54. c. (Climbing) If the child does not climb onto chair, bed, or stair and off by ____                   | A. 19 months of age. |



## C. Preschool Children (3-5 years)

1. Some of the things listed are what preschool age children typically do. Place a check in the boxes for those things appropriate for preschoolers. Rank the behaviors 1,2,3 order by their expected appearance.

PHYSICAL
___ 55. Can spread butter or jam on bread with a knife.
___ 56. Can ride a tricycle.
___ 57. Can pump a swing.

EMOTIONAL
___ 58. Sometimes consoles self or others.
___ 59. Develops lots of fears especially imagined.
___ 60. Cries when mother leaves.

SOCIAL
___ 61. Plays beside but not with others.
___ 62. Has need for belonging
___ 63. Shows preferences in playmates.

INTELLECTUAL
___ 64. Can do a puzzle of six pieces.
___ 65. Can do a puzzle of 15 pieces.
___ 66. Can put things in order according to size

2. From the activities with preschool children below, select one in each area that you use most frequently.

67. Physical

- A. Provide space and equipment for large muscle activities.
- B. Provide place and equipment for small muscle activity.
- C. Provide opportunities for creative movement such as dance.
- D. Play active games with child
- E. Provide child size furniture.

68. Emotional

- A. Encourage child to verbalize feelings.
- B. Provide a variety of art media to release emotions.



68. Emotional continued-

- C. Adult talk with the child about the adult's feelings.
- D. Model honest body language and verbal communication about feelings.
- E. Provide non-threatening atmosphere for exploratory activities.

69. Social.

- A. Talk with child about activity sequences.
- B. Provide opportunities for peers of comparable age to play.
- C. Encourage child to participate in activities.
- D. Provide dramatic play props for child to experiment with roles.
- E. Plan group experiences that can increase child's awareness of others.

70. Intellectual.

- A. Talk with the child while participating in activities.
- B. Read picture books with child.
- C. Provide stimulating science activities using a variety of media.
- D. Ask questions about activities the child is doing.
- E. Play games requiring the classification of objects.

3. These are four typical things that happen with children. From the activities with 4 year olds, select one in each area that you use most frequently.

71. Spills paint.

- A. Remove the child from the spilled paint.
- B. Give child time to explore and use the paint.
- C. Encourage child to cleanup spilled paint.
- D. Use harsh words while removing child from spilled paint.
- E. Give child time to explore and use paint and then encourages child to clean up the spill.



72. Sites/Hits Another Child.

- A. Discipline the aggressor
- B. Talk only with the hurt child.
- C. Talk only with the aggressor
- D. Talk with the hurt child and the aggressor.
- E. Ignore the incident.

73. Falls Down and Skins Knee.

- A. Pick up child and hug him/her.
- B. Go to child and administer first aid to the knee.
- C. Have the hurt child come to her/him.
- D. Administer first aid, talk with child and comfort the child.
- E. Ignore the incident.

74. Has a Toilet Accident.

- A. Change the child's clothing
- B. Discipline child for incident and change clothing.
- C. Ignore incident.
- D. Encourage child to change clothes.
- E. Have non-threatening verbal interaction as child is encouraged to change his clothing.

## 4. From the activities with preschool children below, select one in each area that you use most frequently.

75. Gaining Physical Development.

- A. Encourage activities that use small and large muscles.
- B. Provide place and equipment for small muscle activity.
- C. Participate with child in vigorous physical activity, running, jumping.
- D. Provide the opportunities to experiment with sand and water.
- E. Encourage child to use work bench, dress doll, or wash doll clothes to improve eye hand coordination.



76. Learning to get along with Children.
- A. Expose child to peer group playmates.
  - B. Plan activities to encourage interaction and provide equipment and props.
  - C. Model positive interaction techniques in the presence of young children.
  - D. Read age-appropriate book about interpersonal development.
  - E. Evaluate friendships and encourage expansions.
77. Becoming Aware of Sex Differences.
- A. Provide unisex toilet facilities.
  - B. Read age-appropriate books about sex development.
  - C. Answer questions about sex differences appropriate to the age level.
  - D. Provide non-sexist literature and curriculum materials.
  - E. Include both men and women as occupational representatives in selecting visitors.
78. Developing Attention Span.
- A. Provide a long enough play time to allow involvement to occur.
  - B. Provide a variety of media and encouraging participation.
  - C. Provide place and equipment for activities related to child's interest.
  - D. Read books that related to the child's interest.
  - E. Provide the opportunity for the child to select activities of interest.



5. Match the unusual behavior on the left with the most appropriate statement on the right.

79. The child reverts to bed-wetting and demands increased physical attention such as sitting on adults lap.____	A. The child <u>may</u> be over-active and need special help.
80. The child is extremely physically active and unable to pay attention.____	B. These combined signs <u>may</u> show mental retardation. The child may need special help.
81. The child shows delayed intellectual development, poor physical coordination, and social skills.____	C. The child <u>may</u> be going through some kind of emotional upset.



## D. School Age Children (6 to 8 years)

1. Some of the things listed are what schoolage children typically do. Place a check in the spaces for those things appropriate for schoolage children. Rank the behaviors 1, 2, 3 order by their expected appearance.

PHYSICAL
___ 82. Goes through a rapid growth spurt.
___ 83. Girls mature faster than boys.
___ 84. Getting permanent teeth.

