

OAE Early Childhood Special Education (013) Practice Exam (Sample)

Study Guide



Everything you need from our exam experts!

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Introduction

Preparing for a certification exam can feel overwhelming, but with the right tools, it becomes an opportunity to build confidence, sharpen your skills, and move one step closer to your goals. At Examzify, we believe that effective exam preparation isn't just about memorization, it's about understanding the material, identifying knowledge gaps, and building the test-taking strategies that lead to success.

This guide was designed to help you do exactly that.

Whether you're preparing for a licensing exam, professional certification, or entry-level qualification, this book offers structured practice to reinforce key concepts. You'll find a wide range of multiple-choice questions, each followed by clear explanations to help you understand not just the right answer, but why it's correct.

The content in this guide is based on real-world exam objectives and aligned with the types of questions and topics commonly found on official tests. It's ideal for learners who want to:

- Practice answering questions under realistic conditions,
- Improve accuracy and speed,
- Review explanations to strengthen weak areas, and
- Approach the exam with greater confidence.

We recommend using this book not as a stand-alone study tool, but alongside other resources like flashcards, textbooks, or hands-on training. For best results, we recommend working through each question, reflecting on the explanation provided, and revisiting the topics that challenge you most.

Remember: successful test preparation isn't about getting every question right the first time, it's about learning from your mistakes and improving over time. Stay focused, trust the process, and know that every page you turn brings you closer to success.

Let's begin.

How to Use This Guide

This guide is designed to help you study more effectively and approach your exam with confidence. Whether you're reviewing for the first time or doing a final refresh, here's how to get the most out of your Examzify study guide:

1. Start with a Diagnostic Review

Skim through the questions to get a sense of what you know and what you need to focus on. Your goal is to identify knowledge gaps early.

2. Study in Short, Focused Sessions

Break your study time into manageable blocks (e.g. 30 - 45 minutes). Review a handful of questions, reflect on the explanations.

3. Learn from the Explanations

After answering a question, always read the explanation, even if you got it right. It reinforces key points, corrects misunderstandings, and teaches subtle distinctions between similar answers.

4. Track Your Progress

Use bookmarks or notes (if reading digitally) to mark difficult questions. Revisit these regularly and track improvements over time.

5. Simulate the Real Exam

Once you're comfortable, try taking a full set of questions without pausing. Set a timer and simulate test-day conditions to build confidence and time management skills.

6. Repeat and Review

Don't just study once, repetition builds retention. Re-attempt questions after a few days and revisit explanations to reinforce learning. Pair this guide with other Examzify tools like flashcards, and digital practice tests to strengthen your preparation across formats.

There's no single right way to study, but consistent, thoughtful effort always wins. Use this guide flexibly, adapt the tips above to fit your pace and learning style. You've got this!

Questions

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- 1. Which component is included in an IFSP but not in an IEP?**
 - A. Present levels of developmental performance.**
 - B. Desired outcomes and methods to measure progress.**
 - C. Description of services and supports to be provided.**
 - D. Information about the family's resources.**

- 2. How can community resources support families of children with disabilities?**
 - A. By providing only financial assistance**
 - B. By offering information, services, and support networks**
 - C. By isolating them from other families**
 - D. By requiring them to pay for all resources**

- 3. What should a teacher first consider when assessing a child's oral reading fluency?**
 - A. If the child reads expressively**
 - B. If the child has decoding skills for the text**
 - C. If the child is engaged with the text**
 - D. If the child has relevant background knowledge**

- 4. What is one key benefit of conducting ecological assessments?**
 - A. They provide a comprehensive view of the child's strengths and challenges**
 - B. They focus solely on academic performance**
 - C. They ignore environmental factors**
 - D. They are typically conducted infrequently**

- 5. What role do occupational therapists have in early childhood special education?**
 - A. Facilitating group therapy sessions for cognitive skills**
 - B. Assisting with the development of self-care and fine motor skills**
 - C. Administering academic assessments**
 - D. Providing speech therapy for language limitations**

