

FLOUR BABY PROJECT

PROJECT GOALS:

The Flour Baby project is designed to help teach the responsibilities involved with pregnancy and raising a child. Classmates will work together as a “married couple/parents” or as a “single parent” to care for their baby. The students will keep a care log; create a birth certificate, a baby book, and a budget for their family. It is our goal to help the students realize the commitment of time and energy that it takes to have a child and the demands that a child places on parents. Students will also research the cost of caring for a baby.

FLOUR BABY RULES AND PRACTICES

1. You will create your baby (5 lb bag of flour). Make your child distinctive yet appropriate (i.e. no tattoos, no piercing, appropriate clothing), with his/her own personality or style, without damaging or using tape or glue on the actual bag: we'll be donating the flour to a local food bank when we're done. Your child should always be dressed for the weather (One more layer than you are wearing, as babies cannot yet regulate their own body temperature).
2. Name your child (name MUST be appropriate).
3. Create a birth certificate and social security card for your baby.
4. Create a marriage license if you are caring for your baby as a couple.
5. During the school day, you must carry your child at all times. In this class you must hold your child at all times. Couples should take turns. If one has basketball practice, arrange something realistic with your partner. Lockers and trunks are not cribs or day-care centers. Decide who will take the child home each night.
6. During other classes, there will be a “play pen” area set up in the corner of the room, where your baby will take a “nap”! If another teacher has to come to us and tell about you distracting their class with the “flour baby” you will lose 25 points.
7. You should be extremely protective of your child. If a tragic loss or injury occurs, you will be responsible for clean-up (NOT the custodians.), reporting to instructors, and negotiation of the penalty. Penalties range from additional research to a report on child abuse. If someone else attacks your child, or uses him/her in a recipe, find a teacher as a witness to spare you some penalty.
8. You are not allowed to put the baby in your backpack, go anywhere without your baby, leave your baby in the care of anyone else, or let anyone abuse or neglect your child.
9. You must wake up one week night per week and email Coach Hall, between 2AM and 4AM. You will send an email with your name that you are emailing because your child will not go to sleep and is keeping you awake. You will then email again in EXACTLY 15 minutes. Failure to do so will result in a 50 point reduction.

10. You will lose 25 points every time you are seen without your baby! There will be no negotiation or discussion, just a 25 point deduction! You will be giving a schedule to your instructors as to which “parent” will be caring for the “child” during which period of the school day.
11. A “baby book” should be kept with the baby at all times. The baby book is a place to record every time that you feed the baby, change the diaper, etc...At any point during the day, your instructors are able to “spot check” the baby book. If the baby’s feeding and diaper changing has been neglected, points will be docked.
12. At the end of the assignments you will turn in your “baby book” for a grade. Included in your book will be a baby log, your family budget, babysitting log, your baby’s identification documents, family photos, and your reflection questions.

BABY LOG INSTRUCTIONS

More than 1 million US teenagers, 1 in 9 women aged 15-19, will become pregnant this year. Today you will learn some of the ways life changes when you have a baby. Being a parent is a full-time job. To make this realistic it will require some imagination and your acting skills. It is your job to pretend this adorable sack of flour is your newborn baby. As a responsible parent, you will record all the care you give to your precious baby. The following are things you are required to record each day:

- Feed your baby every 3 hours
- Burp your baby after feeding
- Change your baby’s diaper every 3-4 hours
- Your baby needs to be bathed every day. **DO NOT** get your baby wet, this is only pretend. The bath may not be during school hours or during sleeping hours.
- The baby should be rocked, held and/or played with during the day, when he/she is awake
- The baby must be dressed and covered with a blanket at all times. Log when you change your baby’s clothes

Record the time of these tasks and who performed them.

BABYSITTING INSTRUCTIONS

You may have a babysitter if one of the baby’s parents is not available to care for the baby. You must have your babysitter fill out the child care log on a separate “babysitter care log” and sign the log. You may only have one babysitter a day and may not leave your baby with a sitter for more than 3 hours.

GRADING RUBRIC

** You will be graded on your care and documentation of care for your baby. You will accumulate 25 points each day your baby is with you, dressed, and held during class. This will account for one **daily grade**. You will also earn a **major grade** for completing the budget, care log, family album, identification documents, and reflection questions.

		POSSIBLE POINTS	POINTS EARNED
DAILY CARE IN CLASS	Baby in class and held the entire period	25 POINTS PER DAY (SEPARATE DAILY GRADE)	
BUDGET	Spreadsheet; complete all requirements to organize your family's budget	84 POINTS (1 PT FOR EACH)	
BABY'S BIRTH	Name, has face, has blanket, has clothes	20 POINTS	
BABY CARE LOG	Spreadsheet; log all care given to your baby and include babysitting log if used	10 POINTS/DAY	
FAMILY ALBUM	Photos (3 minimum), birth certificate, social security card, marriage license	10 POINTS	
REFLECTION QUESTIONS	Answer the questions included in a typed response	50 POINTS	
BABY BOOK	Presentation, organization, all required documents	26 POINTS	
	TOTAL POINTS		

TOTAL POINTS	GRADE	TOTAL POINTS	GRADE
200	100	144-134	70
199-189	95	133-123	65
188-178	90	122-112	60
177-167	85	102-92	55
166-156	80	92-0	0
155-145	75		