**Quiz 1 – Sample Answers**

*Please note: these are sample answers that received full credit. These answers are provided to help you understand what a complete, full-credit answer is like, but are not the only answer that would receive full credit.*

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Explain one way that the Head Start population different from Orange County in general and why that characteristic could be important in working toward school readiness.

The Head Start population in Orange County is different in many ways. First, the majority of the children in Head Start are Hispanic. Secondly, the Head Start kids are low income, and possibly have learning disabilities. All three of these factors are generally different than Orange County population.

Taking these three characteristics, a Head Start preschool is disadvantaged and more than likely not prepared for school. Being low income can mean that a child’s basic needs are not being met, and learning cannot occur if a child’s basic needs aren’t met. The same characteristic of having a learning disability applies. Also, since most Head Start kids speak Spanish, the public school system is guarantying those disadvantaged kids failures. Our public school system does not accommodate Spanish speakers (or other non-English languages) and therefore would make it hard for a child to learning. Head Start tries to bridge the gap between English and Spanish speakers making the transition to school more successful.

Describe three factors that predict children’s success in school, and how each is related to school performance.

*Three factors that determine children’s success in school are: social/interactive skills, literacy (reading) skills, and their language skills.*

- Children who interact more with others will learn more because they are cognitive learners who learn best through socially interacting and participating in activities.

- Children who can read basic words and comprehend what they are reading are more likely to continue to succeed in school. If they do not understand the basics now, then it will become more difficult when trying to learn this later. As long as they can comprehend basic words that they read, they can make connections to other words and this will increase their vocabulary.

- Language is essential to the performance and success of the child. If the child speaks another language it is more difficult for them to understand what others are saying. I believe that the language should be the first step toward teaching these children how to read in English and speak English when interacting with others.