# ECHE311

**Infant and Toddler Curriculum and Pedagogy**

S2 Day 2017

*Department of Educational Studies*

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**Disclaimer**

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### General Information

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<tr>
<th>Unit convenor and teaching staff</th>
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<tr>
<td>Unit Convenor</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sheila Degotardi</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><a href="mailto:sheila.degotardi@mq.edu.au">sheila.degotardi@mq.edu.au</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Contact via <a href="mailto:sheila.degotardi@mq.edu.au">sheila.degotardi@mq.edu.au</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>X5B367</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>by appointment</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

- **Credit points**: 3

- **Prerequisites**: (39cp at 100 level or above) including (ECHP122 or ABEP130) and (ECHE118 or ABEC113)

- **Corequisites**: 

- **Co-badged status**: 

- **Unit description**: This unit focuses attention on curriculum and pedagogical approaches to teaching and learning with children from birth to two years. The unit introduces students to research relating to how infants and toddlers learn and the role of intentional teaching in promoting learning and development. Students will engage in a critical analysis of curriculum approaches, relationship-based teaching and learning, and environmental contexts that are recommended for infants and toddlers. The unit will culminate in the planning and documentation of an effective learning environment for children in this age group.

### Important Academic Dates

Information about important academic dates including deadlines for withdrawing from units are available at [https://students.mq.edu.au/important-dates](https://students.mq.edu.au/important-dates)

### Learning Outcomes

- Articulate an in-depth understanding of theoretical and pedagogical ideas relating to the effective learning and teaching of infants and toddlers in early childhood settings.
- Demonstrate an in-depth understanding of the ways in which different relationships and relationships characteristics are played out in, and impact on, infant-toddler learning and teaching.
- Plan an effective learning environment for infants and toddlers that takes account
research understandings, issues of agency and participation, contemporary early years curriculum outcomes and health and safety issues.

Draw on contemporary literature and real-world experience to demonstrate an reflective, evidence-based understanding of the role of the early childhood teacher in supporting the learning and development of infants and toddlers.

**General Assessment Information**

Full instructions for each assignment, including the assessment criteria can be found in the **Full Unit Outline** attached to the ECHE311 iLearn site.

To achieve a passing grade in ECHE311, students must meet the 3 following requirements:

1. All assignments are submitted and demonstrate a serious attempt to address the assessment task and criteria.
2. Students must attend at least 80% of their tutorial sessions (either internal tutorial or the on-campus session equivalent).
3. Students must meet the required academic literacy standards set out below.

Failure to meet any of the 3 requirements listed above will place students at serious risk of failing the unit.

**EXPECTED ACADEMIC LITERACY LEVEL**

As a 300-level unit, students are expected to demonstrate a fully functional level of academic literacy in their assignment work. The expectation levels are listed below. Students whose work does not meet these standards are at serious risk of failing the unit.

Students will receive feedback on their demonstrated level of academic literacy in assignment 1. Students who fail to meet the minimum standards for assignment 2 and 3 will receive a fail grade for that assignment.

Note that work that breaches the Macquarie University academic honesty policy (see Academic honesty and plagiarism section below) will attract significant deductions in marks and may, in some cases, be referred to the Faculty academic honesty committee for consideration. Penalties may apply beyond those specified above.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Key academic literacy skill</th>
<th>Expected level of performance</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Assignments are correctly formatted and are submitted as per instructions in the Unit Guide.</td>
<td>The assignment meets unit expectations in regards to the required formatting and submission of the work.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Assignment requirements are addressed using a satisfactory level of academic written expression, appropriate to the genre of the assignment.

Each required part of the assignment has been addressed.
The assignment is generally well structured, demonstrating logically organised ideas and concepts.
There may be minor spelling or grammatical errors which make the meaning unclear in small portions of the assignment.
The assignment complies with the specified word limit.