EMOTIONAL
___ 85. Needs to feel safe and have established rules.
___ 86. Needs to be independent and take responsibility.
___ 87. Needs to be successful and develop skills.

SOCIAL
___ 88. Begins to feel independent of family.
___ 89. Needs to be accepted by other adults.
___ 90. Needs to belong to a peer group.

INTELLECTUAL
___ 91. Can read and count in sequence.
___ 92. Can report elaborate events in sequence.
___ 93. Can plan and complete independent projects.

2. From the activities with schoolage children below, select one in each area that you use most frequently.

94. Physical

- A. Provide lessons for dancing, gymnastics, and sports.
- B. Provide space and equipment for trampoline, roller skating or climbing.
- C. Provide bicycles.
- D. Provide for small muscle activities, such as painting, pasting.
- E. Plan organized games involving running, jumping or hopping.



95. Emotional.

- A. Talk about feelings.
- B. Watch T.V. and discuss feelings.
- C. Provide role plays to discuss various emotions and develop empathy.
- D. Explore various emotions using books as a source of information.
- E. Plan acts of kindness for someone in crisis.

96. Social.

- A. Develop team efforts on a variety of projects or games.
- B. Plan for variations in clusters of friendships.
- C. Publically recognize desired behaviors and achievement.
- D. Plan with group for group efforts.
- E. Provide rotating responsibilities to the group.

97. Intellectual

- A. Provide a variety of mental games. i.e. guessing, 20 questions.
- B. Provide a variety of language games i.e. classification.
- C. Critique T.V. plots statements and characters.
- D. Speculate and predict outcomes from activities.
- E. Provide props for role playing activities.

3. These are four typical things that happen with children. From the activities with seven year old, select one in each area that you use most frequently.

98. Spills paint.

- A. Remove the child from the spilled paint.
- B. Give child time to explore and use the paint.
- C. Encourage child to cleanup spilled paint.
- D. Use harsh words while removing child from spilled paint.
- E. Give child time to explore and use paint and then encourages child to clean up the spill.



99. Bites/Hits Another Child.

- A. Discipline the aggressor.
- B. Talk only with the hurt child.
- C. Talk only with the aggressor.
- D. Talk with the hurt child and the aggressor.
- E. Ignore the incident.

100. Falls Down and Skins Knee.

- A. Pick up child and hug him/her.
- B. Go to child and administer first aid to the knee.
- C. Have the hurt child come to her/him.
- D. Administer first aid, talk with child and comfort the child.
- E. Ignore the incident.

101. Has a Toilet Accident.

- A. Change the child's clothing.
- B. Discipline child for incident and change clothing.
- C. Ignore incident.
- D. Encourage child to change clothes.
- E. Have non-threatening verbal interaction as child is encouraged to change his clothing.

4. For each of the skills below, select one activity that an adult can do to stimulate development in the following:

102. Participating in physical games.

- A. Coach the children in team sports, baseball, volleyball, basketball.
- B. Organize the children into teams for running, jumping, etc.
- C. Provide daily schedule for running, jumping, skipping.
- D. Provide equipment and space for team sports.
- E. Encourage children to form teams among themselves for games.



103. Finger control.

- A. Provide musical instrument lessons.
- B. Organize card games.
- C. Provide opportunities to work with clay, finger paint, pasting and cutting.
- D. Encourage use of woodworking equipment.
- E. Provide equipment to build model toys planes, boats etc.

104. Respecting Other Person's Ideas.

- A. Provide a model with listening skills.
- B. Point out differences in tours of museums and art galleries.
- C. Develop critical T.V. viewing skills and talk over the programs.
- D. Discuss both sides of an issue when disagreements occur.
- E. Read a variety of literature and discuss.

105. Relating to Adults.

- A. Role play adult-child interaction with child in both roles.
- B. Invite unusual adult guest, i.e. foreign, very old, unusual occupation or talents.
- C. Plan field trips to nursing homes, retirement home, or senior citizen center.
- D. Plan group activities to help or to show appreciation to adults.
- E. Plan individual acts of help kindness or appreciation to an adult.

5. Select most frequently seen evidence of limited development in each of the following areas.

106. Self control.

- A. Exhibits temper tantrums
- B. Talks back to adults
- C. Initiates fights in peer groups.
- D. Stealing others' objects.
- E. Cries or whines unnecessarily.



107. Self esteem.

- A. Shy child who will not express self.
- B. Child who says repeatedly, "No I can't".
- C. Child refuses to participate because of braces, glasses.
- D. Child avoids participation in activities or sports when failure is possible.
- E. Child is self-conscious about overweight or lack of beauty.

108. Feeling Successful.

- A. Slouched posture
- B. Stuttering.
- C. Tense body language
- D. Behavior extremes such as shyness, or over aggressiveness.
- E. Physical or verbal abuse of others.

109. Reading.

- A. Avoids book and storytime.
- B. Does not hear clearly
- C. Shows evidence of language lag.
- D. Limited involvement in perceptual skills i.e. left to right sequence.
- E. Lacks sequencing skills in story telling.



THE FOLLOWING SECTIONS OF THE QUESTIONNAIRE REFER TO TASKS TYPICAL OF MANY CHILD CARE ADMINISTRATORS. PLEASE CHECK EACH TASK IN THE APPROPRIATE COLUMN FOR YOUR CENTER.

