



By Dr. Telly Kamelia

If you only need the buying answer, quarter rental and 180-day digital access are still the cheapest short-term paths, but the current Merybook print listing is unusually competitive against the ownership market. That makes print worth considering if you expect to keep using this early-childhood foundations text during practicum or fieldwork.

Current price comparison

| Format / Seller | Price | Link |
|---------------------------|----------|-----------------------------|
| Print from Merybook | \$77.72 | Check price |
| eCampus new print | \$258.64 | Check price |
| eCampus used print | \$168.96 | Check price |
| eCampus quarter rental | \$37.04 | Check price |
| MindTap / eText, 180 days | \$54.99 | Check price |
| eCampus marketplace | \$64.44 | Check price |

This is a classic training-stage split. If your goal is just the cheapest access for one term, the rental or digital routes win. But if you compare ownership options, the current Merybook print copy is much better than the sampled new and used print market, and not wildly above the marketplace floor. That makes ownership much more reasonable for students who will still be using the book later in early-childhood preparation.

What this book actually teaches

Beginnings & Beyond is valuable because early-childhood foundations courses are not only about definitions. The book is meant to help students think about child development, classroom environment, observation, family engagement, curriculum planning, and developmentally appropriate practice as an integrated way of working with young children.

That is why this book often becomes more useful after the course moves into practicum or fieldwork. Students suddenly need to revisit frameworks for guidance, classroom design, routines, assessment, and family relationships in a more concrete way. If MindTap is required for graded work, that digital layer matters. But the print text can still carry the deeper long-term value.

Who should buy print and who should not

Buy print if you are heading into practicum, observation, or field-based early-childhood work and want to keep a foundations text nearby. The current print listing is much better than the wider ownership market and reasonable for that kind of long-term use.

Do not buy print if your class is strictly one-term, MindTap-driven, and budget-sensitive. In that narrower case, the quarter rental or 180-day digital option is cheaper.

Sources checked

- Merybook product listing for ISBN 9780357625163
- eCampus pricing snapshots for new print, used print, quarter rental, and marketplace offers
- MindTap / eText pricing snapshot
- Pricing reviewed on April 19, 2026