

April  
May  
June  
2014

# Early Learning News

A Quarterly Newsletter & Training Calendar  
of Gulf Regional Early Childhood Services

## IN THIS ISSUE:

- Boosting Brain Power  
*10 Simple Things Adults Can Do*
- Week of the Young Child  
*April 6 - 12, 2014*
- Child Abuse Prevention Month  
*Top 10 Reasons to Stand Up for Children*
- Super Saturday Training in Monroeville
- Alabama Early Learning Guidelines
- AALECE 2014 - Save the Date!



## **On the Brain - What Research on Infant Brain Development Means to You**

Significant breakthroughs in brain development research about a child's brain functions have led to ways to maximize learning and take advantage of "windows of opportunity" for children to learn. Scientists now believe that the experiences babies have during their first years of life have a crucial impact on brain development and future brain capacity.

At last, there is scientific research that supports what we in the field of early care and education have known all along – the early years are critical years for impacting a child's maximum potential. It is important that the adults caring for children know about early brain development and how to stimulate brain growth. Listed below are a few suggestions for stimulating brain development:

- Infants who have been cared for in a warm and responsive way, and have developed an attachment to their caregiver are emotionally stronger. Therefore, it is important that their needs are responded to in a consistently nurturing way.
- There are "prime" times for learning. Be aware of these windows & maximize the potential of the children by considering them when planning classroom games and activities. For example, the window of opportunity for motor development is from birth to 24 months, with enhancement opportunities from ages 2 to 5 years old. After a child reaches five, further enhancement ability decreases with age.
- Infants' brain power can be increased by smiling, talking and interacting with them. The old familiar games of "peek-a-boo", "patty cake" and "This Little Piggy" are excellent examples of ways to build brain power.
- Reading to infants develops their literacy skills, but it also increases the bonding between them and their caregiver.

For more information on brain development, including tip sheets & other free resources, visit Child Care Resources, Inc. at [www.childcareresourcesinc.org](http://www.childcareresourcesinc.org). (© 2014 Child Care Resources, Inc.)

"There is always  
a moment in  
childhood when  
the door opens  
and lets the  
future in."

~ Graham Greene



Gulf Regional  
**Early Childhood Services**

# 10 Simple Things That Boost Brain Power!

Children are amazing! From birth to age three, a child's brain is making billions of connections and learning all about the world. What we do (or don't do) can make a big difference. Here are 10 simple things that we can do to boost children's brain power:



1. **Interaction** - Spend time watching me and responding to my cues. It tells me I'm important and special to you.
2. **Loving Touch** - Cradle me, hold me. Give me lots of hugs. It keeps me calm and comforts me, and gives me courage to move on.
3. **Stable Relationship** - I need someone special to be there when I call. When I look around and see you, I know I can go far.
4. **Safe, Healthy Environment** - Plug the outlets, block the stairs. Keep lead away for sure! Make a safe, special place so I'm free to explore.
5. **Self-Esteem** - I can do it, yes I can, if you tell me. So pay attention, give me praise and watch me go, go, go!
6. **Quality Child Care** - When you're gone I need to be with people you can trust to help me grow and teach me new, exciting stuff.
7. **Communication** - I may not talk, but don't be fooled, I understand a lot. Our little conversations mean so very much!
8. **Play** - Play is fun, play is work, it's how I learn the ropes. When we play together you help me more than you know.
9. **Music** - 1,2,3 sing to me and make up silly tunes. Music is special time that's fun to share with you.
10. **Reading** - Read to me, show me books with lots of pretty pictures. Write my stories out in words. I'll love to read forever.



## The Week of the Young Child April 6 - 12, 2014

The Week of the Young Child™ is an annual celebration sponsored by the National Association for the Education of Young Children (NAEYC). The purpose of the Week of the Young Child™ is to focus public attention on the needs of young children and their families and to recognize the early childhood programs and services that meet those needs.

The Week of the Young Child™ is a time to recognize that children's opportunities are our responsibilities, and to recommit ourselves to ensuring that each and every child experiences the type of early environment—at home, at child care, at school, and in the community—that will promote their early learning.

For ideas on how to celebrate The Week of the Young Child and resources to help you carry out your plans, visit the National Association for the Education of Young Children's website. You'll find press kits, graphics, news articles & lots more that you can use to help bring attention to this important cause!

[www.naeyc.org](http://www.naeyc.org)



# TRAINING CLASSES

**B**

**Basic Level Training** covers a foundational understanding & demonstration of developing skills. This training is most appropriate for entry-level professionals who are new to early childhood and/or school-age care.

**I**

**Intermediate Level Training** includes expanding knowledge & application, & refining skills. It is most appropriate for professionals who have at least (2) years of experience & 120 hours of training, and are moving toward more formal education.

**A**

**Advanced Level Training** focuses on a more thorough knowledge & understanding of developmentally appropriate practice & highly effective application & demonstration of skills. For professionals who have at least 3 years of experience & 30 credit hours in child development.