COLUMNS SIGNIFY:

\* = The task is consistently performed on your site.

CI = Could Improve. The task is usually done and could be done more often or better.

- = The task is not performed at your site.

N/A = The task does not apply to your site.

*	CI	-	N/A	
				<u>Observations conducted in order to:</u>
				110 Assess and evaluate each child objectively.
				111 Record growth and development.
				112 Screen for special needs
				113 Document interactions (child-child, child-adult)
				114 Group child for optimum growth.
				115 Plan for individual child.
				116 Plan for group
				117 Plan program.
				118 Evaluate curriculum
				<u>Methods of observing used in your center:</u>
				119 Case study: Study of individual child.
				120 Anecdotal Record: Record events of incidents as child interacts with environment.
				121 Diary: Keep running account of behavior of child for stated period of time.
				122 Time Sampling: Observe child or children for specified time, i.e., 5 mins.
				123 Event Sampling: Looking at specific behavior as child uses equipment or material.
				124 Informal: Note behavior in natural and everyday situations.
				125 Developmental Checklist.



*	CI	-	N/A
			126 Enforce safety rules of center
			127 Stop or redirect unsafe activities.
			128 Keep equipment in safe condition.
			129 Keep environment free of hazards.
			130 Store materials properly.
			131 Conduct fire and hazard drill according to written plan.
			132 Post emergency numbers conspicuously.
			133 Administer proper first aid.
			134 Post first aid chart.
			135 Maintain first aid kit.
			136 Schedule building maintenance. Written plan for maintenance.
			137 Clean and maintain: Program materials and learning environment.
			138 Bathrooms
			139 Kitchen and kitchen equipment
			140 Office and lounge area
			141 Provide for heating, cooling, lighting and ventilation of building.
			142 Regulate heating, cooling, lighting and ventilation.
			143 Assure proper handling of soiled linens.
			144 Assure that staff health requirements are met.
			145 Maintain immunization and health records.
			146 Review and use individual health records.
			147 Conduct daily entry and continuing health observation of children.
			148 Report to director any signs of illness, discomfort, or unusual behavior shown by children.
			149 Recognize unusual behavior.
			150 Recognize child abuse and report properly.
			151 Recognize physical problems such as vision, speech, hearing, and motor problems



*	CI	-	N/A
			152 Recognize signs of physical illness.
			153 Follow procedures for care of ill children.
			154 Store medications properly.
			155 Follow procedures for administering medications.
			156 Model and promote proper personal hygiene.
			157 Provide proper care, as needed, for wounds and infections.
			158 Plan and post menus based on nutrition needs.
			159 Purchase food based on inventory.
			160 Supervise preparation and hygiene storage of food.
			161 Serve nutritious meals and snacks.
			162 Provide nutrition awareness for children.
			163 Select appropriate and challenging materials and equipment.
			164 Provide soft areas.
			165 Arrange learning environment for maximum effectiveness and aesthetic value.
			166 Arrange room with suitable learning centers.
			167 Provide areas for group activities.
			168 Plan spaces for privacy.
			169 Maintain, with children an orderly environment.
			170 Use transitions to provide smooth movement from activity to activity.
			171 Provide positive guidance techniques.
			172 Establish center philosophy.
			173 Identify long-range goals
			174 Develop objectives based on goals
			175 Assess children's emotional, social, intellectual and physical needs.
			176 Develop program plan based on assessment and objectives.
			177 Plan and implement daily schedule to meet needs and interests of children.



*	CI	-	N/A	
				178 Promote program objectives with use of routine procedures
				179 Dressing and undressing children; feeding and diapering infants.
				180 Setting and cleaning tables for meals, eating family-style, tasting foods.
				181 Making and clearing beds.
				182 Toileting and handwashing
				183 Assisting with room clean-up.
				184 Implement program, maintaining flexibility, by providing time, materials and equipment to allow choices by children.
				185 Encourage body movement and awareness.
				186 Promote and encourage development of small and large muscles through use of equipment and materials.
				187 Provide good language model; support children's native language.
				188 Encourage vocabulary building.
				189 Encourage and reinforce exploring, experimenting, problem-solving, and curiosity.
				190 Provide for creative expression through art, music, dramatic play.
				191 Provide for sensory experiences
				192 Permit sense of daring, extending capabilities, within safe limits.
				193 Stimulate and elicit ideas.
				194 Provide opportunities for initiating, attending, completing
				195 Develop children's skill in observing relationships and categories.
				196 Promote association of words with objects, events, and people.
				197 Support development of concepts of time space, numbers, size, shape and color.
				198 Encourage expression of feelings.
				199 Recognize child as a unique individual.
				200 Help each child become aware of and develop control over his body.