Unit readings and other appropriate academic sources are used to support the views expressed in assignments

Academic sources, including the set unit readings, have been used to support the ideas expressed in the work.
The assignment shows an ability to identify the key arguments in the required readings and relate these to the topic in question.

APA 6th referencing style is used to correctly acknowledge sources through in-text citations and a reference list.

A consistent effort has been made to use the APA 6th referencing and citation style. There may be a few style errors and/or some inconsistencies that will need to be addressed in future assignments.
All consulted sources have been acknowledged through in-text citations and included in the reference list.
Quoted material has been appropriately represented in quotation marks, with in-text citations to correctly identify the source.

PRESENTATION AND SUBMISSION GUIDELINES

When preparing your assignments, it is essential that:

- Students regularly save a copy of all assignments before submission,
- Unless there are exceptional circumstances, no assessment will be accepted after the date that the assessment has been returned to other students.
- If an assessment is considered to be below passing standard, another staff member on the unit will provide a second opinion. No failed assessment may be re-submitted.

Assignment presentation and submission

All written submissions are to be legible and professionally presented. Please follow these guidelines when you submit each assignment:

- All assignments must include the academic honesty declaration as required by all Macquarie University students.
- Assignments must represent the student’s individual work (see Academic Honesty section below).
- Please type all assignments using 12 point font and 1.5 or double-space the lines. Save your file in .doc, .docx or pdf format.
- Allow a left and right-hand margin of at least 3cm in all assignments. This allows us to attach, and you to read your feedback comments easily.
- All assessments must be submitted through Turnitin in .doc or .pdf format for submission.

https://unitguides.mq.edu.au/unit_offerings/81041/unit_guide/print
• It is the responsibility of the student to ensure that all assessments are successfully submitted through Turnitin.
• Faculty assignment cover sheets are NOT required.
• Use APA 6th referencing style to acknowledge your sources and support your ideas with in-text referencing, and include a full reference list of all works that are cited within your assignment.

Draft Submissions & Turnitin Originality Reports

• Students may use Turnitin’s Originality Report as a learning tool to improve their academic writing if this option is made available in the Unit.

Final Submissions

• Students are responsible for checking that their submission has been successful and has been submitted by the due date and time.
• **Do not contact staff asking them to check your submission.**
• Late submissions due to last minute technical difficulties may incur a lateness penalty.
• Your assignment will be marked based on what is received – any omissions will not be accepted after your submission. Please check very carefully.

Word limit

All sections of the assignment, apart from references and appendices, are included in the word limit. If your assignment seriously exceeds the word limit, it will be marked only to the point at which the word limit is reached.

Academic honesty and plagiarism

The nature of scholarly endeavour, dependent as it is on the work of others, binds all members of the University community to abide by the principles of academic honesty.

Plagiarism is a matter of particular importance. Plagiarism is defined as using the work or ideas of another person and presenting this as your own without clear acknowledgement of the source of the work or ideas. This includes, but is not limited to, any of the following acts:

• copying out part(s) of any document or audio-visual material or computer code or website content without indicating their origins;
• using or extracting another person’s concepts, experimental results, or conclusions;
• summarising another person’s work;
• submitting substantially the same final version of any material as another student in an assignment where there was collaborative preparatory work;
• use of others (paid or otherwise) to conceive, research or write material submitted for assessment; and
submitting the same or substantially the same piece of work for two different tasks (self-plagiarism).

The University’s Academic Honesty Policy can be found on the Policy Central website: [http://www.mq.edu.au/policy/index.html](http://www.mq.edu.au/policy/index.html)

*TURNITIN* is used to assist students with appropriate referencing and paraphrasing, and to detect plagiarism. The system also serves as a digital repository if anything should happen to your hard copy submission or personal backup. Please ensure you have stated your *TURNITIN* receipt number on your coversheet. A link to *TURNITIN* is embedded in iLearn.

