



July, August and  
September 2016

# Early Learning News

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



## Open-Ended vs Single-Action Play In the Digital World

Research from Jeffrey Trawick-Smith has demonstrated that open-ended toys (blocks, paint easels, toy cars, doctor kits, etc.) lend themselves to developing thinking skills, social interaction, creativity, and verbalization more than complex or narrowly focused toys. However, there's no research that I know of comparing single-use and open-ended digital playthings, but I suspect that in many cases you would find that children would have more imaginative and playful experiences with open-ended materials. Open-ended toys are good for children at different ages and developmental levels, so it makes sense that children would come back to them at different stages since they haven't exhausted everything they could do with them.

And there are many types of open-ended digital resources. For example, you could have a program that allows children to create their own programs (like ScratchJr.), draw pictures using an almost unlimited supply of digital paints, markers, stickers, and pencils (like Drawing Pad), create audiovisual slideshows using pictures, video, and sound (like Shadow Puppet Edu), or create new and interesting music (like Toca Band). In each case, children make decisions that allow them to control the experience and what they produce, rather than be directed toward a preordained path.

Fred's message about seeking open-ended play experiences and limiting single-action toys seems to apply even to the digital age. While it may be a little harder to discern which is which with digital games and apps, we can still have some sensible criteria.

~ Written by Michael Robb and Junlei Li, Fred Rogers Center research psychologists, and parents themselves. For more information on choosing playthings and what lessons can be applied to the digital world, visit [www.fredrogerscenter.org](http://www.fredrogerscenter.org).

## IN THIS ISSUE:

- AALECE Annual Summer Conference
- Alabama Early Learning Guidelines Online Sessions
- Technology & Interactive Media in Early Childhood Programs
- Upcoming Events to put on your calendar!

"The very best kinds of playthings are open-ended - children can make of them whatever they're working on at that moment, and their play is then determined by their own needs."

~ Fred Rogers



Gulf Regional  
Early Childhood Services

# Fun & Learning on the beach @ AALECE!



Take a few days away from your normal routines & join us in Orange Beach, AL for training and networking! Behavior guidance techniques for the inclusive classroom, creating a safe space, and strategies for kinesthetic learning are just a few of the topics that will be covered at this year's conference.

Our friends Holly Elissa Bruno & Mr. Al are back to entertain and enlighten us! You'll see new faces and old friends while getting important industry information and training!

Don't miss out just because you can't get away for three days - daily conference rates are available!

*July 13 - 15, 2016*

*Island House Hotel in Orange Beach, Alabama*

Visit **[www.alabamachildcare.org](http://www.alabamachildcare.org)** for session details, accommodations, and conference registration!



## **Alabama Early Learning Guidelines is Back Online!**

The Alabama Early Learning Guidelines professional development course, through a partnership between the Alabama Department of Human Resources and Alabama Public Television, will be available online this quarter. The 7 week course will begin Wednesday, July 27, 2016.

The Alabama Early Learning guidelines were developed by DHR to promote continuity of high quality care and learning for children ages 0-5. The AELG online course will consist of 7 training sessions with readings, activities, and online discussions that will be a guide for understanding child development and learning and for implementing best practice in order to prepare children for success in school and in life.

Participants who complete the course will receive a document of completion issued by APT, and a training award AELG Credential issued by the Alabama Department of Human Resources. (If you have received this credential through the AELG face-to-face training, you will not receive credit for this online version.)

**Registration:** To register for the course contact Monica Byrd at 251-473-1060 or email at [mbyrd@grecs.org](mailto:mbyrd@grecs.org). **Registration deadline is Monday, July 18, 2016.** Course participants must have a working email address and access to an internet connection.

If you have questions about the course (not to register), contact Lisa Nunn at [lnunn@aptv.org](mailto:lnunn@aptv.org) or 1-800-239-5233, ext. 0125.

# TRAINING CLASSES

## Basic Level Training

**B** 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.

## Intermediate Level

### Training

includes expanding knowledge & application, & refining skills.

