



Learning Objectives

Learning objectives for the curriculum include:

- Describe the role of children in the legal system and the courtroom
- Define the different and sometimes conflicting professional viewpoints among social services, law enforcement, and prosecutors regarding the prosecution of child sexual abuse, and the necessity for interdisciplinary teamwork in order to enhance child witness competence
- Describe the definitions for credibility and competence
- Identify children's competence at various developmental stages and about factors such as trauma-induced mental disorders that may interfere with child witness competence
- Demonstrate approaches and techniques to prepare children for court, including the necessity to work with parents or other caretakers
- Demonstrate and practice stress management techniques for children
- Identify existing resources for court educators, child witnesses and their parents, including court school models, workbooks, and developmental guidelines for forensic interviewers