- 6. What is the primary role of a special education teacher in an early childhood classroom?**
- A. To teach a standardized curriculum to all students**
 - B. To enforce behavior management strategies**
 - C. To tailor education and support to meet the individual needs of each child**
 - D. To assist children in learning social skills**
- 7. How should classrooms be structured to support diverse learners?**
- A. With rigid routines that do not allow flexibility**
 - B. With a focus on individual needs and diverse learning activities**
 - C. By limiting interactions among students**
 - D. By adhering strictly to traditional teaching methods**
- 8. Which of the following is a recommended teaching strategy for young learners?**
- A. Clear, structured tasks**
 - B. Randomized teaching methods**
 - C. Overly complex instructions**
 - D. Only independent work**
- 9. Which of the following can be a practical tool for children to assist with understanding daily routines?**
- A. a verbal explanation from the teacher**
 - B. a printed list of tasks to hand out**
 - C. a tactile model of the schedule**
 - D. a visual schedule with pictures**
- 10. Which methods are commonly used to assess young children in early childhood special education?**
- A. Observations, standardized tests, and developmental screenings**
 - B. Surveys, interviews, and parent feedback**
 - C. Academic performance evaluations and report cards**
 - D. Group assessments and peer reviews**

Answers

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1. D
2. B
3. B
4. A
5. B
6. C
7. B
8. A
9. D
10. A

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Explanations

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- 1. Which component is included in an IFSP but not in an IEP?**
 - A. Present levels of developmental performance.**
 - B. Desired outcomes and methods to measure progress.**
 - C. Description of services and supports to be provided.**
 - D. Information about the family's resources.**

The inclusion of information about the family's resources in an Individualized Family Service Plan (IFSP) is crucial because the IFSP is centered around the needs of the entire family in addition to the child with disabilities. This component recognizes that early intervention services often extend beyond the child themselves and involve the family's capacity to support the child's development. Understanding the family's resources allows service providers to tailor interventions that are realistic and supportive, helping to strengthen the family unit and enabling them to effectively assist in their child's development. In contrast, an Individualized Education Program (IEP) is primarily focused on the educational needs of the child as they enter the school system. It emphasizes the child's present levels of performance, educational goals, and the specific services provided to meet those goals. While family involvement is important in the context of an IEP, it does not specifically focus on family resources. Instead, the IEP centers on the educational aspects and supports necessary for the child's academic growth.

- 2. How can community resources support families of children with disabilities?**
 - A. By providing only financial assistance**
 - B. By offering information, services, and support networks**
 - C. By isolating them from other families**
 - D. By requiring them to pay for all resources**

Community resources play a vital role in supporting families of children with disabilities by offering a comprehensive array of information, services, and support networks. This support can include a range of services such as counseling, educational workshops, and peer support groups, which are essential for families navigating the complexities of raising a child with a disability. Access to information helps families understand their child's specific needs, available services, and their rights under laws such as the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA). Furthermore, support networks can connect families with other parents facing similar challenges, fostering a sense of belonging and providing emotional support, which can significantly alleviate feelings of isolation. In contrast, providing only financial assistance would be inadequate, as families require a more holistic support system that addresses emotional, social, and educational aspects. Isolating families from others would hinder their ability to connect and share experiences, which is crucial for emotional well-being and community integration. Requiring families to pay for all resources would create inequities and barriers to access, making it difficult for those already facing challenges to seek help. Hence, community resources that promote comprehensive support and connection are essential for empowering families of children with disabilities.

3. What should a teacher first consider when assessing a child's oral reading fluency?

- A. If the child reads expressively**
- B. If the child has decoding skills for the text**
- C. If the child is engaged with the text**
- D. If the child has relevant background knowledge**

When assessing a child's oral reading fluency, it is crucial to first consider the child's decoding skills for the text. Decoding, which involves the ability to recognize and process letters, sounds, and words, is foundational to reading fluency. If a child struggles to decode words accurately and efficiently, their fluency will be affected. Fluency relies on the ability to read with speed, accuracy, and proper expression, all of which hinge on effective decoding. Without decoding skills, a child will likely read slowly and with interruptions, making it difficult to assess their overall reading fluency accurately. While aspects such as expression, engagement with the text, and relevant background knowledge are important in a comprehensive assessment of reading abilities, they come into play after determining whether the child can successfully decode the words on the page. Once decoding is established, the teacher can then move on to evaluate how expressively the child reads, how engaged they are with the material, and whether their background knowledge supports their understanding of the text.