**I** 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.

## Advanced Level Training

**A** 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

**B** **All By Myself**- Children love to do things for themselves. It's fun and helps them learn. This lesson will discuss the things that are age-appropriate for children to do by themselves, how you can help children develop self-help skills, and why these skills are so valuable to child development. (Lisa Kirkland; **AL Pathways:** CGD, ICFC; **DHR:** CD, QCCL; **CDA:** 2, 3, 8; Basic Training Level; 2 hours / 0.2 CEUs; Age Group: Infants, Toddlers, Preschool) **#5482 - 9/24/2016; 8:30am - 10:30am; Washington County Public Library; Chatom, Al**

**B** **APT-Reuse, Recycle, Repurpose** - Beginning with the simple task of cleaning up to understanding what happens to the trash, this workshop will support the concept of recycling and using children's creativity and imagination by taking something old or used and making it "new" again. Workshop will provide participants with materials and hands on activities to encourage children to clean up and recycle. (Tiffany Armstrong; **AL Pathways:** LEE; **DHR:** CD, QCCL; **CDA:** 2; Basic Training Level; 2 hours / 0.2 CEUs; Age Group: Preschool) **#5469- 8/16/2016; 6:00pm - 8:00pm; GRECS Training Room, Mobile**

**I** **Arts, Crafts, and Creativity**- In this hands-on session, participants will discuss the value of arts and crafts in child development. Come learn how the ARTS help children grow. Participants will explore art activities to enhance development and ignite creativity in preschool and after-school programs. (Allison Goff; **AL Pathways:** CGD, LEE, ICFC; **DHR:** CD, QCCL; **CDA:** 3, 8; Intermediate Training Level; 2 hours / 0.2 CEUs; Age Group: Toddlers, Preschool, School Age) **#5481 - 9/22/2016; 5:00pm - 7:00pm; GRECS Training Room, Mobile**

**I** **Be Sweet! Preventing bullying in an inclusive preschool setting**- In this two hour intermediate level training, we will discuss the many issues surrounding bullying in early childhood settings including prevention, identification, and intervention. Participants will gain knowledge of creative and developmentally appropriate lesson plans, classroom activities, and discussion questions that address this important topic. (Michelle Williams; **AL Pathways:** CGD, ICFC; **DHR:** CD, PDG; **CDA:** 1, 3; Intermediate Training Level; 2 hours / 0.2 CEUs; Age Group: Preschool) **#5455 - 7/5/2016; 6:00pm - 8:00pm; GRECS Training Room, Mobile**

**I** **Behavior is Contagious**- This lesson takes a developmental look at building community with infants, toddlers, preschool, and school age children and why this is important. Topics include helping children learn self-control, and conflict resolution, and suggestions for how to share with parents. Discover an effective strategy to help children learn problem solving skills. (Lisa Kirkland; **AL Pathways:** CGD, COA, ICFC; **DHR:** CD, PDG; **CDA:** 3, 7, 8; Intermediate Training Level; 2 hours / 0.2 CEUs; Age Group: Infants, Toddlers, Preschool) **#5462 - 7/23/2016; 10:45am - 12:45pm; Jeff Davis Community College; Atmore; & #5472 - 8/20/2016; 10:45am - 12:45pm; Jackson City Hall, Jackson & #5483 - 9/24/2016; 10:45 am - 12:45pm; Washington County Public Library, Chatom**

**A  
L  
L** **Director's Forum: Violence in the Workplace** - None of us want to think that violence in the workplace could happen to us; but, it could and we should be prepared! In this training session, you will define workplace violence; increase awareness of what situations could result in violence and discuss strategies for handling those potentially dangerous situations. (Avery Fick; **AL Pathways:** HSN; **DHR:** HSU; **CDA:** 1, 5; For All Levels; 2 hours / 0.2 CEUs; Age Group: All) **#5456- 7/6/2016; 10:00am - 12:00 noon; GRECS Training Room, Mobile**