*	CI	-	N/A	
				201 Provide comfort and security by holding and touching children.
				202 Encourage development of self-help skills.
				203 Plan activities that provide for success and that challenge but do not frustrate.
				204 Provide opportunities for child to make choices and act independently.
				205 Provide for new child's adjustment to group and setting.
				206 Help child to find acceptable ways of expressing negative feelings.
				207 Assist child to plan, accept, and understand simple group rules.
				208 Reinforce evidence of child's self-control.
				209 Model acceptable behavior.
				210 Establish and implement realistic and clear expectations for behavior.
				211 Provide positive and consistent reinforcement of children's efforts.
				212 Provide for privacy and close relationships.
				213 Demonstrate to child that adults are trustworthy and loving.
				214 Give appropriate guidance as child solves problems.
				215 Encourage and expect child to respect rights, feelings, and property of others.
				216 Encourage appropriate social play.
				217 Provide for activities that present a variety of choices for both boys and girls.
				218 Provide materials to promote non-sexist curriculum.
				219 Support home and family language and culture.
				220 Provide appropriate special materials and activities.
				221 Maintain confidentiality of information about child and family.
				222 Provide individualized support to strengthen families
				223 Accept and encourage language, culture, and values of homes and families
				224 Discuss childrearing practices with parents.
				225 Assess needs of each child in terms of values of parents.



* CI	-	N/A
------	---	-----

- 226 Refer parents to agencies for assistance with social, health, education, economic or legal problems.
- 227 Seek and share information about child with parents.
- 228 Communicate regularly with parents concerning progress of child.
- 229 Hold conferences regularly.
- 230 Explain to parents center policies, program, and regulations.
- 231 Discuss with parents any signs of illness, discomfort, or unusual behavior of child.
- 232 Provide appropriate referrals for parents of children with special needs.
- 233 Assist in developing and promoting a parent group.
- 234 Conduct workshops and meetings designed to meet expressed and recognized parent needs.
- 235 Encourage parent input in center planning.
- 236 Invite parents to share skills and talents.
- 237 Determine staff qualifications and job responsibilities.
- 238 Hire and dismiss employees
- 239 Develop, implement, and revise personnel policies
- 240 Establish staffing patterns to assure management responsibilities and to promote stability in child care.
- 241 Open and close center or delegate.
- 242 Supervise classroom personnel.
- 243 Supervise support staff
- 244 Involve staff in self-evaluation.
- 245 Evaluate and review with staff duties set for individual staff conferences.
- 246 Conduct or plan staff training based on staff needs and evaluations.
- 247 Promote interpersonal staff relationships.
- 248 Seek and share ideas and suggestions with other staff.
- 249 Share ideas and information on center operations and activities.



*	CI	-	N/A
			250 Assess employees' potentials.
			251 Delegate responsibilities.
			252 Secure funding sources.
			253 Plan budget.
			254 Establish and collect child care fees.
			255 Maintain financial records.
			256 Purchase or secure non-program supplies.
			257 Purchase or secure program supplies, equipment and materials.
			258 <u>Insure</u> compliance with local, state and federal regulations.
			259 Assist in <u>maintaining</u> compliance with local, state, and federal regulations.
			260 Maintain staff personnel records.
			261 Post and maintain attendance.
			262 Record developmental progress of children.
			263 Maintain social service records.
			264 Keep employee time records.
			265 Work with and serve as a resource for governing/advisory board.
			266 Develop and administer center policies on program operation, transportation, parent involvement, social services, health, nutrition, training, advertising and public relations.
			267 Implement and support center philosophy, goals, policies.
			268 Evaluate center operation. An evaluation of the total operation is conducted at least annually.



Center: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_ Telephone: \_\_\_\_\_

What is your job title: \_\_\_\_\_

Total years of experience with children (excluding your own): \_\_\_\_\_

Check one major and subcategories which best fit your work setting.

☐ Non-profit ☐ Half-day Program  
☐ Church ☐ Full-day Program  
☐ Title XX  
☐ Head Start

☐ Profit  
☐ Proprietary (owner)  
☐ Franchise  
☐ Industry-related

Check category which best describes your duties:

☐ I am the administrator/manager/director for this child care site.

☐ I am the program coordinator for this child care site.

☐ I am the administrator/manager/director and program coordinator for this child care site.

Check the category or categories which describes how you learned administrative skills:

☐ On-the-job experience

☐ Academic coursework

☐ Workshops

☐ Worked as an assistant to an administrator

Check the highest level of education you have completed:

☐ 1-3 years of high school

☐ High school or GED

☐ 1-2 years of college, no degree

☐ Associate degree

☐ 3-4 years of college, no degree

☐ Bachelor's degree

☐ Graduate study

☐ Completed graduate degree      Circle:    Master's                      Doctorate



- 1) Size of budget that you manage is:

\$10,000 to \$20,000	_____	\$30,000 to \$50,000	_____
\$20,000 to \$30,000	_____	\$50,000 to \$70,000	_____
		\$70,000 and more	_____

- 2) The size of staff that you direct includes the following personnel:

How many full-time teachers \_\_\_\_\_

How many half-time teachers \_\_\_\_\_

How many full-time aides \_\_\_\_\_

How many half-time aides \_\_\_\_\_

How many full-time support staff: cook custodians \_\_\_\_\_

How many half-time support staff: cook custodians \_\_\_\_\_

- 3) Can the individual worker progress from one type of job to another within the childcare center? \_\_\_\_\_
- 4) What administrative task gives you the greatest satisfaction? \_\_\_\_\_
- 5) Which administrative task causes you the most frustration? \_\_\_\_\_
- 6) What is your current salary level? \_\_\_\_\_



## APPENDIX B

### FRAMEWORK FOR TRAINING: HISTORY AND OVERVIEW



## I. HISTORY AND OVERVIEW

### HISTORY OF CAREERS PROJECT

In November 1974, at the suggestion of the directors of the Texas Department of Community Affairs' Office of Early Childhood Development, representatives of state agencies with responsibility for early childhood programs--the Texas Department of Public Welfare (now the Texas Department of Human Resources), the Texas Education Agency, and the Coordinating Board of the Texas College and University System--began developing a coordinated approach to preparing competent teacher/caregivers for child care programs in Texas. Each of the agencies at that time was involved in facilitating the implementation of Child Development Associate (CDA) training and credentialing in Texas and wished to promote and build upon the CDA concept.

