



Early Learning News

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



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Instead of **DISCIPLINE** Use *Guidance*

An excerpt from the NAEYC website. Written by Dan Gartrell, EdD., Summer 2021

Children are going to have disagreements...
sometimes dramatic ones

They really don't "know better" because they haven't learned the "better" yet. After all, a 4-year-old has only 48 months of on-the-ground experience! It's our job to teach children positive lessons from their mistakes—and to make sure we don't hold their mistakes against them.

**Conventional discipline too easily
slides into punishment.**

For example, if we embarrass children by singling them out as part of our discipline strategy, this is punishment. Punishment makes young children feel stressed, hurt, rejected, and angry; these feelings make it harder for children to learn emotional and social skills.

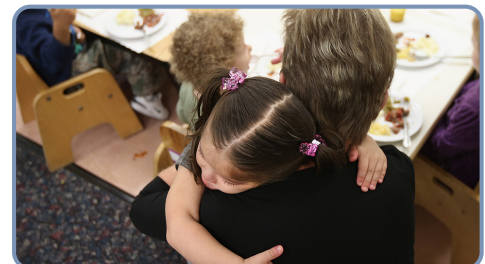
**When we punish children, we are
actually making life more difficult for:**

- the child, who feels rejected and unworthy and becomes more challenged in learning social skills
- other children, who worry for themselves and the punished child
- adults, who are not being the leaders they want to be

Using Guidance

Guidance is about building an encouraging setting for every person in the group. It means helping young children understand they can learn from their mistakes, and it starts with showing them how. To give this help successfully, we need to build relationships with every child—especially with the children we find difficult to connect with and understand. We build these relationships from day one, outside of conflict situations. It is only when children know and trust us in day-to-day interactions that they will listen to us when conflicts happen (after we have helped everyone calm down).

To reach a 
child's mind...
a teacher
must reach
his/her
heart.
- Dan Gartrell



We all know that we shouldn't punish young children when they exhibit challenging behaviors. The children in our preschool classrooms are just beginning to learn the complex skills of getting along with others. These are skills that we humans work on our entire lives.

For the full article visit: www.NAEYC.org.

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Simplicity By Design

Using a Wabi Sabi Lens for Classroom Design and Décor

Simplicity and Space

Traditional Japanese design has long been associated with a simple, uncluttered, minimalist aesthetic. Clear spaces, natural substances, and a limited number of carefully chosen and arranged items make up the hallmark of the wabi sabiesque living environment.

Using simplicity as one of the key principles for organizing the environment brings many benefits to children's well-being and development.

Many of these design principles chime with the pedagogical philosophy underlying Maria Montessori's "prepared environment". Through her empirical studies of young children, Montessori observed that "interest and concentration arise specifically from the elimination of what is confusing and superfluous" (Montessori, 1982).

In line with this observation, Montessori decreed that there should only be one of each piece of equipment in a Montessori Children's House, and that every resource should be displayed to its best advantage, in order to attract the child's attention. We have no way of ascertaining whether Montessori knew about wabi sabi, but the pedagogy underlying many of her methods is strikingly reminiscent of its philosophy.

Using "simplicity" as one of the key principles for organizing the early years setting can be surprisingly straightforward to put into practice, and it also brings many benefits to children's well-being and development.

- Freeing up as much clear space as possible and decorating it with neutral colors creates a calming backdrop for the busy life of the setting
- Simplifying the number of resources one offers enables children to see more easily what is available to them
- A calm, spacious environment is less overwhelming and confusing than a busy, cluttered setting
- The less "stuff" you have out, the easier it is to create eye-catching arrangements and display resources to their best advantage
- Keeping back resources allows you to change what you make available, enabling you to spark fresh interest and introduce new challenges
- It is easier to clean a simple, uncluttered environment than an overfilled space—of particular importance during a global pandemic!

Treasured Belongings

Reframing our attitude to "things" makes a useful contribution to the de-cluttering process. In her definitive book on wabi sabi for the Western readership, Beth Kempton suggests that we should stop regarding open shelves as storage, and start seeing them instead as the home for treasures (Kempton, 2018).

The wabi sabi tradition of seeing beauty in the mundane and every day is also important. Our treasures do not have to be rare or expensive, especially if they are displayed with care. Kempton describes hanging her linen apron on a hook in her kitchen, and so making this everyday object a thing of beauty (Kempton, 2018). In the environment of the early years setting, it's surprising how shifting the position of a seldom-used resource, or grouping it with other objects can spark new interest among the children.