**Food Safety Development-Part 1** - This workshop is designed to teach basic food safety principles and practices that reduce the risk of spreading food borne illness. (Phyllis Rizzo; **AL Pathways:** CGD, HSN, ICFC; **DHR:** CD, HSU; **CDA:** 1, 2, 8; Basic Training Level; 2 hours / 0.2 CEUs; Age Group: Infants, Toddlers, Preschool) **#5457 - 7/7/2016; 6:30pm - 8:30pm; GRECS Training Room, Mobile**

**B**

**Food Safety Development-Part 2** - This workshop is designed to teach basic food safety principles and practices that reduce the risk of spreading food borne illness.. (Phyllis Rizzo; **AL Pathways:** CGD, HSN, ICFC; **DHR:**CD, HSU; **CDA:** 1, 2, 8; Basic Training Level; 2 hours / 0.2 CEUs; Age Group: All) **#5458- 7/12/2016; 6:30pm - 8:30pm; GRECS Training Room, Mobile**

**B**

**How to Recognize Developmental Delays**- This course will focus on the 5 domains of development as well as methods to help you recognize children with delays. It will also include the actions you should take if a child in your care shows signs of a developmental delay. (Lauren Henson; **AL Pathways:** CGD, COA, DIV; **DHR:**CD, QCCL; **CDA:** 7, 8; Intermediate Training Level; 2 hours / 0.2 CEUs; Age Group: All) **#5459 - 7/19/2016; 6:00pm - 8:00pm; GRECS Training Room, Mobile**

**I**

**If You're Happy and You Know it: Helping Children Understand and Cope with Emotions in an inclusive Classroom setting** - In this two hour intermediate level training, participants will explore the link between young children's emotions and their behavior, and learn practical strategies for guiding children through the difficult process of managing complex feelings. (Michelle Williams; **AL Pathways:** LEE; **DHR:** CD, PDG; **CDA:** 3; Intermediate Training Level; 2 hours / 0.2 CEUs; Age Group: Toddlers, Preschool, School Age) **#5473- 8/23/2016; 6:00pm - 8:00pm; GRECS Training Room, Mobile**

**I**

**Infant/Toddler Environment Rating Scale, Revised (ITERS-R)**- Learners will be introduced to the ITERS-R, which is designed to assess center-based child care programs for infants and toddlers up to 30 months of age. Participants will learn how to administer the tool reliably and to properly assess and score items in each of 7 subscales: Space and Furnishings; Personal Care Routines, Listening and Talking; Activities; Interaction; and, Program Structure. (Catherine Kreger; **AL Pathways:** CGD, COA, ICFC; **DHR:** QCCL; **CDA:** 3, 7, 8; Basic Training Level; 2 hours / 0.2 CEUs; Age Group: Infants, Toddlers, Preschool) **#5476 - 9/6/2016; 6:00pm - 8:00pm; Christ the King Child Development Center, Daphne**

**B**

**Introduction to CDA** - The Child Development Associate (CDA) Credential is the most widely recognized credential in early childhood education (ECE) and is a key stepping stone on the path of career advancement in ECE. During this workshop, participants will examine the requirements and steps for obtaining a CDA. (Allison Goff; **AL Pathways:** CGD, COA, ICFC; **DHR:**CD, PDG; **CDA:** 3, 7, 8; Intermediate Training Level; 2 hours / 0.2 CEUs; Age Group: Infants, Toddlers, Preschool) **#5070 - 8/17/2016; 5:00pm - 7:00pm; GRECS Training Room, Mobile**

**I**

**Kids Garden: A Teacher's Guide to Sowing & Growing Fun;**- Have you ever experienced a child's tantrum or one child biting another? Learn what behaviors are typical for children of certain ages and how adults can respond in ways that diminish negative behaviors and prevent future occurrences. (Phyllis Rizzo; **AL Pathways:** CGD, COA, ICFC; **DHR:**CD, PDG; **CDA:** 3, 7, 8; Intermediate Training Level; 2 hours / 0.2 CEUs; Age Group: Preschool) **#5475 - 8/30/2016; 6:30pm - 8:30pm; GRECS Training Room, Mobile**