**ALL** - Appropriate for All Training Levels

**Active Learning: What's It All About?** - Participants will develop a clear understanding of the importance of developmentally appropriate learning opportunities in early childhood environments. (Nancy Kalifeh; **AL Pathways:** CGD; **DHR:** CD, QCCL; **CDA:** 2, 3, 8; Intermediate Training Level; 2 hours / 0.2 CEUs; **Age Group:** ALL) **#5130 - 6/26/2014; 5pm - 7pm; GRECS Training Room, Mobile**

**Brain Boogie** - This interactive, engaging session focuses on the importance of music and movement in a child's early physical and brain development. (Charla Moyer; **AL Pathways:** CGD, HSN, LEE; **DHR:** CD, HSU, QCCL; **CDA:** 1, 2, 8; Intermediate Training Level; 2 hours / 0.2 CEUs; **Age Group:** ALL) **#5093 - 4/3/2014; 5pm - 7pm; GRECS Training Room, Mobile** and **#5107 - 5/8/2014; 6pm - 8pm; Daphne United Methodist Church, Daphne**

**BIG Science** - Learn to use readily available, low-cost items for big learning. And, how to create a safe classroom setting that fosters hands on learning and exploration of real-life science. (Allison Goff; **AL Pathways:** CGD, LEE; **DHR:** CD, QCCL; **CDA:** 2, 8; Intermediate Training Level; 2 hours / 0.2 CEUs; **Age Group:** Preschool ) **#5123 - 6/12/2014; 6pm - 8pm; GRECS Training Room, Mobile**

**Child Care Quality and It's Effect on Children's Brain Development (DIRECTOR'S FORUM)** - Children deserve quality education from the start! The quality of child care has a direct impact on even the youngest child's ability to learn, build healthy relationships, and become the best they can be. In this session, participants will discuss in-depth how the earliest experiences specifically affect brain development and lay the foundation for children's future success. (Taralyn McMullan; **AL Pathways:** MA, CGD, HSN, LEE; **DHR:** CD, HSU, ADM, QCCL; **CDA:** 1, 2, 3, 8; Advanced Training Level; 2 hours / 0.2 CEUs; **Age Group:** Infant/Toddler, Preschool ) **#5106 - 4/2/2014; 10am - 12pm; GRECS Training Room, Mobile**

**Circle Time Literacy** - In this session, participants will discuss how reading, writing, singing, talking, and playing together with children supports early literacy development. Participants will also identify and plan book-based and literacy-based activities that are appropriate for a variety of classroom centers, including group "circle" time". (Lisa Kirkland; **AL Pathways:** CGD, LEE; **DHR:** CD, LD; **CDA:** 2, 3, 8; Basic Training Level; 2 hours / 0.2 CEUs; **Age Group:** Preschool) **#5113 - 5/17/2014; 8am - 10am; Monroe County Public Library, Monroeville** and **#5127 - 6/21/2014; 9am - 11am; Jackson City Hall, Jackson**

**APT - Don't Forget Your Manners!** - Participants will identify and explore ways to build on young children's natural, everyday encounters with manners by providing activities that are visual, concrete, and relevant to the children's lives. (Tiffany Armstrong, APT; **AL Pathways:** CGD, LEE; **DHR:** LD, CD, PDG; **CDA:** 3, 8; Basic Training Level; 2 hours / 0.2 CEUs; **Age Group:** Preschool ) **#5111 - 5/13/2014; 6:30pm - 8:30pm; GRECS Training Room, Mobile**

**Early Childhood Environment Rating Scale - Revised (ECERS-R) (DIRECTOR'S FORUM)** - Learners will be introduced to the ECERS-R, which is designed to assess center-based child care programs. Participants will learn to administer the tool reliably and properly assess and score items in each of 7 subscales: Space and Furnishings; Personal Care Routines; Listening and Talking; Activities; Interaction; Program Structure; and Parents and Staff. (Catherine Kreger and Allison Goff; **AL Pathways:** MA, CGD, DIV, HSN, ICFC; **DHR:** ADM, QCCL; **CDA:** 1, 2, 3, 4, 6, 8; Advanced Training Level; 2 hours / 0.2 CEUs; **Age Group:** Preschool ) **#5092 - 4/2/2014; 10am - 12pm; GRECS Training Room, Mobile**

**I** **Engaging Fathers in Early Childhood Programs** - Research shows that children benefit when fathers take an active role in their lives. Join in on this session to learn strategies for making fathers feel welcome and encouraging them to take part in their child's development and learning. (Nancy Kalifeh; **AL Pathways:** ICFC; **DHR:** CCPF, QCCL; **CDA:** 4; Intermediate Training Level; 2 hours / 0.2 CEUs; **Age Group:** All) **#5101 - 4/24/2014; 5pm - 7pm; GRECS Training Room, Mobile**