The interagency group agreed that developing a system to prepare child care personnel at all levels of responsibility must involve representatives of all segments of the early childhood professionals, challenging them to develop a "comprehensive system for the preparation and recognition of personnel charged with the responsibility of young children."



The group of teacher-educators, program providers, professional organization leaders, and state agency staff constituted itself as the Texas Committee on Early Childhood Development Careers. Task groups laid out the framework for three components of a career system: structure, preparation, and recognition. By June 1976 the committee had completed the Action Format for Early Childhood Development Careers, a set of recommendations which they distributed widely. An executive committee drawn from the larger group was named to carry out the objectives in the Action Format.

Several committee members interested in pursuing further the difficult question of a recognition system received a Membership Action Grant for this purpose in May 1978 from the National Association for the Education of Young Children. This grant together with monies provided by early childhood organizations throughout the state was used as a match for Title XX training funds from the Texas Department of Human Resources.

Members then invited representatives of all major early childhood professional organizations to become part of a new recognition planning group whose purpose would be to design a multilevel, competency-based recognition system



for early childhood personnel in Texas. The group obtained a state charter as a nonprofit corporation under the name Texas Early Childhood Careers Recognition Council. The council delineated several long-range goals for early childhood personnel in Texas:

- . to expand career opportunities and rewards
- . to increase the number and quality of professionally credentialed personnel
- . to establish and maintain a career system that would promote, support, and recognize independently qualified personnel
- . to stimulate expectations of higher quality early childhood programs by consumers and program providers
- . to generate support for the early childhood profession among policy makers and the public

Framework for Training is a major step in working toward these goals. Through its corporate bylaws, the Careers Recognition Council will be able at the appropriate time to operate as a professional credentialing body for early childhood personnel in Texas. Provision has been made for broad membership support and appropriate operational control by representatives of all segments of early childhood personnel. Officers have been elected to guide the work of the council. The next step will be to obtain additional funding to support the implementation of the credentialing process and the total recognition system.



## OVERVIEW OF FRAMEWORK FOR TRAINING

The Careers Recognition Council began work in March 1979. At its first meeting the group delineated the career levels and specializations in the child care profession that would constitute the basis for its developmental work. The matrix of positions, presented in Section I, includes four progressive career levels (From teacher aide to program coordinator), five skill areas (that relate to ages and special needs of children with whom they work), and three specializations (administration, social services, and nutrition).

The primary objective of this and subsequent efforts was to develop a plan for coordinated training of staff in centers funded by Title XX. Since staff qualifications in Title XX and other child care centers generally are perceived to be the same, the council agreed that a staff training plan designed for Title XX providers would be applicable to all day care personnel in Texas.

To develop the plan, the council established the following objectives:

- . to survey training needs throughout Texas
- . to organize a guide listing appropriate training materials according to topic



- . to determine basic competencies for all career levels
- . to design instruments for assessing competencies for all career levels

Based on its objectives, the council carried out the following tasks:

1. The identification of principal tasks performed by persons at each of the career levels.

Earlier job analyses developed by Zaccaria and Holloman<sup>1</sup> and later refined by Gifford, Pilot and Lovelace<sup>2</sup>, were used to develop a matrix of tasks performed by staff persons at varying job levels. Ultimately the group focused on five positions: administrator, program coordinator, teacher, assistant, and aide.

2. The integration of tasks with training objectives.

Once a task list was organized, group members were able to determine which training topics would address related groups of tasks.

---

<sup>1</sup>Robert T. Alciatore, John W. Hollman, and Michael A. Zaccaria, Texas Day Care Study, University of Texas at San Antonio, 1976.

<sup>2</sup>Unpublished final report from the City of Sherman (1978) and the City of Texarkana (1979) submitted to the Texas Department of Community Affairs contain job analyses conducted as part of the terms of the cities' contracts with TDCA.



3. A survey of training offered by Title XX training contractors, early childhood organizations, and community colleges.

Results of this survey, not reported in this paper, confirmed that early childhood personnel have access to innumerable local workshops offered by professional organizations and community colleges. Staff working in Title XX centers have, in most cases, a more consistent program of training provided for them. A systematic training plan, if used by training providers, could provide structure and progression for workers instead of the current piecemeal acquisition of child care information.

4. A review of training materials, organized by training topics, often used by Texas training providers.

Many instructional materials developed in Texas and elsewhere are used in formal and informal training programs. Of special interest to the group were the books and audiovisuals developed through Title XX funds from the Texas Department of Human Resources. An organization of these materials by training topics can serve as a guide to trainers implementing the council's proposed training framework.



5. A training needs survey of early childhood workers.

members of the group designed a survey instrument in October 1979 to question persons attending various early childhood meetings. Respondents were asked to review the list of training topics developed by the council and identify their present training needs.