**I**

**The Learning Power of Laughter**- Adults with a good sense of humor often have children who enjoy humor and are funny themselves. Having a good sense of humor and recognizing and taking opportunities for laughing out loud help develop good social skills and encourage the development of many other skills that children need, including pre-reading skills, creativity, and cognitive thinking. This workshop is designed to help parents and caregivers understand the power of laughter and how to utilize laughter in their daily routine. (Phyllis Rizzo; **AL Pathways:** CGD, LEE; **DHR:** CD, QCCL; **CDA:** 2, 3, 8; Basic Training Level; 2 hours / 0.2 CEUs; **Age Group:** ALL) **#5468- 8/13/2016; 10:00am-12:00 noon; Discovery Island Child Development Center, Orange Beach**

**B**

**Meeting the Needs of Children at Risk**- To provide high quality care to children and families professionals must understand the impact of risk factors on child development and learn how to successfully minimize its effects without causing additional trauma. This course provides information on building systems to support children and families at risk. (Christle Reddi; **AL Pathways:** CGD, COA, ICFC; **DHR:**CD, CCPF; **CDA:** 1, 2, 3, 4, 8; Intermediate Training Level; 2 hours / 0.2 CEUs; Age Group: Infants, Toddlers, Preschool) **#5467 - 8/11/2016; 6:00pm - 8:00pm; GRECS Training Room, Mobile**

**I**



July, August and September 2016

# Calendar of Events

A Pull-Out Section for Posting & Copying!



## Mark Your Calendar

We've got some GREAT training sessions & special events coming up. Be sure to pencil these dates into your calendar so you can register early!

**AALECE's Summer Conference in Orange Beach, AL** on 7/13, 7/14 & 7/15. Special guests & presenters include Holly Elissa Bruno, Mr. Al, Patty Vanderpool & more! Daily rates available - check out full schedule & pricing at [www.alabamachildcare.org](http://www.alabamachildcare.org)!

**Alabama Early Learning Guidelines Online Sessions** (see details inside newsletter) - Sessions start on 7/27/2016.

Belinda Karge is back in Alabama to share her new book - "Engage Early Learners: Instructional Strategies to Foster Oral Language". You don't want to miss this fun, hands-on training event - 10/24/2016!

## Preschool Course 2016

Working with preschool children is an exciting, unique experience! During the preschool years, children are busy developing skills, using language and expressing a deep interest in the world around them. This informative 12-hour training course for experienced preschool teachers promotes ways to interact and respond to preschool children through planned experiences that support individual development in a quality early care and education setting. (Alabama Pathways: CGD, LEE, DIV, HSN, ICFC, PPD; DHR: CD, QCCL, PDG, LD, CCPE, HSU; CDA: 1, 2, 3, 4, 6, 8; Intermediate Training Level; 12 hours / 1.2 CEUs; Age Group: Pre-school)

**#5477 September 8 & 15, 2016; 8:30am - 3:30pm**

## 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.

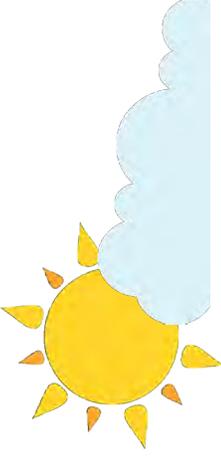
July 26th - July 28th (#5463)

8:30am - 12:30pm

Sept. 27th - Sept. 29th (#5484)

8:30am - 12:30pm



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30	31	 <h1 style="text-align: center;">August 2016</h1>		

\*All classes in Mobile County will be held at Gulf Regional Early Childhood Services unless noted otherwise.