**I** **Everyday Ways to Support Infant/Toddler Learning & Development** - This hands-on session will introduce you to fun, simple, inexpensive, everyday materials and activities that encourage the development of important skills in all the developmental domains. (Catherine Kreger; **AL Pathways:** CGD, LEE; **DHR:** CD, QCCL; **CDA:** 2, 8; Intermediate Training Level; 2 hours / 0.2 CEUs; **Age Group:** Infants/Toddlers) **#5097 - 4/10/2014; 5pm - 7pm; GRECS Training Room, Mobile**

**I** **Guiding Children's Music & Movement Experiences** - Young children naturally love performing movements and actions. Songs combined with movement allows children to use the body for expression. This session will discuss the benefits of creative music and movement experiences while promoting physical fitness, social awareness and creative free expression. (Allison Goff; **AL Pathways:** CGD, HSN, LEE; **DHR:** CD, HSU, QCCL; **CDA:** 1, 2, 3, 8; Intermediate Training Level; 2 hours / 0.2 CEUs; **Age Group:** ALL) **#5108 - 5/8/2014; 6pm - 8pm; GRECS Training Room, Mobile**

**B** **How Early Experiences Affect Brain Development** - Recent advances in brain research have provided great insight in to how the brain, the most immature of all organs at birth, continues to grow and develop after birth. This workshop will allow parents and caregivers the opportunity to explore current research that supports how interactions with people, objects and materials in their environment are vital nutrients for the growing and developing brain. (Phyllis Rizzo; **AL Pathways:** CGD, ICFC, LEE; **DHR:** CD, CCPF; **CDA:** 2, 3, 4, 8; Basic Training Level; 2 hours / 0.2 CEUs; **Age Group:** ALL) **#5124- 6/17/2014; 6pm - 8pm; GRECS Training Room, Mobile**

**B** **I am Moving, I am Learning: Moving With the Brain in Mind** - The body trains the brain. Movement is necessary for the brain to grow and develop. This workshop will engage you in learning about brain structure, brain function and the important role in stimulating early brain development in young children. Bring your tennis shoes - we'll be actively learning! (Phyllis Rizzo; **AL Pathways:** CGD, HSN, LEE; **DHR:** CD, HSU, QCCL; **CDA:** 1, 3, 8; Basic Training Level; 2 hours / 0.2 CEUs; **Age Group:** Preschool) **#5129- 6/24/2014; 6pm - 8pm; GRECS Training Room, Mobile**

**B** **I Like to Move It, Move It!** - Young children naturally love performing movements and actions. Songs combined with movement allows children to use the body for expression. This session will discuss the benefits of creative music and movement experiences while promoting physical fitness, social awareness and creative free expression. (Lisa Kirkland; **AL Pathways:** CGD, HSN, LEE; **DHR:** CD, HSU, QCCL; **CDA:** 1, 2, 3, 8; Basic Training Level; 2 hours / 0.2 CEUs; **Age Group:** ALL) **#5114 - 5/17/2014; 10:15am - 12:15pm; Monroe County Public Library, Monroeville**

**A** **Laying the Foundation for Writing: Promoting Fine Motor Skills** - Writing is a literacy skill that children enjoy practicing. Learn some ways to engage preschool age children in pre-writing/early writing activities that are enjoyable and meaningful. (Catherine Kreger; **AL Pathways:** CGD, LEE; **DHR:** CD, LD; **CDA:** 2, 8; Advanced Training Level; 2 hours / 0.2 CEUs; **Age Group:** Infants/Toddlers, Preschool) **#5104 - 4/29/2014; 5pm - 7pm; GRECS Training Room, Mobile**

**I** **Love More, Teach More** - In this session, you will examine the importance of attachment in infancy and the critical role that appropriate touch plays in early development. (Charla Moyer; **AL Pathways:** CGD, ICFC, LEE; **DHR:** CD, LD; **CDA:** 2, 3, 8; Intermediate Training Level; 2 hours / 0.2 CEUs; **Age Group:** All) **#5119 - 6/2/2014; 5pm - 7pm; GRECS Training Room, Mobile and #5126 - 6/19/2014; 6pm - 8pm, Faulkner State Community College, Memorial Hall, Room #212, Bay Minette**

**A** **Milestones in Language Development** - Acquiring early language skills is critical for later academic success. Explore the major receptive and expressive language developmental milestones from birth through 5 years of age and learn to create activity plans that facilitate language development. (Dr. Abigail Baxter; **AL Pathways:** CGD, COA, LEE; **DHR:** CD, LD; **CDA:** 2, 8; Advanced Training Level; 2 hours / 0.2 CEUs; **Age Group:** All) **#5122 - 6/10/2014; 6pm - 8pm; GRECS Training Room, Mobile**



# Calendar of Events

A Pull-Out Section for Posting & Copying!