Treasures do not need to be rare or expensive, especially if they are displayed with care.



Reprinted and adapted with permission from Community Playthings

For the full article visit:
www.communityplaythings.com

Looking for DHR CCDF Training Areas? We've Got you Covered!

Prevention and Control of Infectious Diseases including
Immunizations, A Prevention of and Response to Emergencies
Due to Food and Allergic Reactions.

October 20, 2021 9:00a-11:00a

CCDF: 1, 3 | 2 Hours



Building and Physical Premises Safety, Including Identifying Electrical Hazards,
Bodies of Water, and Vehicular Traffic/ Handling and Storage of Hazardous
Materials, including Correct Disposal of Bio-Contaminants

November 2, 2021 9:00a-11:00a

CCDF: 5, 8 | 2 Hours



Appropriate Pre-Cautions in Transporting Children and Emergency
Preparedness and Response Planning for Natural or Man-Caused Events

December 1, 2021 9:00a-11:00a

CCDF: 7, 9 | 2 Hours



Prevention of Shaken Baby Syndrome and Abusive Head Trauma
and Sudden Infant Death Syndrome (SIDS) Prevention and
Use of Safe Sleep Practices

October 27, 2021 8:30a-10:30a

CCDF: 2, 6 | 2 Hours



Recognizing and Reporting Child Abuse and Neglect and A
Prevention of and Response to Emergencies Due to Food
and Allergic Reactions.

November 23, 2021 9:00a-11:00a

CCDF: 4, 11 | 2 Hours

Alabama Early Learning Guidelines (AELG)

Children grow, develop, and learn throughout their lives. Alabama's Early Learning Guidelines are presented as a guide of building blocks that are important to support early care and to educate providers in preparing each child for future success in school and life. This basic-level, 18-hour course is broken down into 9, two-hour sessions. After completing the 18-hour course, you will receive an Alabama Early Learning Guidelines Credential from The Department of Human Resources.

You must attend Session 1: Orientation before taking any other session.

(AELG) Session 1- Orientation: October 13, 2021 | 6:00pm-8:00pm

(AELG) Session 2- Observation: October 20, 2021 | 6:00pm-8:00pm

(AELG) Session 3- The Role of Parent and Caregiver: October 27, 2021 | 6:00pm-8:00pm

(AELG) Session 4- Self-Concept and Emotional Development: November 3, 2021 | 6:00pm-8:00pm

(AELG) Session 5- Social Development: November 10, 2021 | 6:00pm-8:00pm

(AELG) Session 6- Language and Literacy: November 17, 2021 | 6:00pm-8:00pm

(AELG) Session 7- Physical Development: December 1, 2021 | 6:00pm-8:00pm

(AELG) Session 8- Cognitive Development: December 8, 2021 | 4:00pm-6:00pm

(AELG) Session 9- Putting it All Together: December 8, 2021 | 6:00pm-8:00pm





Pass
Along to
Parents

Guiding Your Child's Behavior

Your preschooler is learning positive behaviors just like she's learning new words and skills. It's important that you stay calm, patient, and consistent as you help your child understand your expectations.

Positive Guidance Examples

What is positive guidance?

It is when we look at each situation through the lens of child development and guiding children's behavior. By reframing the situation we can move beyond a reaction and towards a more effective response. Rather than expecting an immediate change in your child's behavior, think about behavior as a developmental process that takes time to master.

Let's consider how positive guidance might look as children grow and learn over time.

Older Infant

"Every time I turn around she is in a kitchen cupboard! It's so frustrating!"

Respond by giving infants opportunities to explore in a safe environment: Instead of locking up all of the kitchen cupboards with safety locks, open one and encourage her to explore it. Fill it with plastic storage containers, sealed packages of pasta that rattle when shaken or mixing bowls and spoons. She will quickly grow out of the "dump and fill" stage. Reframe the situation so that it works for both of you.

Toddler

"He makes me so angry! No matter how much I complain, he splashes in the sink every time he is in the bathroom. Why can't he just listen?"

Respond by setting limits: As a family, set very clear limits for behaviors that are important to you and reinforce them consistently. Perhaps no drinks are allowed in the living room or no one jumps off the couch. The specific rules don't matter, just determine what they are and stick to them.