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#5465 -Painting without Brushes; 6:30-8:30pm

#5466 -Transportation Safety; 6:00-8:00pm

#5467 -Meeting the Needs of Children At-risk; 6:00-8:00pm

#5468 -The Learning Power of Laughter; 10:00 am-12:00noon; Discovery Island Child Development Center; Orange Beach, Al

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#5469 -APT-Reuse, Recycle, Repurpose; 6:00-8:00pm

#5470 -Introduction to CDA; 5:00-7:00pm

#5471 -Snack Time=Learning Time; 8:30-10:30am  
#5472 -Behavior is Contagious;10:45am-12:45pm; Jackson City Hall, Jackson, Al

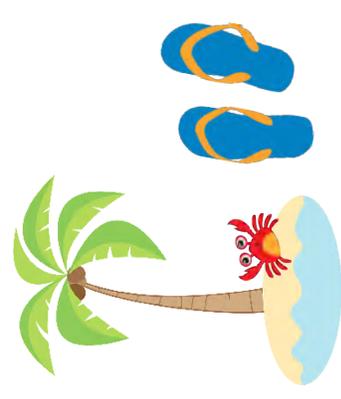
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#5473 -If You're Happy and You Know it: Helping Children Understand and Cope with Emotions in an Inclusive Classroom Setting; 6:00-8:00pm

#5474 -Reading Readiness: Building Children's Vocabulary; 5:00-7:00pm

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#5475 -Kids Garden: A Teacher's Guide to Sowing & Growing Fun; 6:30pm-8:30pm

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<h1>September 2016</h1>						
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
		<p>#5476 - Infant/Toddler Environment Rating Scale, Revised (ITERS-R); 6:00-8:00pm; Christ the King Child Development Center, Daphne, AL</p>		<p>#5477 - Preschool Course 2016 8:30am - 3:30 pm</p>		<p><i>Rosemary Wells special event! - Watch your inbox &amp; mailbox for more info!</i></p>
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
		<p>#5478 - Walk, Jump, and Run with Me; 6:30-8:30pm</p>		<p>#5477 - Preschool Course 2016 8:30am -3:30pm</p>		
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
		<p>#5479 - Preventing Child Abuse and Neglect of Infants and Toddlers in Early Childhood Settings; 6:30-8:30pm</p>	<p>#5480 - Using Assessment Data for Program Plannings; 6:00-8:00pm</p>	<p>#5481 - Arts, Crafts &amp; Creativity; 5:00-7:00 pm</p>		<p>#5482 - All by Myself; 8:30-10:30am #5483 - Behavior is Contagious; 10:45am-12:45pm; Washington County Public Library, Chatom, AL</p>
25	26	27	28	29		
		<p>#5484 - Getting Started (Day 1) 8:30am-12:30 pm (12-hour Course; Must attend All Sessions)</p> <p>#5485 - Walk, Jump, and Run with Me;; 6:00-8:00pm Christ the King Child Development Center, Daphne, AL</p>	<p>#5484 - Getting Started (Day 2) 8:30am-12:30 pm (12-hour Course; Must attend All Sessions)</p>	<p>#5484 - Getting Started (Day 3) 8:30am-12:30 pm (12-hour Course; Must attend All Sessions)</p>		

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**B** **Paint without Brushes** - Paint, paint and more paint! Young children love to paint and create creative masterpieces to display on the walls of their classrooms and at home. This workshop goes beyond the paint jar and brush to encourage caregiver and child the opportunity to explore the world of paint by using easy to get materials to create and plan stimulating and imaginative painting activities. (Phyllis Rizzo; **AL Pathways:** CGD, LEE; **DHR:**CD, QCCL; **CDA:** 2, 3, 8; Basic Training Level; 2 hours / 0.2 CEUs; Age Group: Preschool) **#5465 - 8/9/2016; 6:30pm - 8:30pm; GRECS Training Room, Mobile**

**I** **Preventing Child Abuse and Neglect of Infants and Toddlers in Early Childhood Settings**-This session is designed to help caregivers of infants and toddlers recognize, appropriately address, and present abuse and neglect of infants and toddlers in child care. (Joanne Langevin; **AL Pathways:** CGD, HSN, ICFC; **DHR:** CD, PDG; **CDA:** 1, 3, 7; Intermediate Training Level; 2 hours / 0.2 CEUs; Age Group: Infants, Toddlers, Preschool) **#5479 - 9/20/2016; 6:30pm - 8:30pm; GRECS Training Room, Mobile**