April  
May  
June  
2014



## #5131 - Infant / Toddler Course 2014

This new 12-hour course addresses some of the most common issues facing caregivers of babies and toddlers. Join us for two days packed full of information on important topics like coping with crying and feeding challenges; how to set effective limits; and, encourage the development of self-control in young children. (Alabama Pathways: CGD, HSN, ICFC, LEE, PPD; DHR Training Categories: CCPF, CD, HSU, LD, PDG, OCCL; CDA Subject Areas: 1, 2, 3, 4, 6, 8; Age Group: Infants, Toddler; Training Level: Intermediate)

**THURSDAYS**

**MAY 15 & MAY 22, 2014**

**8:30AM - 3:30PM**

**12 HOURS / 1.2 CEUs**

## #5132 - Getting Started! AN INTRODUCTORY COURSE

Are you new to childcare? Thinking about taking your love of children and making a career out of it? If so, then "Getting Started" is the course for you!

This training course is for people who are just beginning their early care & education career. We will introduce you to the foundational information you need to provide safe environments, nurturing interactions & developmentally appropriate experiences for the precious children in your care.

This basic-level, 12-hour course is taught over 3 days and the training credit you receive will meet Alabama Department of Human Resources' 12-hour training requirement to work in child care. **You must attend all sessions to receive verification of successful completion.**

**TUESDAY, MAY 27TH - THURSDAY, MAY 29TH**

**8:30AM - 12:30PM; 12 HOURS / 1.2 CEUs**

## Alabama Early Learning Guidelines -

This basic-level, 18-hour course is broken down into nine (9), two-hour segments. You must attend Session #1 - Orientation before taking any other session. You will receive a two-hour certificate for each session you attend & successfully complete. After completing all 9 sessions, you will receive an official Alabama Early Learning Guidelines credential from Alabama Department of Human Resources. The sessions are broken down as follows:

#1 - Orientation (#5098) - 4/12/2014; 8am - 10am; Mobile

#2 - Observations & Assessments (#5099) - 4/12/2014; 10:15am - 12:15pm; Mobile

#3 - The Role of Parent & Caregiver (#5102) - 4/26/2014; 8am - 10am; Mobile

#4 - Self-Concept & Emotional Development (#5103) - 4/26/2014; 10:15am - 12:15am; Mobile

#5 - Social Development (#5109) - 5/10/2014; 8am - 10am; Mobile

#6 - Language & Literacy (#5110) - 5/10/2014; 10:15am - 12:15am; Mobile

#7 - Physical Development (#5116) - 5/24/2014; 8am - 10am; Mobile

#8 - Cognitive Development (#5117) - 5/24/2014; 10:15am - 12:15pm; Mobile

#9 - Putting It All Together (#5121) - 6/7/2014; 8am - 10am; Mobile

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<p><i>*All classes in Mobile County will be held at Gulf Regional Early Childhood Services unless noted otherwise.</i></p> <p>3100 Cottage Hill Rd; Building 4, Suite 400 Mobile, AL 36606; 251-473-1060 www.greecs.org</p>	1	<p><b>8 #5094 Preparing Preschool Children for School Success;</b> 6pm - 8pm; Bay Minette</p> <p><b>#5095 Six Strategies for Positive Interactions with Parents;</b> 6pm - 8pm; Mobile</p>	<p><b>2 #5092 DIRECTOR'S FORUM: Early Childhood Environment Rating Scale - Revised (ECERS-R);</b> 10am - 12pm; Mobile</p>	<p><b>3 #5093 Brain Boogie;</b> 5pm - 7pm; Mobile</p>	4	5
<p><b>7</b></p>	<p><b>14</b></p>	<p><b>15</b></p>	<p><b>9 #5096 Understanding Temperaments in Infants &amp; Toddlers;</b> 6pm - 8pm; Mobile</p>	<p><b>10 #5097 Everyday Ways to Support Infant/Toddler Learning &amp; Development;</b> 5pm - 7pm; Mobile</p>	11	<p><b>12 #5098 AELG: Orientation;</b> 8am - 10am; Mobile</p> <p><b>#5099 AELG: Observation &amp; Assessment;</b> 10:15am - 12:15pm; Mobile</p> <p><b>Heart Saver First Aid / Adult, Child &amp; Infant CPR / AED @ Complete Safety Works</b> (First Aid - \$35; CPR - \$35; Both First Aid &amp; CPR - \$45) Call 479-6788 to register</p>
<p><b>21</b></p>	<p><b>22 #5100 When Your Baby Cries;</b> 6pm - 8pm; Mobile</p>	<p><b>23</b></p>	<p><b>24 #5101 Engaging Fathers in Early Childhood Programs;</b> 5pm - 7pm; Mobile</p>	<p><b>25</b></p>	<p><b>18</b></p> <p><b>Good Friday</b></p> <p><b>GRECS &amp; The Resource Place CLOSED</b></p>	<p><b>19</b></p>
<p><b>28</b></p>	<p><b>29 #5104 Laying the Foundation for Writing: Promoting Fine Motor Skills;</b> 5pm - 7pm; Mobile</p>	<p><b>30</b></p>	<p><b>23</b></p>	<p><b>24</b></p>	<p><b>25</b></p>	<p><b>26 #5102 AELG: Role of the Parent &amp; Caregiver;</b> 8am - 10am; Mobile</p> <p><b>#5103 AELG: Self-Concept &amp; Emotional Development;</b> 10:15am - 12:15pm; Mobile</p>