Respond with redirection: This technique is especially effective with toddlers because it channels their energy into something positive. Instead of just saying, "Don't splash!" You could say, "Let's find a better place for you to play with the water." Set aside some dishes for him to wash. Fill up the sink with bubbles, lay out a few towels and put him to work. Sure, it may take longer to complete your chores, but won't it be fun to have a helper? The child who keeps jumping off the couch might need a special place where jumping is allowed.

Your child is very upset and having a temper tantrum.

Try This:

- Speak quietly and bend down to your child's level.
- Encourage your child to take deep breaths; you can do them together.
- Think about what might be connected to the tantrum. Is he hungry or tired, or does he need to go to the bathroom? Address those needs first.
- Develop logical consequences related to the undesired behavior and follow through on using them. ("If you can't wait for your turn on the swings, we'll go over to the slides.")

When your child is calm and relaxed, put some things in place to encourage positive behavior.

Try This:

- Talk about family rules and expectations. Your child can help come up with rules and the consequences for not following them.
- Reinforce positive behaviors ("You're using your words to explain what you want!").
- Help children with behaviors they're struggling to learn, such as waiting for their turn. Practice them together.
- Be supportive by modeling positive behaviors.

Written by Keri Giordano. Keri Giordano is an assistant professor at Kean University, New Jersey. She has been in the field of early childhood for 26 years and specializes in working with children with challenging behaviors and their teachers and families.

Tantrums are a sign that a child's body has shifted into the "fight or flight" pathway of the nervous system. The fight or flight pathways launches behaviors that are involuntary, instinctual survival based, ie; NOT "on purpose".

~ Dr. Mona Delahooke



Training classes are listed in date order.

OCTOBER TRAINING 2021

Online Webinar: I Did It! Let's Talk Potty Training and Toddler Development (APT)

ALL Counties, Webinar

Presenter: APT Staff

Age Group: Infants, Toddlers

October 7, 2021; 6:00pm - 8:00pm

Basic Training Level

2 hours / 2 Contact Hours

CCDF: 13, 15, 20

Registration Ends 10/7/21

AL Pathways: CGD, ICFC

CDA: 2, 3, 4

DHR: CD

This training will explore the physical, behavioral, and mental readiness signs to look for to have potty training success! We will discuss how to help the child, how to communicate with parents and tips to work together as a team as you tackle potty training!

Introduction to the Child Development Associate Credential (CDA)

GRECS Training Room, Mobile

Presenter: LaDanika York

Age Group: ALL

October 11, 2021; 6:00pm - 8:00pm

Basic Training Level

2 hours / 0.2 CEUs

CCDF: 20

Registration Ends 10/4/21

AL Pathways: PPD

CDA: 6

DHR: QCCL, CCPF

This introduction is designed for any professional early child care educator considering applying for the CDA Credential. This session will answer the most frequently asked questions, and address eligibility requirements and questions about applying. Participants will gain a solid sense of the credentialing process.

Preparing for Emergencies in the Child Care Setting

GRECS Training Room, Mobile

Presenter: Desira Keith

Age Group: All

October 12, 2021; 6:00pm - 8:00pm

Basic Training Level

2 hours / 0.2 CEUs

CCDF: 7

Registration Ends 10/5/21

AL Pathways: HSN

CDA: 1, 5

DHR: HSUP

Experiences such as tornadoes, hurricanes, and snow storms are emergencies that can be scary for a young child. This training will provide participants with ways to prepare for and recover from emergencies by identifying emergency helpers and creating an emergency plan to help children feel safe and secure.

Director's Forum - Strengthening Business Practices: Building a Budget

GRECS Training Room, Mobile

Presenter: Ann Sands/Vicki Giles

Age Group: ALL

October 13, 2021; 9:00am - 12:00pm

Intermediate Training Level

3 hours / 0.3 CEUs

CCDF: 18, 20

Registration Ends 10/6/21

AL Pathways: MA, PPD

CDA: 1, 5, 6

DHR: AM, PDG

The purpose of this training is to strengthen child care providers' foundational knowledge of fiscal terms, concepts, and practices. It encourages providers to realize the importance of fiscal planning to the sustainability of their business operations.