**I** **Promoting Optimal Social Emotional Development of Infants and Toddlers** - Have you ever experienced a child's tantrum or one child biting another? Learn what behaviors are typical for children of certain ages and how adults can respond in ways that diminish negative behaviors and prevent future occurrences. (Phyllis Rizzo; **AL Pathways:** CGD, COA, ICFC; **DHR:**CD, PDG; **CDA:** 3, 7, 8; Intermediate Training Level; 2 hours / 0.2 CEUs; Age Group: Infants, Toddlers, Preschool) **#5464 - 7/28/2016; 6:00pm - 8:00pm; GRECS Training Room, Mobile**

**A** **Reading Readiness: Building Children's Vocabulary**-Reading research continues to find that children's vocabulary knowledge is directly related to their reading comprehension. And, children's success in school and beyond depends greatly upon their ability to read with comprehension. This session will focus on specific strategies that teachers of young children can implement to increase children's vocabulary. (Catherine Kreger; **AL Pathways:** CGD, LEE; **DHR:**CD, LD; **CDA:** 2, 8; Advanced Training Level; 2 hours / 0.2 CEUs; Age Group: Preschool, School Age) **#5474 - 8/25/2016; 5:00pm - 7:00pm; GRECS Training Room, Mobile**

**I** **Snack Time=Learning Time** -This session gives ideas for providing nutritional snacks for children in care. Learn how snack time can be more than just a time to fill empty stomachs. It's a chance to sample healthy foods and learn new concepts such as measuring, counting, the scientific process, food safety, and more! (Lisa Kirkland; **AL Pathways:** CGD, HSN, ICFC; **DHR:** HSN, QCCL; **CDA:** 1, 2, 8; Intermediate Training Level; 2 hours / 0.2 CEUs; Age Group: Infants, Toddlers, Preschool) **#5461 - 7/23/2016; 8:30am - 10:30am; Jeff Davis Community College, Atmore & #5471 - 8/20/2016; 8:30am - 10:30am; Jackson City Hall, Jackson**

**A**  
**L**  
**L** **Transportation Safety** - In this session, participants will learn basic precautionary information and best practices for transporting children. (Phyllis Rizzo; **AL Pathways:** HSN, ICFC; **DHR:** HSN, QCCL; **CDA:** 1, 5; For All Levels; 2 hours / 0.2 CEUs; Age Group: All) **#5466 - 8/10/2016; 6:00pm - 8:00pm; GRECS Training Room, Mobile**

**I** **Using Assessment Data for Program Planning** -Look at me! What do you see? Explore ideas to develop an effective system to observe what children know and can do and document their growth and needs. Utilize this data to plan meaningful daily activities to support each child's development and learning in your classroom. Learn how your assessment data can help you plan using Goals and Objectives to create a quality learning environment for all ages and stages. (Pat Clark; **AL Pathways:** CGD, COA; **DHR:** CD, QCCL; **CDA:** 2, 7, 8; Intermediate Training Level; 2 hours / 0.2 CEUs; Age Group: Infants, Toddlers, Preschool) **#5460 - 7/21/2016; 6:00pm - 8:00pm; GRECS Training Room, Mobile & #5480 - 9/21/2016; 6:00pm - 8:00pm; GRECS Training Room**

**I** **Walk, Jump, and Run with Me** - In this fun, interactive session, you'll learn simple activities that are easily incorporated into your curriculum that promote children's health, well-being and physical development. (Phyllis Rizzo; **AL Pathways:** CGD, COA, ICFC; **DHR:**CD, PDG; **CDA:** 3, 7, 8; Intermediate Training Level; 2 hours / 0.2 CEUs; Age Group: Infants, Toddlers, Preschool) **#5478 - 9/13/2016; 6:30pm - 8:30pm; GRECS Training Room, Mobile & #5485 - 9/27/2016; 6:00pm-8:00pm; Christ the King Child Development Center, Daphne**



# Make the Most of Your Training Experience

**Arrive on time & stay for the entire class.**

**Be prepared!**

- Take a break before you come - you will get more out of the training if you're well-rested.
- Eat a snack before you come to class - it's hard to concentrate on an empty stomach.
- Bring writing tools and paper to take notes!

