Katie Howard

**Why did you choose Child Development as your major?**

I choose Child Development as my major after a year and a half attending Cuesta College in San Luis Obispo, California. I have always known that I enjoyed working with children, I was just not sure that I wanted to work with children as a career. At the time I was a Business major who thought that I needed to have a career which made me money, not a career where I was happy.

After I took an introductory class on Child Development my ideas about my future career quickly changed. The class I took at Cuesta was equivalent to Child Development 250: Child Development at Chico State. The class covered the study of cognitive, physical, social, and emotional development of children from conception through adolescence. The course also examined genetic, biological, and environmental influences of children. I not only really enjoyed the material the class was providing me with, but I really enjoyed my professor. He was the director of the Child Development Laboratory on Cuesta’s campus. He made learning about the subject of Child Development interesting and exciting; he was a great professor and one of the main reasons I choose to change my major to Child Development.

Another reason for ultimately deciding on the major of Child Development is that I simply love children. I have always enjoyed being around children, whether I was spending time with my younger cousins or providing childcare for families. What sealed my decision to finally switch my major to Child Development was a time when I spent eight hours volunteering in my cousin’s kindergarten class. I realized I really enjoyed working with children in a classroom setting and ultimately decided to pursue Child Development.