**SUGAR BABY PROJECT**

**INSTRUCTIONS**

**Objective**

Simulate the parenting responsibilities of a young child by caring for a sugar baby for five days.

**Materials Needed**

Purchase a 5-pound bag of sugar, flour, rice or corn meal to simulate your baby. Wrap the entire bag in plastic wrap. Securely tape the bag with packing or duct tape. By doing these steps, it ensures that baby will not fall apart.

**Decorating the Baby**

You need to create the baby’s appearance. You may cover your child in a pair of pantyhose to create various skin tones. You may add yarn for hair or place a bonnet on its head. Add eyes, nose and mouth. Dress the baby in baby clothes. Wrap the baby in a blanket at all times. Create the baby however you would like. The more effort you put into it, the better the experience will be for you.

**Adorable Baby Contest**

Extra credit will be awarded to student’s babies who win the adorable baby contest. The judging will be based on four categories: Most creative, looks the most like their mother/father, most adorable, quality of construction (baby holds together). Babies will be judged on a scale from 1-5, 5 being the most favorable. The winner of each category will receive 10 extra credit points towards their Child Development grade. You may only receive extra credit points for one category.

**Caring for the Baby**

You must take the baby everywhere you go. Like a real child, these babies are not to be left unattended. Your babies are not to be left in lockers, backpacks, being tossed or thrown or anything of the sort. If I see or hear about any of these things happening, you will need to write a one-page paper on child abuse and present the findings to the class.

**Babysitters for the Baby**

If you cannot care for your baby for any reason, a babysitter must be found. You may leave your baby with another person for a maximum of three hours per day. If you have a job, you may extend the three hour minimum as needed. The babysitter must be paid with real money or you may swap services with the babysitter. The person tending your baby must sign your baby journal for that day to verify they cared for your baby.

**Baby Journal**

You will need to record your daily experiences every night before going to bed in the baby journal. List what was done, if the child had a babysitter and how you are feeling. There are also situations found for each day that must be followed.

**Summary Paper**

Write a paper summarizing your experience as a parent of an infant. It should be typed, double-spaced, 12 pt. font, 1” margins. Please use correct grammar and well thought-out sentences. The paper should be 2-3 pages long. Discuss the activities you did, babysitting experiences and how you felt each day. Also include reactions from those around you, how you felt about his project, things you learned, the do’s and don’ts of parenting from your short experience.

**Extra Credit Points**

If you would like extra credit points towards your Child Development grade, you have the option of creating a baby picture book/scrapbook. You will need to take photos, label pictures, etc. of your week’s experiences. If you prefer to create a PowerPoint presentation instead of a book, that would be acceptable. The amount of work put into the scrapbook will define the amount of extra credit given. You can earn up to 30 extra credit points.

**What to Turn In**

1. Your sugar baby (Due the Friday of your 5-day week)
2. Baby Journal (Due the following Monday after your 5-day week)
3. Summary Paper (Due the following Monday after your 5-day week)

**Grading**

1. Your sugar baby = 50 points
2. Five days of parenting = 100 points
3. Summary paper = 50 points
4. Baby Journal = 50 points
5. **Total points for this project = 250 points**
6. Extra Credit points = 10 for baby contest and up to 30 for scrapbook

**Please take this project seriously. Care for your sugar baby as if it was real and your very own. And most importantly, have fun! ☺**