**Take care of your personal business before class begins!**

- Make transportation arrangements ahead of time.
- Check on your children.
- Visit the restroom.

## 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 (.1CEU/1 Hour)
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

**Let us have your full attention!**

- Silence your cell phone.
- Focus on the trainer.
- Reserve your conversations for group discussion times.

**Try a new idea when you get back to your classroom - it will be a rewarding experience for you & the children.**

**Pat yourself on the back - you are investing in yourself and growing professionally!**



## Online Training Courses - \$11 each!

Each month, we feature an online training course & offer it to you for only \$11!

### Stress in Young Children (.1CEU/1Hour)

This course defines types and common causes of childhood stress. It also describes symptoms of stress and discusses coping strategies for reducing stress in young children.

(DHR: PDG, HSU; Pathways: HSN, COA; CDA: 1, 3)

### Learning Styles (.1CEU/1Hour)

This course familiarizes students with the major learning styles. It discusses how to determine children's learning styles and how to tailor activities to different learning styles.

(DHR: QCCL, CD; Pathways: CGD, LEE; CDA: 2, 8)

### Outdoor Play Safety (.1CEU/1Hour)

This course familiarizes students with age-appropriate play area design, fall surfacing guidelines, play area maintenance, and guidelines and techniques for properly supervising children in play areas.

(DHR: HSU, CD; Pathways: CGD, HSN; CDA: 1)

**To register for these special online training courses, contact Robert Sheldt (rsheldt@grecs.org).**

**Ask about our other online courses!**



## Technology and Interactive Media in Early Childhood Programs

Advances in technology and interactive media rapidly are transforming how we communicate and use information in our homes, offices, and early childhood settings. This position statement offers guidance—based on research-based knowledge of how young children grow and learn—on both the opportunities and the challenges of the use of technology and interactive media. The statement focuses on their use in early childhood programs—schools, centers, family child care—serving children from birth through age 8.

Here are some key messages from the National Association for the Education of Young Children's official statement on the use of technology and interactive media in early childhood programs.

- When used intentionally and appropriately, technology and interactive media are effective tools to support learning and development.
- Intentional use requires early childhood teachers and administrators to have information and resources regarding the nature of these tools and the implications of their use with children.
- Limitations on the use of technology and media are important.
- Special considerations must be given to the use of technology with infants and toddlers.
- Attention to digital citizenship and equitable access is essential.
- Ongoing research and professional development are needed.

Read the details and learn more about this important topic at [www.naeyc.org](http://www.naeyc.org)!



## We're OPEN on Saturdays!

Gulf Regional Early Childhood Services' Lending Library and Resource Place will be open on the 1st Saturday of each month from 9:00am - 12:00pm - **By Appointment Only.**

Scheduling an appointment is easy! Simply call or email Joanne Langevin before the close of business on the first Friday of each month. (251-473-1060 ext 112; [jlangevin@grecs.org](mailto:jlangevin@grecs.org))



*We are celebrating over 20 years of collaboration with the Children's Trust Fund supported through the Department of Child Abuse and Neglect 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.*



## CPR & First Aid Training on Saturdays!

Our friends at Complete Safety Works are offering Heart Saver First Aid and Adult, Child & Infant CPR/AED training on the second Saturday of every month!

**You must register through and make payment to Complete Safety Works for this important training session.**

Heart Saver First Aid / Adult, Child & Infant CPR / AED  
(First Aid - \$35; CPR - \$35; Both First Aid & CPR - \$45)

**Call 479-6788 for more info or registration.**

VISIT US  
ON THE WEB!  
[www.grecs.org](http://www.grecs.org)



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**

GRECS and Early Head Start offices are **CLOSED** on Monday, July 4th in observance of Independence Day

GRECS and Early Head Start offices are **CLOSED** on Monday, September 5th in observance of Labor Day



Connect with us  
on social media!

Gulf Regional Childcare Management Agency, Inc.  
3100 Cottage Hill Road, Building 4, Suite 400, Mobile, AL 36606  
Phone: 251-473-1060; Fax: 251-473-1084

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