### Extensions and Late Assignments

Applications for extensions must be made via AskMQ at [https://ask.mq.edu.au](https://ask.mq.edu.au) as a "Disruption to Studies" request before the submission date. Students who experience a disruption to their studies through ill-health or misadventure are able to apply for this request. *Extensions can only be granted if they meet the Disruption to Studies policy and are submitted via ask.mq.edu.au.* This will ensure consistency in the consideration of such requests is maintained.

In general, there should be no need for extensions except through illness or misadventure that would be categorised as unavoidable disruption according to the University definition of same, and currently available at:

[https://students.mq.edu.au/study/my-study-program/special-consideration/disruption-to-studies](https://students.mq.edu.au/study/my-study-program/special-consideration/disruption-to-studies)

Late submissions without extension will receive a penalty of 5% reduction of the total possible mark for each day late (including weekends and public holidays). You are reminded that submitting even just 1 day late could be the difference between passing and failing a unit. Late penalties are applied by unit convenors or their delegates after tasks are assessed.

No assessable work will be accepted after the return/release of marked work on the same topic. If a student is still permitted to submit on the basis of unavoidable disruption, an alternative topic may be set.

Students should keep an electronic file of all assessments. Claims regarding "lost" assessments cannot be made if the file cannot be produced. It is also advisable to keep an electronic file of all drafts and the final submission on a USB untouched/unopened after submission. This can be used to demonstrate easily that the assessment has not been amended after the submission date.

### Grading Information

The University recognises the importance of producing grades and reports of student learning achievements that are valid, reliable and accurate representations of each student's capabilities in relation to clearly articulated learning outcomes. Your final result for this unit will include a grade plus a standardised numerical grade (SNG).


### Criteria for awarding grades for assessment tasks
Assignments will be awarded grades ranging from HD to F according to guidelines set out in the University’s Grading Policy. The following descriptive criteria are included for your information.

### Criteria for awarding grades in the unit

Students will be awarded grades ranging from HD to F according to guidelines set out in the policy: [http://www.mq.edu.au/policy/docs/grading/policy.html](http://www.mq.edu.au/policy/docs/grading/policy.html)

The following generic grade descriptors provide university-wide standards for awarding final grades.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Grade</th>
<th>Descriptor</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>HD</td>
<td>Provides consistent evidence of deep and critical understanding in relation to the learning outcomes. There is substantial originality and insight in identifying, generating and communicating competing arguments, perspectives or problem solving approaches; critical evaluation of problems, their solutions and their implications; creativity in application as appropriate to the discipline.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>D</td>
<td>Provides evidence of integration and evaluation of critical ideas, principles and theories, distinctive insight and ability in applying relevant skills and concepts in relation to learning outcomes. There is demonstration of frequent originality in defining and analysing issues or problems and providing solutions; and the use of means of communication appropriate to the discipline and the audience.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cr</td>
<td>Provides evidence of learning that goes beyond replication of content knowledge or skills relevant to the learning outcomes. There is demonstration of substantial understanding of fundamental concepts in the field of study and the ability to apply these concepts in a variety of contexts; convincing argumentation with appropriate coherent justification; communication of ideas fluently and clearly in terms of the conventions of the discipline.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>P</td>
<td>Provides sufficient evidence of the achievement of learning outcomes. There is demonstration of understanding and application of fundamental concepts of the field of study; routine argumentation with acceptable justification; communication of information and ideas adequately in terms of the conventions of the discipline. The learning attainment is considered satisfactory or adequate or competent or capable in relation to the specified outcomes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>F</td>
<td>Does not provide evidence of attainment of learning outcomes. There is missing or partial or superficial or faulty understanding and application of the fundamental concepts in the field of study; missing, undeveloped, inappropriate or confusing argumentation; incomplete, confusing or lacking communication of ideas in ways that give little attention to the conventions of the discipline.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

NOTE: Numerical marks will NOT be awarded for individual assessment tasks.

In this unit, all tasks will be reported by GRADES.

Marks are only shown for your final reported grade for this Unit.