6. The development of competency assessment instruments.

The continuing commitment of the group to a competency-based approach to both training and credentialing led to the final developmental task: the preparation of assessment instruments with performance criteria based on the task lists and training topics. After being tested and refined, these instruments, when used by trained assessors, are intended to be the basis for professional credentials issued by the Texas Early Childhood Careers Recognition Council.



APPENDIX C  
ADMINISTRATOR CONSENT FORM



Dear Administrator:

You are one of few administrators selected for a study of administrative skills necessary for different types of child care. Your participation is greatly appreciated.

Josephine S. Stearns

I understand that my participation is voluntary, that all data will be handled anonymously, and that I may withdraw at any time. My return of this questionnaire constitutes my informed consent.

Further, I am aware that the only benefits to me are my own contribution to my profession, and that no medical service or compensation is provided to subjects by the University as a result of injury from participation in research.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature



APPENDIX D  
TASKS PERFORMED CONSISTENTLY BY 79%  
OR LESS OF THE ADMINISTRATORS



# Tasks Performed Consistently by 79%

or Less of the Administrators

Category	Admn.		Category	Admn.	
	Tasks	% N		Tasks	% N
<u>Program Optimal Development</u>			<u>Curriculum</u>		
Promote program objectives with use of routine procedures (178)	79	27	Provide positive and consistent reinforcement of children's efforts (211)	76	26
<u>Curriculum</u>			<u>Home-Center Relationships</u>		
Support home and family language and culture (219)	79	27	Communicate regularly with parents concerning progress of child (228)	75	25
Encourage expression of feelings (198)	78	26			
<u>Personnel</u>			<u>Program Optimal Development</u>		
Supervise classroom personnel (242)	78	26	Assisting with room clean-up (183)	74	26
<u>Administrative Styles &amp; Skills</u>			<u>Curriculum</u>		
Maintain financial record (255)	78	26	Provide for creative expression art, music, dramatic play (190)	74	26
<u>Learning Environment</u>			Stimulate and elicit ideas (193)	73	25
Maintain, with children an orderly environment (169)	77	27	<u>Healthy Environment</u>		
<u>Curriculum</u>			Office and lounge area (140)	73	25
Model acceptable behavior (209)	77	27	<u>Program Optimal Development</u>		
<u>Safe Environment</u>			Setting and cleaning tables for meals, eating family-style, tasting foods (180)	72	24
Store material properly (130)	76	26	<u>Administrative Styles and Skills</u>		
<u>Program Optimal Development</u>			Plan budget (253)	72	24
Making and clearing beds (181)	76	26	<u>Healthy Environment</u>		
<u>Curriculum</u>			Schedule building maintenance.	71	25
Provide opportunities for initiating, attending, completing (194)	76	26	Written plan for maintenance (136)	71	25
Establish and implement realistic and clear expectations for behavior (210)	76	26			



Tasks Performed Consistently by 79%  
or Less of the Administrators

Category			Category		
Admn.			Admn.		
Tasks	%	N	Tasks	%	N
<u>Learning Environment</u>			<u>Program Optimal Development</u>		
Select appropriate and challenging materials and equipment (163)	71	25	Develop objectives based on goals (174)	68	24
Provide positive guidance techniques (171)	71	25			
<u>Curriculum</u>			<u>Curriculum</u>		
Encourage vocabulary building (188)	71	25	Provide good language model (187)	68	24
<u>Home-Center Relationships</u>			<u>Observation and Recording</u>		
Refer parents to agencies for assistance with social, health, education economic or legal problems (226)	71	23	Informal: Note behavior in natural and everyday situations (124)	67	23
<u>Personnel</u>			<u>Facility</u>		
Evaluate and review with staff duties set for individual staff conferences (245)	71	22	Evaluate center operation. An evaluation of the total operation is conducted at least annually (268)	67	23
<u>Home-Center Relationships</u>			<u>Program Optimal Development</u>		
Provide individualized support to strengthen families (222)	71	25	Implement program, maintaining flexibility, by providing time, materials and equipment to allow choices by children (184)	65	23
<u>Curriculum</u>			<u>Curriculum</u>		
Develop children's skill in observing relationships and categories (195)	70	24	Encourage body movement and awareness (185)	65	23
<u>Administrative Styles &amp; Skills</u>			<u>Healthy Environment</u>		
Assess employees' potentials (250)	70	24	Conduct daily entry and continuing health observation of children (147)	64	22



Tasks Performed Consistently by 79%

or Less of the Administrators

Category	Admn.		Category	Admn.	
	Tasks	% N		Tasks	% N
<u>Learning Environment</u>			<u>Program Optimal Development</u>		
Arrange room with suitable learning centers (166)	64	22	Develop program plan based on assessment and objectives (176)	61	21
<u>Program Optimal Development</u>			<u>Curriculum</u>		
Assess children's emotional, social, intellectual, and physical needs (175)	64	22	Permit sense of daring, extending capabilities, within safe limits (192)	61	21
<u>Home-Center Relationships</u>			<u>Learning Environment</u>		
Accept and encourage language, culture, and values of homes and families (223)	64	22	Provide soft areas (164)	60	21
<u>Administrative Styles &amp; Skills</u>			<u>Program Optimal Development</u>		
Record developmental progress of children (262)	63	21	Dressing and undressing children; feeding and diapering infants (179)	60	21
<u>Observing and Recording</u>			<u>Curriculum</u>		
Evaluate curriculum (118)	62	22	Provide for sensory experience (191)	60	21
<u>Curriculum</u>			Help child to find acceptable ways of expressing negative feelings (206)	60	21
Encourage and reinforce exploring, experimenting, problem-solving, and curiosity (189)	62	22	<u>Home-Center Relationships</u>		
<u>Home-Centers Relationships</u>			Discuss childrearing practices with parents (224)	60	21
Assess needs of each child in terms of values of parents (225)	62	22	<u>Curriculum</u>		
			Provide for privacy and close relationships (212)	58	20
			Provide materials to promote non-sexist curriculum (218)	58	20



