



Letter to Participant's Family

March 22, 2016
Parenting & Child Development
Mustang High School FACS Dept

Dear parents/guardians and family:

Your student will soon experience many of the responsibilities required of the caregiver of a new infant.

As a temporary caregiver, your student will care for RealCare Baby("Baby"), a computerized infant simulator that must be supervised by your student at all time. Baby will cry and need to be fed, burped, rocked, and have its diapers changed. It is your student's responsibility to tend to Baby's needs. Baby is part of the RealityWorks Handle with Care: Basic Infant Care program and a **required project** for our Parenting & Child Development Class. Your student will began care at the end of the school day on Friday and return the baby to the classroom by 8:15 on Monday morning. A small computer inside the baby is programmed to follow actual schedules of 15 different newborns. Each day Baby will be on a different schedule. Baby may need your student to care for it at inconvenient times, including when he/she is sleeping.

Your student will be graded on learning how to keep Baby happy, their understanding of the full-time commitment of child care, their persistence (getting through the care stimulation without quitting), the care and condition of Baby and supplies, and returning everything to the school on time. Incidences of neglect, head support failure, shaking, rough handling, wrong position, no diaper, and other functions are recorded by Baby's computer and will lower your student's grade. Some of these behaviors will produce intensive crying that your student should learn to avoid. This intense crying can be stopped by rocking Baby.

Your student will wear a waterproof, hospital-type wristband with a unique ID that must be present whenever your student is caring for Baby. Without the ID, Baby will not accept care. The wristband must be in good condition and still on your student's wrist when Baby is returned.

You can help by providing emotional support and treating Baby as if it were real. Offer advice, but your student should do the actual work of caring for Baby.

The RealCare Baby infant simulator uses computerized technology and represents a substantial investment by the FACS department at Mustang High School.

If the RealCare Baby infant stimulator and/or accessories and supplies are abused, damaged, or lost while in your student's possession, a replacement fee (\$20.00 to \$850.00), depending on item(s) lost or damaged) must be reimbursed to Mustang High School.

Lack of sleep may cause your student to become drowsy. Please DO NOT allow your student to drive if overly tired. Instruct your student to pull over to care for Baby if it cries while he or she is driving.

Your student will choose a weekend date that best fits with his or her schedule from the window of dates available. The selected simulation weekend will start at 4:00 p.m. Friday and end at 8:15 a.m. Monday. For schedule conflicts, please contact the instructor.

Thank you for your patience and support in making this project a learning experience for your student! Feel free to contact me with any questions.

Mrs. Donette Yeilding

Mrs. Donette Yeilding
FACS Teacher, Mustang High School

yeilding@mustangps.org

Parent/Guardian Statement of Understanding & Support

A response from you is requested. Please read these statements and sign below to indicate your understanding and support of this class project:

The Realityworks Handle with Care: Basic Infant Care Program will require the participant to be the sole caretaker of the RealCare Baby infant simulator, whose sounds and behaviors replicate those of an infant. The experience is intended to demonstrate to the participant the full-time commitment required of the caregiver of a new infant.

The RealCare Baby infant stimulator requires care through the day and night. When Baby cries, it will be the responsibility of the participant to attend to its needs.

The RealCare Baby infant stimulator's crying and need for care may cause the participant to lose sleep, and may possibly disturb other family members. Lack of sleep may cause drowsiness. I will not allow the participant to drive if overly tired.

I am aware of all safety precautions the participant must be aware of while caring for the RealCare Baby infant stimulator.

The RealCare Baby infant stimulator uses computerized technology and represents a substantial investment by the FACS department at MHS. If the RealCare Baby infant stimulator and supplies are abused, damaged, or lost while in the participant's possession, I agree to reimburse Mustang High School FACS \$20.00 to \$850.00, depending on item(s) lost or damaged.

Dates for Simulation: 4/1-4, 4/8-11, 4/15-18, & 4/22-25.

Additional dates to be added as needed.

Return all signed simulation documents to sign up for your simulation date!

Please sign below:

I understand _____ responsibilities and agree to support
Participant's name

him/her while participating in the care simulation with Real Care Baby infant simulator.



Signature: _____ Date: _____

Parent/Guardian