### Assessment Tasks

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Weighting</th>
<th>Hurdle</th>
<th>Due</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Critical Research Reflection</td>
<td>20%</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>20th August</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Communicating Curriculum</td>
<td>30%</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>24th September</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Learning Environment</td>
<td>50%</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>15th November</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Critical Research Reflection
Due: 20th August
Weighting: 20%
Write a critical reflection based on a topic selected from a provided video

On successful completion you will be able to:
• Articulate an in-depth understanding of theoretical and pedagogical ideas relating to the effective learning and teaching of infants and toddlers in early childhood settings.

Communicating Curriculum
Due: 24th September
Weighting: 30%
Construct a newsletter to explain to other educators the importance of one kind of curriculum experience for the learning and development of 0-2 year old children.

On successful completion you will be able to:
• Articulate an in-depth understanding of theoretical and pedagogical ideas relating to the effective learning and teaching of infants and toddlers in early childhood settings.
• Draw on contemporary literature and real-world experience to demonstrate an reflective, evidence-based understanding of the role of the early childhood teacher in supporting the learning and development of infants and toddlers.

Learning Environment
Due: 15th November
Weighting: 50%
Design a learning environment to meet the learning and developmental capabilities of a group of under-two-year-old children.

On successful completion you will be able to:
• Articulate an in-depth understanding of theoretical and pedagogical ideas relating to the effective learning and teaching of infants and toddlers in early childhood settings.
• Demonstrate an in-depth understanding of the ways in which different relationships and relationships characteristics are played out in, and impact on, infant-toddler learning and teaching.
• Plan an effective learning environment for infants and toddlers that takes account research understandings, issues of agency and participation, contemporary early years.
curriculum outcomes and health and safety issues

- Draw on contemporary literature and real-world experience to demonstrate an reflective, evidence-based understanding of the role of the early childhood teacher in supporting the learning and development of infants and toddlers

**Delivery and Resources**

**TUTORIAL CLASSES AND LECTURES**

This unit is taught in tutorial/workshop modes, supplemented by online lectures and readings. Students are required to participate in small group activities, whole class discussion, to read the weekly material in advance, and to complete brief tasks either as individuals or in pairs.

**Lectures:** Lectures have been pre-recorded to support the knowledge that is built through readings, tutorial activities and assignment preparation. You will note that they do not occur every week. It is expected that students will have listened to the required lectures before attending their related tutorial.

**UNIT WEBSITE AND STAFF CONTACT**

This unit has a full web presence through iLearn.

Students will need regular access to a computer and the Internet to complete this unit.

Weekly access to iLearn is compulsory for all students. Important assessment information will be posted here, as will other relevant unit notices and materials, including a reading template and guide to lecture note taking to assist your studies.

Various activities and materials for discussion and critical reflection are included and external students especially are encouraged to use this web component. Electronic links and suggested resources are also included. Please check the iLearn unit regularly.

**REQUIRED READINGS**

**Required text:**


**Recommended text**


Both are available from the Co-op Bookshop.

**Other required readings**

The unit is supported by a list of pdf readings that are located by typing ‘ECHE311’ into the Multisearch function on the Library Homepage. Weekly readings, as specified in the weekly unit content section of this unit guide can then be located by author. *It is expected that students will demonstrate continued engagement with these reading materials in their tutorial and assignment work.*
Students will also need to download:


**Useful books:**

The following books on infant-toddler learning and teaching can also be located via the Multisearch function:


Harris, P. (2009). Language learning in the baby and toddler years. Terrigal, NSW: David Barlow Publishing


Unit Schedule

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Lecture topic &amp; Lecturer</th>
<th>Readings</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Week 1</td>
<td>Lecture 1. Introduction to the unit</td>
<td>Required reading: Degotardi, S., &amp; Pearson, E. (2014) – Text – Chapters 1 and 2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Assignment 1 due on or before Sunday 20th August</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
| Week 5 | Lecture 5. Building relationships with infants & toddlers | **Required readings:** Degotardi, S., & Pearson, E. (2014) – Text, revisit Chapter 1 and read Chapter 3 and Chapter 4 (pp 42-49)  
| Week 6 | Lecture 6. Partnerships with families | **Required readings:** Degotardi, S., & Pearson, E. (2014) Text – Chapters 5 and 7  
## Policies and Procedures