Tasks Performed Consistently by 79%  
or Less of the Administrators

Category	Admn.		Category	Admn.	
	Tasks	% N		Tasks	% N
<u>Administrative Styles and Skills</u>			<u>Observing and Recording</u>		
Work with and serve as a resource for governing/advisory board (265)	58	20	Record growth and development (111)	50	17
<u>Observation and Recording</u>			<u>Learning Environment</u>		
Group child for optimum growth (114)	57	20	Plan spaces for privacy (168)	45	16
<u>Healthy Environment</u>			<u>Home-Center Relationships</u>		
Provide nutrition awareness for children (162)	57	20	Encourage parent input in center planning (235)	45	15
<u>Learning Environment</u>			Invite parents to share skills and talents (236)	45	15
Use transitions to provide smooth movement from activity to activity (170)	57	20	<u>Observation &amp; Recording</u>		
<u>Personnel</u>			Case study: Study of individual child (119)	44	15
Involve staff in evaluation (244)	57	19	Plan for individual child (115)	42	15
<u>Observation and Recording</u>			<u>Home-Center Relationships</u>		
Assess and evaluate each child objectively (110)	54	19	Assist in developing and promoting a parent group (233)	40	13
<u>Learning Environment</u>			Hold conferences regularly (229)	39	13
Arrange learning environment for maximum effectiveness and aesthetic value (165)	54	19	<u>Observation &amp; Recording</u>		
<u>Program Optimal Development</u>			Event sampling: Looking at specific behavior as child uses equipment or material (123)	38	13
Identify long-range goals (173)	54	19	Screen for special needs (112)	37	13
			Time sampling: Observe child or children for specified time, i.e., 5 min. (122)	36	12



Tasks Performed Consistently by 79%  
or Less of the Administrators

Category	Admn.		Category	Admn.	
	Tasks	% N		Tasks	% N
<u>Administrative Styles &amp; Skills</u>					
	Secure funding sources (252)	36 12			
<u>Observation &amp; Recording</u>					
	Developmental checklist (125)	35 12			
<u>Home-Center Relationships</u>					
	Conduct workshops and meetings designed to meet expressed and recognized parent needs (234)	27 9			
<u>Observation &amp; Recording</u>					
	Anecdotal Record: Record events of incidents as child interacts with environment (120)	24 8			
	Diary: Keep running account of behavior of child for stated period of time (121)	24 8			
	Document interactions (child-child, child-adult) (113)	20 7			



## REFERENCES



## REFERENCES

- Aikman, W. F. Day care legal handbook: Legal aspects of organizing and operating day care programs. Urbana, Ill.: ERIC Clearinghouse on Elementary and Early Childhood Education, 1977.
- Andreyka, R. E. Leadership competencies in vocational education: Implications for preservice education. Pennsylvania State University, University Park. Division of Occupational and Vocational Studies, 1976. (ERIC Document Reproduction Service No. ED 154-114).
- Bane, M., Lein, L., O'Donnell, L., Stuenkel, A., Wells, B. Child care arrangements of working mothers. Monthly Labor Review, U. S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics, 1979, 102, (10), 50-56.
- Bogue, E. B., & Saunders, R. L. The educational manager: artist and practitioner. In M. Kaplan-Sanoff & R. Yablausk-Magid, Exploring early childhood: Readings in theory and practice. New York: Macmillan, 1981.
- Bordelon, K., & Tesar, S. The action format for early childhood development careers. Texas Department of Community Affairs, Early Childhood Development Division, Austin, Texas, 1976.
- Bordelon, K. J., Stone, N. K., & Tate, D. R. Framework for training: A report of the Texas early childhood careers recognition council. Texas Department of Community Affairs, Children and Youth Services Division, Austin, Texas, 1981.
- Butler, A. L. Early childhood education: Planning and administering programs. Van Nostrand, 1974.
- Care/development of children: Paraprofessional child care occupations in Iowa. Identification of tasks in home economics related occupations. Developed by Departments of Home Economics Education at Iowa State University and University of Northern Iowa in cooperation with the Iowa Department of Public Instruction, 1974.