Alabama Early Learning Guidelines (AELG) Session 1- Orientation

GRECS Training Room, Mobile

Presenter: GRECS Staff

Age Group: Infants, Toddlers, Preschool

October 13, 2021; 6:00pm - 8:00pm

Basic Training Level

2 hours / 0.2 CEUs

CCDF: 13, 17, 20

Registration Ends 10/6/21

AL Pathways: CGD

CDA: 8

DHR: CD

This basic-level, 18-hour course is broken down into 9, two-hour sessions. After completing the 18-hour course, you will receive an Alabama Early Learning Guidelines Credential from The Department of Human Resources **You must attend Session 1: Orientation before taking any other session.**

Fall Into Fun!

GRECS Training Room, Mobile

Presenter: Vicki Giles

Age Group: Preschool, School-Age

October 14, 2021; 6:00pm - 8:00pm

Basic Training Level

2 hours / 0.2 CEUs

CCDF: 13, 19

Registration Ends 10/7/21

AL Pathways: CGD, LEE

CDA: 2, 8

DHR: CD, LD

Fall into fun with some hands-on preschool explorations into Autumn. We'll head outside to find animal homes and look for signs of Fall. We'll get a little messy with process art and sensory play.

Being Strategic in the Midst of Conflict: Conflict Resolution and Bullying Prevention

GRECS Training Room, Mobile

Presenter: Sandy Resa and Michelle Denney

Age Group: Preschool, School-Age

October 18, 2021; 6:00pm - 8:00pm

Basic Training Level

2 hours / 0.2 CEUs

CCDF: 13, 15, 19

Registration Ends 10/11/21

AL Pathways: ICFC

CDA: 1, 3

DHR: CD, PDG

This session will provide tools and strategies that youth and staff can use when conflicts arise. We will share activity ideas that promote cooperation and respect to help youth interact in positive ways. We will also talk about creating anti-bullying policies and MORE!

Quality Early Childhood Environments Session 1: Language, Literacy, and Interactions

GRECS Training Room, Mobile

Presenter: Vicki Giles and Virginia Mostellar **Age Group:** Infant, Toddler, Preschool

October 19, 2021; 6:00pm - 8:00pm

Intermediate Training Level

2 hours / 0.2 CEUs

CCDF: 17, 20

Registration Ends 10/12/21

AL Pathways: CGD, ICFC

CDA: 1, 2, 3, 8

DHR: QCCL, LD

Session 1 in the Quality Early Childhood Environments Series. In this session, we'll explore best practices in the areas of language development, literature activities, and interpersonal interactions.

Prevention and Control of Infectious Diseases and Response to Emergencies Due to Food and Allergic Reactions

GRECS Training Room, Mobile

Presenter: Pamela Senters, RNC **Age Group:** ALL

October 20, 2021; 9:00am - 11:00am

Basic Training Level

2 hours / 2 Contact Hours

CCDF: 1, 3, 4

Registration Ends 10/13/21

AL Pathways: HSN

CDA: 1

DHR: HSUP

In this session, Participants will define common ways germs are spread in child care centers as well as identify situations which may require administration of medications in the child care setting and list the symptoms of allergies. Participants will receive 1 hour in each of the CCDF categories listed.

Alabama Early Learning Guidelines (AELG) Session 2: Observation

GRECS Training Room, Mobile

Presenter: GRECS Staff

Age Group: Infants, Toddlers, Preschool

October 20, 2021; 6:00pm - 8:00pm

Basic Training Level

2 hours / 0.2 CEUs

CCDF: 13, 17, 18, 20

Registration Ends 10/13/21

AL Pathways: CGD, COA

CDA: 7, 8

DHR: CD

This basic-level, 18-hour course is broken down into 9, two-hour sessions. After completing the 18-hour course, you will receive an Alabama Early Learning Guidelines Credential from The Department of Human Resources **You must attend Session 1: Orientation before taking any other session.**

Toddlers and Challenging Behaviors: Why They Do It and How To Respond (APT)

GRECS Training Room, Mobile

Presenter: Victoria Bolton

Age Group: Infants, Toddler

October 21, 2021; 6:00pm - 8:00pm

Basic Training Level

2 hours / 0.2 CEUs

CCDF: 15, 20

Registration Ends 10/14/21

AL Pathways: CGD, LEE

CDA: 1, 3, 5, 8

DHR: PDG, CD

This training will provide information on the meaning behind challenging behaviors and offer suggestions to help care givers set age-appropriate limits.