Macquarie University policies and procedures are accessible from [Policy Central](http://mq.edu.au/policy/docs). Students should be aware of the following policies in particular with regard to Learning and Teaching:


## Unit guide ECHE311 Infant and Toddler Curriculum and Pedagogy

| Week 7  11th September | Lecture 7. Peer relationships  
Sheila Degotardi | **Required readings:**  
**Additional readings**  

### Assignment 2 due Sunday 24th September

### Module 3: Learning environments for infants and toddlers

| Week 9  9th October | Environments for Learning  
No lecture | **Required readings:**  

| Week 13  6th November | Lecture 8: Planning for learning - Using the EYLF  
Sandra Cheeseman | **Required Readings:**  
DEEWR (2009) - Outcomes |

### Assignment 3 Due on or before Wednesday 15th November


In addition, a number of other policies can be found in the Learning and Teaching Category of Policy Central.

**Student Code of Conduct**

Macquarie University students have a responsibility to be familiar with the Student Code of Conduct: https://students.mq.edu.au/support/student_conduct/

**Results**

Results shown in *iLearn*, or released directly by your Unit Convenor, are not confirmed as they are subject to final approval by the University. Once approved, final results will be sent to your student email address and will be made available in *eStudent*. For more information visit ask.mq.edu.au.

**Student Support**

Macquarie University provides a range of support services for students. For details, visit http://students.mq.edu.au/support/

**Learning Skills**

Learning Skills (mq.edu.au/learningskills) provides academic writing resources and study strategies to improve your marks and take control of your study.

- Workshops
- StudyWise
- Academic Integrity Module for Students
- Ask a Learning Adviser

**Student Enquiry Service**

For all student enquiries, visit Student Connect at ask.mq.edu.au
Equity Support

Students with a disability are encouraged to contact the Disability Service who can provide appropriate help with any issues that arise during their studies.

IT Help

For help with University computer systems and technology, visit http://www.mq.edu.au/about_us/offices_and_units/information_technology/help/.

When using the University’s IT, you must adhere to the Acceptable Use of IT Resources Policy. The policy applies to all who connect to the MQ network including students.

Graduate Capabilities

Problem Solving and Research Capability

Our graduates should be capable of researching; of analysing, and interpreting and assessing data and information in various forms; of drawing connections across fields of knowledge; and they should be able to relate their knowledge to complex situations at work or in the world, in order to diagnose and solve problems. We want them to have the confidence to take the initiative in doing so, within an awareness of their own limitations.

This graduate capability is supported by:

Learning outcomes

- Articulate an in-depth understanding of theoretical and pedagogical ideas relating to the effective learning and teaching of infants and toddlers in early childhood settings.
- Demonstrate an in-depth understanding of the ways in which different relationships and relationships characteristics are played out in, and impact on, infant-toddler learning and teaching.
- Plan an effective learning environment for infants and toddlers that takes account research understandings, issues of agency and participation, contemporary early years curriculum outcomes and health and safety issues.
- Draw on contemporary literature and real-world experience to demonstrate an reflective, evidence-based understanding of the role of the early childhood teacher in supporting the learning and development of infants and toddlers.

Assessment tasks

- Communicating Curriculum
- Learning Environment

Effective Communication

We want to develop in our students the ability to communicate and convey their views in forms
effective with different audiences. We want our graduates to take with them the capability to read, listen, question, gather and evaluate information resources in a variety of formats, assess, write clearly, speak effectively, and to use visual communication and communication technologies as appropriate.