**DON'T FORGET...** You must pre-register for training classes. Only those whose names are listed on the roster will be able to attend - bring your confirmation to class with you! Don't have a confirmation? Not sure if you're registered? **Call Latanya @ 251-473-1060 ext 106.**

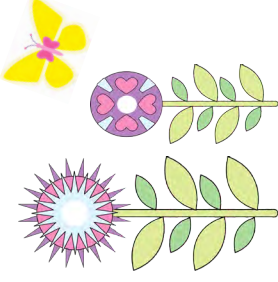


# April 2014

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<p><b>May 2014</b></p> <p> GRECS &amp; The Resource Place</p> <p>*All classes in Mobile County will be held at Gulf Regional Early Childhood Services unless noted otherwise.</p> <p>3100 Cottage Hill Rd; Building 4, Suite 400 Mobile, AL 36606; 251-473-1060 www.greccs.org</p>						
<p><b>5</b></p> <p><b>#5105 Preparing Preschool Children for School Success;</b> 6pm - 8pm; Mobile</p>						
<p><b>6</b></p> <p><b>#5106 DIRECTOR'S FORUM: Child Care Quality &amp; Its Effect on Children's Brain Development;</b> 10am - 12pm; Mobile</p>						
<p><b>7</b></p> <p><b>#5107 Brain Boogie;</b> 6pm - 8pm; Daphne United Methodist Church, Daphne</p> <p><b>#5108 Guiding Children's Music and Movement Experiences;</b> 6pm - 8pm; Mobile</p>						
<p><b>8</b></p> <p><b>#5109 AELG: Social Development;</b> 8am - 10am; Mobile</p> <p><b>#5110 AELG: Language &amp; Literacy;</b> 10:15am - 12:15pm; Mobile</p> <p><b>Heart Saver First Aid / Adult, Child &amp; Infant CPR / AED @ Complete Safety Works</b> (First Aid - \$35; CPR - \$35; Both First Aid &amp; CPR - \$45) Call 479-6788 to register</p>						
<p><b>9</b></p>						
<p><b>10</b></p> <p><b>#5111 APT: Don't Forget Your Manners;</b> 6:30pm - 8:30pm; Mobile</p>						
<p><b>11</b></p> <p><b>#5112 Parenting Counts: Communication;</b> 5pm - 7pm; Mobile</p>						
<p><b>12</b></p> <p><b>#5113 Infant/Toddler Course 2014 (Day 1 of 2);</b> 8:30am - 3:30pm; (Mobile); (*12-hour course; Must Attend All Sessions!)</p> <p><b>#5114 I Like to Move It, Move It;</b> 10:15am - 12:15pm; Monroe County Public Library, Monroeville</p>						
<p><b>13</b></p> <p><b>#5115 Transportation Safety;</b> 6pm - 8pm; Mobile</p>						
<p><b>14</b></p>						
<p><b>15</b></p> <p><b>#5116 AELG: Physical Development;</b> 8am - 10am; Mobile</p> <p><b>#5117 AELG: Cognitive Development;</b> 10:15am - 12:15pm; Mobile</p>						
<p><b>16</b></p>						
<p><b>17</b></p>						
<p><b>18</b></p>						
<p><b>19</b></p>						
<p><b>20</b></p> <p><b>#5118 Stress Management;</b> 6pm - 8pm; McIntosh Public Library, McIntosh</p>						
<p><b>21</b></p>						
<p><b>22</b></p> <p><b>#5132 Getting Started (Day 1);</b> 8:30am - 12:30pm; (Mobile); (*12-hour course; Must Attend All Sessions!)</p>						
<p><b>23</b></p>						
<p><b>24</b></p>						
<p><b>25</b></p>						
<p><b>26</b></p> <p><b>Memorial Day</b></p> <p><b>GRECS &amp; The Resource Place CLOSED</b></p>						
<p><b>27</b></p> <p><b>#5132 Getting Started (Day 2);</b> 8:30am - 12:30pm; (Mobile); (*12-hour course; Must Attend All Sessions!)</p>						
<p><b>28</b></p> <p><b>#5132 Getting Started (Day 2);</b> 8:30am - 12:30pm; (Mobile); (*12-hour course; Must Attend All Sessions!)</p>						
<p><b>29</b></p> <p><b>#5132 Getting Started (Day 3);</b> 8:30am - 12:30pm; (Mobile); (*12-hour course; Must Attend All Sessions!)</p> <p><b>#5118 Stress Management;</b> 6pm - 8pm; McIntosh Public Library, McIntosh</p>						
<p><b>30</b></p>						
<p><b>31</b></p> <p></p>						
<p><b>3</b></p> <p><b>The Resource Place is OPEN</b> 9am - 12pm</p>						
<p><b>2</b></p>						
<p><b>1</b></p>						
<p><b>Don't have a confirmation? Not sure if you're registered? listed on the roster will be able to attend - bring your confirmation to class with you!</b></p> <p><b>Don't FORGET... You must pre-register for training classes. Only those whose names are listed on the roster will be able to attend - bring your confirmation to class with you!</b></p> <p><b>Call Latanya @ 251-473-1060 ext 106.</b></p>						

