Child Development I

Unit 5 – Distinguishing Health and Safety Concerns

Instructional Strategy 7 – Prediction Activity

**Teacher Background: Prediction Activity**

The teacher will need to read the article titled “The Demon in the Freezer” by Richard Preston. The article is about small pox and is used an introductory activity for the lesson on Immunizations and Vaccinations.

Students will be given a copy of the “Prediction Guide” and will be given a few minutes time to look over the 5 vocabulary words in the first column. An instructor may choose to add additional words from the text that will help a student in their understanding of the article. Some additional words you might consider are (eradicated, opalescent, hemorrhagic).

Instruct students to make a prediction about what they “think” each of the vocabulary words mean and write their prediction in the second column.

Next, provide a copy of the article (either electronically or a hard copy), and instruct for students to read the article for understanding. While doing this; they will also be “clarifying and verifying” the predictions they have made for each of the terms.

* Clarify means: the prediction the student made was not accurate and the student will write in the appropriate definition (from the text).
* Verify means: the prediction the student made was accurate and the student will write what in the article made you certain that their prediction was correct.

The teacher will wrap up this Prediction Activity by asking what connections students made and what the overall idea of the article was about. It is strongly suggested that the teacher reinforce the idea that the small pox illness was very serious, deadly and disgusting (something we don’t want to come back), and that it was eradicated because of research medical advances. Try to help the students make a connection between this idea and the reason a parent would choose to vaccinate their child.