



Bridges Career Academy

Early Childhood

Staples-Motley High School

Gateway to careers in childcare and education. Learn the foundations of educational strategies and organizations dealing with young children, as well as the developmental stages of childhood. Learn to organize developmental appropriate activities, deal with young children in a preschool setting and work with professionals from the community. Gain entry-level employment or continue education.

Academic Courses

- Careers with Children
- Preschool A
- Preschool B
- Teaching Young Children
- Elementary Trainee Program I
- Child Development

Career Experiences

- Learn from industry speakers
- Attend the Bridges Career Exploration Day or other regional career fairs
- Internship at child care center, preschool or elementary school

Completion Standards

COMPLETE

- 3 of 6 courses**
- Earn 2 ACC cert.**

GRADES **B** 

Earn a **certificate** and **green cord** at graduation



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Job Skills

In addition to having technical skills, employers expect workers in this industry to have these skills:

- Listening skills
- Written communication skills
- Ability to work with parents and families
- Ability to manage materials and supplies
- Decision making skills



Supported in part by Sourcewell (formerly NJPA)

www.BridgesConnection.org/StaplesMotley

Early Childhood Career Academy

Staples-Motley High School

The Early Childhood Academy is the gateway to a wide variety of careers in the world of childcare and education. Students learn not only the foundations of educational strategies and organizations dealing with young children but also the developmental stages of childhood. Real life activities take place in a preschool setting where students learn to organize developmentally appropriate activities, deal with young children and families, and work with professionals from the community. Students completing this academy will have the skills necessary to gain entry-level employment or the basic knowledge to continue on to higher education.

ACADEMY COURSES

Careers with Children — .5 High School and/or 3 College Credits

This course provides the students with opportunities to work with children and investigate a variety of child development careers. Students will examine job requirements, duties, regulations, and personal characteristics of successful early childhood workers. Students obtain skills to establish policies and practices that meet basic nutritional needs and understand how nutrition plays a role in many careers. The focus is on contrasting and comparing childcare and education programs and employment possibilities. Students will volunteer weekly at an internship site (child care centers, preschools, or an elementary school) to apply the knowledge they learn in class.

Preschool A — .5 High School and/or 3 College Credits

This course provides an exploration of the home or center learning environments for children birth through school age. It guides students in obtaining skills to establish and maintain a safe and developmentally appropriate learning environment.

Preschool B — .5 High School and/or 3 College Credits

This course provides an exploration of the home or center learning environments for children birth through school age. It guides the student in obtaining skills needed to establish and maintain a healthy and developmentally appropriate learning environment. Students will volunteer at internship sites (child care centers, preschools, or the elementary school) to apply the knowledge they learn in class.

Teaching Young Children — .5 High School and/or 3 College Credits

This course provides information about how to teach and guide children as individuals or in group situations. Students will learn what can be expected from children at various age levels. Students obtain skills needed to establish and maintain a psychologically safe learning environment.

Elementary Trainee Program I — .5 High School Credit

The course provides opportunities for career exploration and skill development in work with elementary school-age children. Students will volunteer five days/week at the elementary school and will meet back at the high school for team meetings once a month.

Child Development — .5 High School Credit

This course provides the students with opportunities to work with children and investigate a variety of child development careers as they learn about theories of development and how life begins. They will identify stages of prenatal development and birth options. Students will demonstrate knowledge of brain development and activities that support literacy development in young children.

COMPLETION STANDARD

Students wishing to receive a certification for this academy must complete three courses and earn 80% in each of the courses. In addition, students must earn two Articulated College Credit Certificates.

CAREER EXPERIENCES

Students will explore and research careers with industry speakers, and attend the Bridges Career Exploration Day event and other regional career fairs. Internships at child care centers, preschools or the Staples elementary school will allow students to practice their skills.

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JOB SKILLS

In addition to having technical skills, employers expect their workers to have other skills such as:

- Listening skills
- Written communication skills
- Ability to work with parents and families
- Ability to manage materials and supplies
- Decision making skills

CAREER OPTIONS: www.careerwise.minnstate.edu/careers

JOB OUTLOOK: www.careerwise.minnstate.edu/jobs

POSTSECONDARY PROGRAMS: www.careerwise.minnstate.edu/education