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1	2 #5119 Love More, Teach More; 5pm - 7pm; Mobile	3	4 #5120 DIRECTOR'S FORUM: Preparing for Alabama STARS - Becoming Acquainted with the Program Administration Scale; 10am - 12pm; Mobile	5	6	7 #5121 AELG: Putting It All Together; 8am - 10am; Mobile  <i>The Resource Place is OPEN 9am - 12pm</i>
8	9	10 #5122 Milestones in Language Development; 6pm - 8pm; Mobile	11	12 #5123 BIG Science; 6pm - 8pm; Mobile	13	14  Heart Saver First Aid / Adult, Child & Infant CPR / AED @ Complete Safety Works (First Aid - \$35; CPR - \$35; Both First Aid & CPR - \$45) Call 479-6788 to register
15	16	17 #5124 How Early Experiences Affect Brain Development; 6pm - 8pm; Mobile	18	19 #5125 Principles of Inclusion; 6pm - 8pm; Mobile  #5126 Love More, Teach More; 6pm - 8pm; Faulkner State Community College, Bay Minette	20	21 #5127 Circle Time Literacy; 9am - 11am; Jackson City Hall, Jackson
22	23 #5128 Stories That Teach; 5pm - 7pm; Mobile	24 #5129 I am Moving, I am Learning: Moving with the Brain in Mind; 6pm - 8pm; Mobile	25	26 #5130 Active Learning: What's It All About; 5pm - 7pm; Mobile	27	28

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# June 2014



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 3100 Cottage Hill Rd;  
 Building 4, Suite 400  
 Mobile, AL 36606; 251-473-1060  
 www.greecs.org

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**Parenting Counts: Communication** - What can you do to feel really connected with your child and the children in your care? Communicating well starts at infancy and continues throughout childhood. This workshop explores how early communication between adults and baby helps a baby learn strong language skills, and later learn strong literacy skills. (Nancy Kalifeh; **AL Pathways:** CGD, LEE, ICFC; **DHR:** CD, LD, CCPF; **CDA:** 2, 3, 4, 8; Basic Training Level; 2 hours / 0.2 CEUs; **Age Group:** Preschool ) #5112 - 5/15/2014; 5pm - 7pm; GRECS Training Room, Mobile

**B**

**Preparing for Alabama STARS: Becoming Acquainted with the Program Administration Scale (DIRECTOR'S FORUM)** - This session for center-based program administrators provides an overview of the Program Administration Scale (PAS). PAS measures the level of quality of leadership and management practices of center-based programs across a wide range of items. After completing this course, participants will be able to use the tool for program self-assessment and improvement planning. (Ann Sands; **AL Pathways:** MA; **DHR:** ADM, QCCL; **CDA:** 5; Intermediate Training Level; 2 hours / 0.2 CEUs; **Age Group:** ALL) #5120 - 6/4/2014; 10am - 12pm; Mobile

**I**

**Preparing Preschool Children for School Success** - School readiness is critical for children's success in formal school settings. Join this session where you'll learn what skills are important for children to master prior to kindergarten entry and simple strategies you can implement to ensure that children develop those readiness skills. (Amanda Ingram; **AL Pathways:** CGD, LEE; **DHR:** CD, QCCL; **CDA:** 2, 8; Intermediate Training Level; 2 hours / 0.2 CEUs; **Age Group:** Preschool ) #5094 - 4/8/2014; 6pm - 8pm; Faulkner State Community College, Memorial Hall, Room #212, Bay Minette and #5105 - 5/6/2014; 6pm - 8pm; GRECS Training Room, Mobile

**I**

**Principles of Inclusion** - Participants will be able to discuss the principles of Inclusion while applying techniques that encourage inclusion in everyday activities. (Michelle Williams, UCP; **AL Pathways:** COA, ICFC; **DHR:** CD, QCCL; **CDA:** 2, 3, 8; Intermediate Training Level; 2 hours / 0.2 CEUs; **Age Group:** All) #5125 - 6/19/2014; 6pm - 8pm; GRECS Training Room, Mobile

**I**

**Six Strategies for Positive Interactions with Parents** - Participants will learn six strategies for positively communicating with families about their children's developmental stages. (Beth Adkins, UCP; **AL Pathways:** DIV, CGD, ICFC; **DHR:** CD, CCPF; **CDA:** 3, 4; Appropriate for All Training Levels; 2 hours / 0.2 CEUs; **Age Group:** ALL) #5095 - 4/8/2014; 6pm - 8pm; GRECS Training Room, Mobile