4. What is one key benefit of conducting ecological assessments?

- A. They provide a comprehensive view of the child's strengths and challenges**
- B. They focus solely on academic performance**
- C. They ignore environmental factors**
- D. They are typically conducted infrequently**

Conducting ecological assessments offers a key benefit in providing a comprehensive view of the child's strengths and challenges. This approach goes beyond simply evaluating academic skills; it considers the child's interactions with various environments, including home, school, and community. By gathering information from multiple contexts, practitioners can better understand the child's needs, the types of support required, and how different settings influence the child's development and learning. This holistic perspective is essential in early childhood special education, as it helps inform individualized strategies and interventions tailored to the child's unique circumstances and needs. Thus, the assessment highlights both what the child can do successfully and the areas where they may struggle, creating a more complete picture of their overall functioning.

5. What role do occupational therapists have in early childhood special education?

- A. Facilitating group therapy sessions for cognitive skills**
- B. Assisting with the development of self-care and fine motor skills**
- C. Administering academic assessments**
- D. Providing speech therapy for language limitations**

Occupational therapists play a crucial role in early childhood special education by focusing on the development of self-care skills and fine motor abilities. Their expertise allows them to create tailored interventions that enable children to engage more effectively in daily activities, which is essential for fostering independence and promoting overall development. Self-care skills include activities like dressing, eating, and personal hygiene, all of which are fundamental for children's growth and autonomy. Fine motor skills involve small muscle movements, crucial for tasks such as grasping small objects, using utensils, or manipulating toys. By enhancing these abilities, occupational therapists help children overcome barriers that may affect their engagement in both educational settings and everyday life. Addressing the other choices, while facilitating group therapy, administering academic assessments, and providing speech therapy are important in their own contexts, these roles are traditionally associated more closely with other specialists such as speech-language pathologists or psychologists. Occupational therapists uniquely focus on practical life skills and physical aspects of daily functioning, which is where their contribution is most significant in the realm of early childhood special education.

6. What is the primary role of a special education teacher in an early childhood classroom?

- A. To teach a standardized curriculum to all students**
- B. To enforce behavior management strategies**
- C. To tailor education and support to meet the individual needs of each child**
- D. To assist children in learning social skills**

The primary role of a special education teacher in an early childhood classroom is to tailor education and support to meet the individual needs of each child. This individualized approach is crucial in working with young children who may have a range of developmental, emotional, and learning challenges. Special education teachers assess each child's strengths and needs and then develop personalized goals and strategies to facilitate their learning. This may involve modifying curriculum content, adapting teaching techniques, and creating specific learning plans that align with the unique abilities and challenges of each child. By focusing on individualization, special education teachers ensure that all children can access the educational content in a way that is meaningful to them, fostering their growth and development. This role goes beyond simply implementing a standardized curriculum or enforcing behavioral strategies, as it places the child's unique needs at the forefront of the educator's planning and instruction. It also encompasses supporting social skills development, emphasizing how their role is comprehensive but anchored in individualization.

7. How should classrooms be structured to support diverse learners?

A. With rigid routines that do not allow flexibility

B. With a focus on individual needs and diverse learning activities

C. By limiting interactions among students

D. By adhering strictly to traditional teaching methods

Creating a classroom environment that supports diverse learners requires a strong emphasis on individual needs and the implementation of varied learning activities. This approach recognizes that students come from different backgrounds, possess a wide range of skills, and have unique learning styles. By focusing on individualized support and offering diverse activities, educators can engage students more effectively and accommodate different learning preferences. In a supportive classroom structure, learning activities can be tailored to address various interests and abilities, which helps promote inclusivity. Teachers can incorporate multiple teaching strategies, such as hands-on learning, visual aids, group work, differentiated instruction, and technology integration, making content accessible to all students. Importantly, such a framework fosters an environment where students feel valued and understood, encouraging them to participate more actively in their learning. This enhances motivation, builds self-esteem, and ultimately leads to improved educational outcomes for all learners.