- Curtis, M. L. Mainstreaming: A needs and attitude assessment of day care personnel. Unpublished master's thesis, Texas Woman's University, Denton, Texas, 1979.
- Decker, C. A., & Decker, J. R. Planning and administering early childhood programs. Columbus, Ohio: Charles E. Merrill Publishing Co., 2nd ed., 1980.
- Elam, S. Performance-based teacher education: What is the state of the art? Washington, D.C.: American Association of Colleges for Teacher Education, 1971.
- Exemplary competency-based vocational teacher education project: Administration/supervision component. Competency and criteria identification phase: Professional competencies and assessment criteria for administrators and supervisors of vocational education programs in Florida, Series No. 5, 1976. (ERIC Document Reproduction Service No. ED 131-249).
- Fein, G. G., & Clarke-Stewart, A. Day care in context. New York: John Wiley & Sons, 1973.
- Feldvebel, A. M. A rationale for competency-based programs in educational administration, 1974. (ERIC Document Reproduction Service No. ED 095-117).
- Fox, Norris, (Director). A needs assessment of Texas child care administrators with implications for potential training strategies. North Texas State University, Denton, College of Education, 1977. Sponsoring Agency: Texas State Department of Human Resources, Austin, Texas. (ERIC Document Reproduction Service No. ED 170-056).
- Goldsmith, C. Better day care for the young child: Through a merged governmental and nongovernmental effort. Washington, D.C.: National Association for the Education of Young Children, 1972.
- Hall, G. E., & Jones, H. L. Competency-based education: A process for the improvement of education. Englewood Cliffs, N.J.: Prentice-Hall, Inc., 1976.
- Henderson, R. H. Day care: A business operated for profit. Management Accounting, 1975, 56, (10), 39-42.



- Hewes, D., & Hartman, B. Early childhood education: A workbook for administrators. San Francisco, CA.: R & E Research Associates, 2nd ed., 1979.
- Hollingsworth, S. A. Competency-based training programs: A generic model, 2nd ed. Minneapolis: Minnesota University, 1974. (ERIC Document Reproduction Service No. ED 145-644).
- Hopkins, K. D., & Glass, G. V. Basic statistics for the behavioral sciences. Englewood Cliffs, New Jersey: Prentice-Hall Inc., 1978.
- Host, M., & Heller, P. B. Day care & administration. U. S. Department of Health Education and Welfare, Office of Child Development, 1971.
- Huck, S. W., Cormier, W. H. & Bounds, W. G. Reading statistics and research. New York, New York: Harper and Row, 1974.
- Krashinsky, M. The cost of day care in public programs. National Tax Journal, 1978, 31 (4), 363-372.
- Keyserling, M. D. The magnitude of day care need. In S. Auerbach, Ed., Rationale for child care services: Programs vs. politics. New York: Human Sciences Press, 1975.
- Maxwell, T. Corporate day care takes its first steps. Administrative Management, 1972, 33 (5), 62-66.
- McCleary, L. E., & McIntyre, K. Competency development and the methodology of college teaching: A model and proposal, 1971, (ERIC Document Reproduction Service No. ED 077-138).
- Morgan, G. G. Guaranteeing quality in child care, April 3, 1975. (ERIC Document Reproduction Service No. ED 116-817).
- Parker, R. K., & Knitzer, J. Day care and preschool services: Trends and issues. Atlanta, GA.: Avatar Press, 1972.



Results oriented management in education: Project R.O.M.E. Identification and development of competencies of building level administrators of Thomas County, Georgia: A project report and appendices. Atlanta, GA.: Georgia State Department of Education, Georgia University Athens College of Education, Bureau of Elementary and Secondary Education (DHEW/OE), Washington, D.C., 1974. (ERIC Document Reproduction Service No. ED 105-558).

Ruopp, R., Travers, J., Glantz, F., & Coelen, C. Children at the center: Summary findings and their implications. Cambridge, Mass.: ABT Books, 1979.

Sciarra, D. J., & Dorsey, A. G. Developing and administering a child care center. Boston, Mass.: Houghton Mifflin Company, 1979.

Siegel, S. Nonparametric Statistics. New York, New York, McGraw-Hill, 1956.

Steinfelds, M. O. Who's minding the children? The history and politics of day care in America. New York: Simon and Schuster, 1973.

Stevens, J. H., Jr., & King, E. W. Administering early childhood education programs. Boston, Mass.: Little, Brown and Company, 1976.

The day care and child development council of America--Gould Foundation conference on training of day care administrators, etc. Day care and child development Council of America, etc. Sponsors. A. G. Gould Foundation for children, New York: February 14, 1969. (ERIC Document Reproduction Service No. ED 031-806).

Wilson, G., Pavloff, G., & Linker, L. Assessing staff development needs: A guide for child development programs. Washington, D.C.: Humanics, 1973.

Wolf, J. M. Training administrators of early education. Paper presented at the annual meeting of the American Educational Research Association. New York: April 4-8, 1977). (ERIC Document Reproduction Service No. ED 136-906).



Yablans-Magid, R. The process of administering early childhood programs. In M. Kaplan-Sanoff & R. Yablans-Magid, Eds., Exploring early childhood: Readings in theory and practice. New York: Macmillan Publishing Co., 1981.

Yoakam, J. M. Competency evaluation of child care directors. An unpublished master's thesis, Texas Woman's University, Denton, Texas, 1978.

Young, D., & Jackson, E. Introduction. In D. R. Young & R. R. Nelson, Eds., Public policy for day care of young children. Lexington, Mass.: Lexington Books, 1973.

Zaccaria, M. A., & Hollomon, J. W. Texas day care study: final report occupational analysis of day care personnel. San Antonio, TX.: The University of Texas at San Antonio, 1976.