**ALL**

**Stories that Teach** - Come explore a vast amount of early learning opportunities offered through children's literature. In this session, you'll learn to use both new and familiar children's books to promote important developmental skills and concepts. (Charla Moyer; **AL Pathways:** CGD, LEE; **DHR:** CD, LD; **CDA:** 2, 8; Intermediate Training Level; 2 hours / 0.2 CEUs; **Age Group:** All) #5128 - 6/23/2014; 5pm - 7pm; GRECS Training Room, Mobile

**I**

**Stress Management** - Participants will be able to recognize the signs and symptoms of professional burn-out while learning ways to avoid them. (Beth Adkins, UCP; **AL Pathways:** HSN, PPD; **DHR:** HSU, CCPF; **CDA:** 6; Appropriate for ALL Training Levels; 2 hours / 0.2 CEUs; **Age Group:** N/A) #5118 - 5/29/2014; 6pm - 8pm; McIntosh Public Library, McIntosh

**ALL**

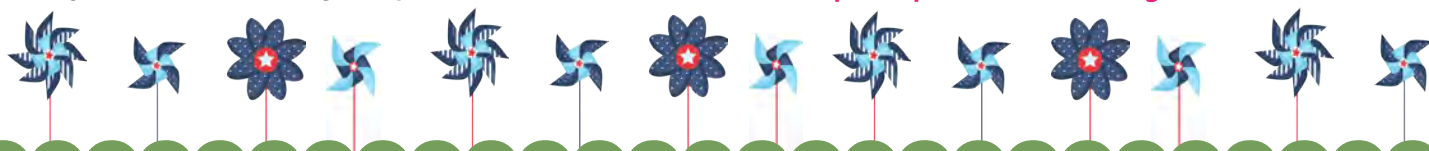
**Transportation Safety** - In this session, participants will learn basic precautionary information and best practices for transporting children. (Avery Fick; **AL Pathways:** HSN, ICFC; **DHR:** HSU, QCCL; **CDA:** 1, 5; Appropriate for ALL Training Levels; 2 hours / 0.2 CEUs; **Age Group:** All) #5115 - 5/20/2014; 6pm - 8pm; GRECS Training Room, Mobile

**ALL**

**Understanding Temperaments in Infants and Toddlers** - A child's temperament describes the way in which they approach and react to the world. It is their personal "style." This session will explore how understanding temperament, caregivers can learn how to help children express their preferences, desires and feelings appropriately. Participants will also discuss the three temperament types. (Allison Goff; **AL Pathways:** CGD, LEE; **DHR:** CD, PDG; **CDA:** 2, 8; Intermediate Training Level; 2 hours / 0.2 CEUs; **Age Group:** Infants/Toddlers) #5096 - 4/9/2014; 6pm - 8pm; GRECS Training Room, Mobile

**I**

**When Your Baby Cries** - Babies are a great joy to their parents and those who care for them! Sometimes their crying can be challenging. Learning the facts about infant crying and ways to soothe your baby can help when crying becomes stressful. This workshop will discuss the facts about infant crying, improve understanding of Shaken Baby Syndrome, and teach participants ways to soothe your baby when crying becomes difficult to cope with. (Phyllis Rizzo; **AL Pathways:** CGD, HSN, ICFC; **DHR:** HSU, PDG; **CDA:** 2, 3, 8; Basic Training Level; 2 hours / 0.2 CEUs; **Age Group:** Infants/Toddlers) #5100 - 4/22/2014; 6pm - 8pm; GRECS Training Room, Mobile

**B**

# ALECE 2014

July 17 - 19, 2014

Island House Hotel  
Orange Beach, AL

## Alphabet Soup

Use this reference guide to determine what the acronyms and numbers listed on your Training Attendance Verification and in the quarterly training calendar stand for to get the most out of your training experience.

Alabama Pathways to Quality Care & Education Core Knowledge Areas - The Alabama Pathways to Quality Care & Education Core Knowledge Areas (APCKA) serve as a foundational checklist of knowledge, skills, and abilities that early childhood and school-age care professionals can also use to guide and track their professional development.

CGD - Child Growth and Development

HSN - Health, Safety and Nutrition

LEE - Learning Experiences and Enrichment

DIV - Diversity

COA - Child Observation and Assessment (Planning for Individual Needs)

ICFC - Interaction with Children, Families and Communities

PPD - Personal and Professional Development

MA - Management and Administration

CDA Content Areas - GRECS training programs can be used to meet the formal Child Development Associate (CDA) early childhood education training requirements. Refer to the CDA Assessment System and Competency Standards books for more details.

1. Planning a safe, healthy environment to invite learning
2. Steps to advance children's physical & intellectual development
3. Positive ways to support children's social and emotional development
4. Strategies to establish productive relationships with families
5. Strategies to manage an effective program operation
6. Maintaining a commitment to professionalism
7. Observation and Assessment
8. Principles of Child Development & Learning

DHR Training Categories - The Alabama Department of Human Resources requires child care professionals to obtain professional development hours each year in 6 categories. Refer to the Minimum Standards for Day Care Centers and Nighttime Centers for more information regarding the specific number of hours and other requirements.

