

Newspaper in Education Presents

inquizi **Kidz**

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Do you like kids?
(Want to get paid for it?)

Discover the Future

There are many career options in teaching and working with children. Here are just a few:

- Daycare Provider
- Nanny
- Child Psychologist
- Youth Pastor
- Child Development Specialist
- Pediatrician
- Pediatric Audiologist
- Speech Therapist
- Teacher
- Teacher's Aid
- College Professor

For more career information see your school counselor and get information on-line at:

<http://www.khake.com/page42.html>
OR

<http://www.princetonol.com/groups/iad/lessons/middle/careers.htm>



Kidzbiz

Samantha, Shakespeare, and Elvis

By Leslie Rowe

Samantha Pippin has a creative streak that spans the ages—she loves **Shakespeare and Elvis!** She remembers being sad when, at age 5, her mom broke it to her that Elvis wasn't even alive. She became a fan of Shakespeare after reading his works as a freshman; particularly Romeo and Juliet. Aside from the romantic rock-n-roller in her, Samantha also loves kids and has always wanted to be a teacher. With seven siblings, she has the experience! Samantha's plans are laid out: after



Samantha Pippin

graduating this year from Lakewood Ranch High School she'll attend the University of Tampa and major in education. Meanwhile, she's gained an excellent set of leadership skills to offer her future students. Through her Early Childhood Education class she helps out as a teacher's aid for a first-grade class at McNeil Elementary. She served as president of Family, Career, and Community Leaders of America (FCCLA), vice president of Quill and Scroll, a member of the Senior Advisory Board, and a varsity football statistician keeping the books for the offensive line. Samantha will make an awesome teacher!

Another quality of a good babysitter is training. Some parents won't even consider hiring a sitter who doesn't have at least basic first-aid skills. If you have infant and child CPR training, that is a definite bonus. Consider taking a Babysitter's Training Course from your local Red Cross. With this training, you will have a good base of knowledge to effectively handle unexpected situations and emergencies. Also, check out your local library for a great selection of books on babysitting and first-aid. Babysitting is an ideal way for a teenager to earn extra money. You set your own schedule; it can be great fun; and after the kids go to bed you get paid to watch TV! But what's the difference between a good babysitter and a great babysitter? Well, experience is important. Training such as a Red-Cross course for babysitters is also desirable. But parents all around will tell you that enthusiasm and a willingness to engage their children in fun activities ranks highly. After all, you can have all sorts of qualifications but if you only sit the kids in front of the TV, you're downright boring.

The first thing most parents think about when they consider hiring a sitter is experience. Finally, add in a little enthusiasm. This will distinguish you from other babysitters. Take time to interact with the children. Read to them—most kids love it! Play simple board games. Go outside and play on the family swing set; it's fun for the kids and helps them burn off energy. Here's the best tip: arrive with some games and crafts of your own. A "fun bag" is guaranteed to delight both kids and parents!

Here are more babysitting tips.

1. Keep organized—bring a list of questions to ask parents. A few important things to find out are:
 - A phone number where the parents can be reached.
 - The address of the home you're in, for emergency purposes.
 - Any allergies or medications.
 - What time the children eat and what foods are permissible.
 - What time the children nap or go to bed.
 - Appropriate discipline, such as time-out rules.
 - Pet schedules.
2. Inform parents what happened while they were gone. Jot down what the kids ate, what time they slept and for how long, any accidents or other situations that occurred, and how you dealt with them. Write down any phone messages.



Consider using special babysitter's note pads. There are many helpful resources (including printable forms that you can take to babysitting jobs) at the Red-Cross website at: www2.redcross.org/services/hss/courses/babyindex.html Once you acquire experience, get trained, and show enthusiasm, you'll be known as the best babysitter on the block!

School biz

For Elaine, It's All in the Family & programming

Early Childhood Education (ECE) teacher Elaine Bowling has taught for 27 years, and now teaches future teachers. Her Lakewood Ranch High School (LRHS) students practice on preschoolers at the campus "Mini Mustangs" pre-kindergarten. "I have the best of both worlds," she says. "I love being with the preschoolers and watching their excitement for life and learning. And I also love watching my high school students get excited about teaching the Mini Mustangs." Elaine advises the school's Family, Career, and Community Leaders of America (FCCLA) organization, a group that develops



Elaine Bowling

student leadership and competes with other chapters around Florida. She is helping to plan a future LRHS career academy with an education focus. "I love what I do!" she says. Perhaps one reason is that teaching runs in the family. As a young child, she always played school—and guess who played the teacher? Her dad was a teacher. Her brother, Richard Andrews, teaches at King Middle School. And her husband, Bob Bowling, is the athletic director at the new Braden River High School. Elaine deserves an "A+" for passing her talents along to the next generation!

explore it

Create a Babysitter's "Fun Bag"

A babysitter's "fun bag" is a book bag or tote which you fill with games and activities—all related to a theme. Just choose a theme and away you go! Besides being a great teaching tool, a fun bag is guaranteed to keep them happy and impress the parents! The best way to start your fun bag is to choose a good children's book first. Build your activities around the theme of the book. First read the book, and then let the fun continue with your themed activities.

Here's an example. For a "Snow" themed fun bag, you could start with author Eric Carle's "Dream Snow." You've now incorporated reading. Include art by bringing white construction paper, children's safety scissors and glitter-glue. Create beautiful snowflakes together by folding the paper then cutting designs. Allow the children to be creative and apply the glitter-glue. Next, incorporate math. Count all of the snowflakes that you made. Estimate how many snowflakes it would take to fill up a bucket. Divide the number of snowflakes that you made by two. Add and subtract from the snowflakes. Next, add some old-fashioned jacks to the bag—they look like little snowflakes. Play jacks, or have fun spinning them. (If you don't know how to play jacks, ask an older person!) Pack your fun bag with crayons and more paper. Work on fine-motor skills and have the children draw a snowman. Let them write or copy the word "snowman" at the top of the paper. Color the snowman together. Use your imagination—you could play with ice cubes and talk about how snow is made from frozen moisture in the air. Now you've added science.

Try to make all of the activities age appropriate. If something isn't working, move on to your next idea! Be imaginative and create your own version of a "fun bag". The potential themes are limitless, and you can bet that both kids and parents will love it!

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Provided by Newspaper in Education, Kristin Lamphron, Education Manager (941) 748-0411 ext. 5031
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- Sugg Middle School
- Ballard Elementary Magnet
- Daughtrey Preparatory Magnet
- Harilee Middle Magnet
- Johnson Middle Magnet
- Lee Middle Magnet



- Lincoln Middle Magnet
- Manatee Elementary Magnet
- Rowlett Elementary Magnet
- Tillman Elementary Magnet
- Wakeland Elementary Magnet

Schools listed in red offer instruction in the subject area featured in today's InquiziKIDz

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- <http://www.fcclainc.org/>
- <http://www.sosnet.com/Safety/babysitters.tips.html>
- http://www.indianchild.com/Babysitting/babysitting_job_tips.htm
- <http://www.urbanxt.uiuc.edu/babysitting/>
- <http://www.babycrazy.com/news/babysitter.htm>
- <http://www.ci.ann-arbor.mi.us/SafetyServices/fire/babysit.html>

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