This graduate capability is supported by:

**Learning outcomes**

- Articulate an in-depth understanding of theoretical and pedagogical ideas relating to the effective learning and teaching of infants and toddlers in early childhood settings.
- Demonstrate an in-depth understanding of the ways in which different relationships and relationships characteristics are played out in, and impact on, infant-toddler learning and teaching.
- Plan an effective learning environment for infants and toddlers that takes account research understandings, issues of agency and participation, contemporary early years curriculum outcomes and health and safety issues
- Draw on contemporary literature and real-world experience to demonstrate an reflective, evidence-based understanding of the role of the early childhood teacher in supporting the learning and development of infants and toddlers

**Assessment tasks**

- Critical Research Reflection
- Communicating Curriculum
- Learning Environment

**Discipline Specific Knowledge and Skills**

Our graduates will take with them the intellectual development, depth and breadth of knowledge, scholarly understanding, and specific subject content in their chosen fields to make them competent and confident in their subject or profession. They will be able to demonstrate, where relevant, professional technical competence and meet professional standards. They will be able to articulate the structure of knowledge of their discipline, be able to adapt discipline-specific knowledge to novel situations, and be able to contribute from their discipline to inter-disciplinary solutions to problems.

This graduate capability is supported by:

**Learning outcomes**

- Articulate an in-depth understanding of theoretical and pedagogical ideas relating to the effective learning and teaching of infants and toddlers in early childhood settings.
- Demonstrate an in-depth understanding of the ways in which different relationships and relationships characteristics are played out in, and impact on, infant-toddler learning and
teaching.
• Plan an effective learning environment for infants and toddlers that takes account of research understandings, issues of agency and participation, contemporary early years curriculum outcomes and health and safety issues.
• Draw on contemporary literature and real-world experience to demonstrate an reflective, evidence-based understanding of the role of the early childhood teacher in supporting the learning and development of infants and toddlers.

Assessment tasks
• Critical Research Reflection
• Communicating Curriculum
• Learning Environment

Critical, Analytical and Integrative Thinking
We want our graduates to be capable of reasoning, questioning and analysing, and to integrate and synthesise learning and knowledge from a range of sources and environments; to be able to critique constraints, assumptions and limitations; to be able to think independently and systemically in relation to scholarly activity, in the workplace, and in the world. We want them to have a level of scientific and information technology literacy.

This graduate capability is supported by:

Learning outcomes
• Articulate an in-depth understanding of theoretical and pedagogical ideas relating to the effective learning and teaching of infants and toddlers in early childhood settings.
• Demonstrate an in-depth understanding of the ways in which different relationships and relationships characteristics are played out in, and impact on, infant-toddler learning and teaching.
• Plan an effective learning environment for infants and toddlers that takes account of research understandings, issues of agency and participation, contemporary early years curriculum outcomes and health and safety issues.
• Draw on contemporary literature and real-world experience to demonstrate an reflective, evidence-based understanding of the role of the early childhood teacher in supporting the learning and development of infants and toddlers.

Assessment tasks
• Critical Research Reflection
• Communicating Curriculum
• Learning Environment
Engaged and Ethical Local and Global citizens

As local citizens our graduates will be aware of indigenous perspectives and of the nation's historical context. They will be engaged with the challenges of contemporary society and with knowledge and ideas. We want our graduates to have respect for diversity, to be open-minded, sensitive to others and inclusive, and to be open to other cultures and perspectives: they should have a level of cultural literacy. Our graduates should be aware of disadvantage and social justice, and be willing to participate to help create a wiser and better society.

This graduate capability is supported by:

**Learning outcomes**

- Articulate an in-depth understanding of theoretical and pedagogical ideas relating to the effective learning and teaching of infants and toddlers in early childhood settings.
- Demonstrate an in-depth understanding of the ways in which different relationships and relationships characteristics are played out in, and impact on, infant-toddler learning and teaching.
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**Assessment tasks**

- Critical Research Reflection
- Communicating Curriculum
- Learning Environment

**Changes since First Published**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>22/07/2017</td>
<td>The week 13 date has been corrected</td>
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</tbody>
</table>