CD - Child Development

LD - Language Development

CCPF - Child Care Professional & the Family

QCCL - Quality Child Care & Licensing

HSU - Health, Safety & Universal Precautions

PDG - Positive Discipline & Guidance

ADM - Administration / Management

Sign up online to receive conference  
registration updates...

[www.alabamachildcare.org](http://www.alabamachildcare.org)

## Online Training Courses - \$10 each!

Each month, we feature an online training course & offer it to you for only \$10!

**April 2014 -**

### Methods of Enhancing the Intellectual Development of Preschoolers

This course familiarizes students with methods for enhancing intellectual development in children. It discusses brain development, how to motivate children to learn, and creativity's role in intellectual development, classroom management, and strategies for effective teaching. (.2 CEUs/2 hours; Pathways: CGD, LEE; DHR: CD, PDG; CDA: 2)

**May 2014 -**

### Guidance and Discipline in a Childcare Setting

This course familiarizes students with guidance and discipline procedures for childcare providers. It discusses behavioral traits of children, how to stop problems before they start, causes of misbehavior, and guidance and discipline techniques. (.2 CEUs/2 Hours; Pathways: CGD; DHR: CD, PDG; CDA: 3, 7)

**June 2014 -**

### Relating with Parents

This course discusses sound business practices relating to communicating with parents. It also identifies techniques for establishing and maintaining relationships with parents and discusses strategies for keeping lines of communication open. (.1 CEUs/1 Hours; Pathways: ICFC, MA; DHR: CCPE, QCCL, ADM; CDA: 4, 5)

**To register for these special online training courses or to receive more information, contact Ann Sands ([asands@grecs.org](mailto:asands@grecs.org)).**

# April 2014 is Child Abuse Prevention Month

## 10 Reasons to Stand Up for Children

- Children are the heart of our future.
- Everyone can make a difference in a child's life.
- It's easier to build strong children than to repair broken adults.
- All children are special.
- There's no excuse for child abuse.
- Children thrive when adults care.
- Protecting children is everyone's job.
- Each child deserves to be cherished.
- Children are our most valuable resource.
- Children can't always stand up for themselves.



## We're OPEN on Saturdays!

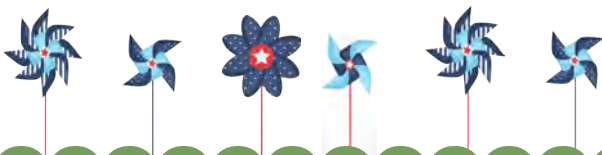
Gulf Regional Early Childhood Services' Lending Library and Resource Place will be open on the following Saturdays from 9:00am - 12:00pm.

It's the perfect time to laminate, do some die-cutting and check out materials for your classroom!

**April 5, 2014**

**May 3, 2014**

**June 7, 2014**



*We are celebrating our 20th year of collaboration with the Children's Trust Fund supported through the Department of Child Abuse and Prevention!*

*Caring for the Caregiver allows us opportunities to mentor Family Child Care providers. We appreciate all who participate to make this project possible and help educate parents and caregivers on the prevention of child neglect and abuse.*



## SUPER SATURDAY WORKSHOP

**Saturday, 5/17/2014**

**Monroe County Library, Monroeville**

**Circle Time Literacy** - In this session, participants will discuss how reading, writing, singing, talking, and playing together with children supports early literacy development. Participants will also identify and plan book-based and literacy-based activities that are appropriate for a variety of classroom centers, including group "circle" time". (Lisa Kirkland; **AL Pathways:** CGD, LEE; **DHR:** CD, LD; **CDA:** 2, 3, 8; Basic Training Level; 2 hours / 0.2 CEUs; **Age Group:** Preschool) **#5113 - 5/17/2014; 8am - 10am**

**AND**

**I Like to Move It, Move It!** - Young children naturally love performing movements and actions. Songs combined with movement allows children to use the body for expression. This session will discuss the benefits of creative music and movement experiences while promoting physical fitness, social awareness and creative free expression. (Lisa Kirkland; **AL Pathways:** CGD, HSN, LEE; **DHR:** CD, HSU, QCCL; **CDA:** 1, 2, 3, 8; Basic Training Level; 2 hours / 0.2 CEUs; **Age Group:** ALL) **#5114 - 5/17/2014; 10:15am - 12:15pm**



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- 
- Support Children's Trust Fund programs by
- purchasing this specialty car tag. The tag
- is available at your local Probate office. It
- is tax deductible & proceeds directly fund
- community-based prevention programs.
- 



**MARK YOUR CALENDAR**

Friday, April 18, 2014

GRECS and The Resource Place  
are **CLOSED** for Good Friday

Monday, May 26, 2014

GRECS and The Resource Place  
are **CLOSED** for Memorial Day

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