8. Which of the following is a recommended teaching strategy for young learners?

A. Clear, structured tasks

B. Randomized teaching methods

C. Overly complex instructions

D. Only independent work

Clear, structured tasks are essential for young learners, particularly in early childhood education. This approach provides students with predictable and manageable steps to follow, which can significantly enhance their understanding and retention of information. When tasks are clearly defined, children feel more secure and confident, enabling them to focus on the learning material rather than becoming overwhelmed by ambiguity or complexity. Structured tasks also help educators effectively assess students' progress, making it easier to identify areas where they may need assistance or additional practice. Additionally, this method encourages the development of executive functioning skills, such as planning and organization, which are crucial for lifelong learning. In contrast, randomized teaching methods can lead to confusion due to a lack of consistency, overly complex instructions might frustrate young learners and hinder their ability to grasp fundamental concepts, and promoting only independent work can limit valuable social interactions and collaborative learning experiences critical for early development.

9. Which of the following can be a practical tool for children to assist with understanding daily routines?

- A. a verbal explanation from the teacher**
- B. a printed list of tasks to hand out**
- C. a tactile model of the schedule**
- D. a visual schedule with pictures**

Utilizing a visual schedule with pictures can be particularly effective for children in understanding daily routines because it caters to various learning styles, especially visual learners. Children often respond better to visual representations, which can help them process information more easily and understand sequences of events. By providing a visual schedule, children can see an illustration of each activity, making it easier for them to anticipate what comes next. This form of communication supports independence by allowing children to refer to the schedule throughout the day, reducing anxiety about transitions. It also enables consistency in routines, as children are less likely to forget tasks or events when they can see them represented visually. The combination of clear imagery with the structured format of a schedule helps reinforce memory and understanding, paving the way for smoother transitions between activities and fostering greater engagement.

10. Which methods are commonly used to assess young children in early childhood special education?

- A. Observations, standardized tests, and developmental screenings**
- B. Surveys, interviews, and parent feedback**
- C. Academic performance evaluations and report cards**
- D. Group assessments and peer reviews**

The selection of observations, standardized tests, and developmental screenings as common methods for assessing young children in early childhood special education is well-founded. Observations allow educators to gather real-time, qualitative data about a child's behavior, interactions, and skills in natural settings, which is crucial for understanding their developmental levels and any challenges they may face. This method gives insight into how children function on a day-to-day basis, which is essential when tailoring educational approaches to meet individual needs. Standardized tests provide a structured way of measuring a child's abilities against established norms, facilitating comparisons with peers. They help identify specific areas where a child may excel or require additional support. However, it's important that these tests are used in conjunction with other assessment methods to ensure a well-rounded understanding of each child's capabilities. Developmental screenings are quick assessments that can flag potential developmental delays, allowing for early intervention. These screenings help to identify children who may need a more comprehensive evaluation, ensuring that support is provided as early as possible. Together, these methods create a comprehensive framework for understanding the unique needs of young children in early childhood special education, enabling educators and specialists to develop effective intervention strategies tailored to each child's strengths and challenges.

Next Steps

Congratulations on reaching the final section of this guide. You've taken a meaningful step toward passing your certification exam and advancing your career.

As you continue preparing, remember that consistent practice, review, and self-reflection are key to success. Make time to revisit difficult topics, simulate exam conditions, and track your progress along the way.

If you need help, have suggestions, or want to share feedback, we'd love to hear from you. Reach out to our team at hello@examzify.com.

Or visit your dedicated course page for more study tools and resources:

<https://oaeearlychildhoodsped013.examzify.com>

We wish you the very best on your exam journey. You've got this!

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