Science Made Simple

David Burt Agricultural Center, Evergreen

Presenter: Theresa Patterson

Age Group: Preschool

October 21, 2021; 5:30pm - 7:30pm

Basic Training Level

2 hours / 0.2 CEUs

CCDF: 13, 19

Registration Ends 10/14/21

AL Pathways: CGD, LEE

CDA: 1, 2, 8

DHR: CD, LD

Participants will construct activities to peak the interest of young audiences in all early learning settings. The "Growing up Wild" curriculum demonstrates early childhood learning through several objectives by using outdoor and nature themes in art, music, science and social studies and play.

Opening A Family Childcare Home

GRECS Training Room, Mobile

Presenter: Facethia Hogue

Age Group: ALL

October 23, 2021; 9:00am - 11:00am

Basic Training Level

2 hours / 0.2 CEUs

CCDF: 19, 20

Registration Ends 10/16/21

AL Pathways: ICFC, MA

CDA: 5, 6

DHR: QCCL, AM

Participants will discuss key factors in managing a family child care home and what it takes to get started as a new business owner.

Creating Zones: Ways to Reduce Behavior Problems

GRECS Training Room, Mobile

Presenter: Desira Keith

Age Group: ALL

October 26, 2021; 6:00pm - 8:00pm

Basic Training Level

2 hours / 0.2 CEUs

CCDF: 15, 20

Registration Ends 10/19/21

AL Pathways: CGD, LEE

CDA: 1, 2, 8

DHR: CD, PDG

Participants will discuss how the physical environment can support and promote children's development while decreasing behavior issues.

Prevention of Shaken Baby Syndrome, Abusive Head Trauma, and SIDS. The Use of Safe Sleep Practices

Presenter: Pamela Senters, RNC **Age Group:** ALL
Basic Training Level **2 hours / 2 Contact Hours** **CCDF:** 2, 6
AL Pathways: HSN **CDA:** 1 **DHR:** HSUP

GRECS Training Room, Mobile
October 27, 2021; 8:30am - 10:30am
Registration Ends 10/20/21

This session will provide participants with essential information on Shaken Baby Syndrome and Abusive Head Trauma in a child care setting while also recognizing risks factors and prevention of Sudden Infant Death Syndrome in a day care or home day care setting, with emphasis on safe sleep.

Alabama Early Learning Guidelines (AELG) Session 3- The Role of Parent and Caregiver

GRECS Training Room, Mobile

Presenter: GRECS Staff **Age Group:** Infants, Toddlers, Preschool
Basic Training Level **2 hours / 0.2 CEUs** **CCDF:** 16, 20
AL Pathways: ICFC, PPD **CDA:** 4, 8 **DHR:** CCPF, QCCL

October 27, 2021; 6:00pm - 8:00pm
Registration Ends 10/20/21

This basic-level, 18-hour course is broken down into 9, two-hour sessions. After completing the 18-hour course, you will receive an Alabama Early Learning Guidelines Credential from The Department of Human Resources **You must attend Session 1: Orientation before taking any other session.**

Communicating Effectively With Parents

GRECS Training Room, Mobile

Presenter: LaDanika York **Age Group:** ALL
Basic Training Level **2 hours / 0.2 CEUs** **CCDF:** 16
AL Pathways: PPD, ICFC **CDA:** 4, 5, 6 **DHR:** CCPF

October 28, 2021; 6:00pm - 8:00pm
Registration Ends 10/21/21

Learn how to successfully communicate with parents! This training will provide participants with communication tools and strategies.

Free Public Health and Safety: First Aid and CPR Training

GRECS Training Room, Mobile

Presenter: Pamela Senters, RNC **Age Group:** ALL
Basic Training Level **4 hours** **CCDF:** 10
AL Pathways: HSN **CDA:** 1 **DHR:** HSUP

October 29, 2021; 8:00am - 12:00pm
Registration Ends 10/22/21

Training is to provide participants with the practice and assimilation of skills to perform CPR and Basic First-aid with a certification from The Emergency Care and Safety Institute (ECSI).

Training classes are listed in date order.

NOVEMBER TRAINING 2021

Building and Physical Premises Safety/ Handling and Storage of Hazardous Materials

GRECS Training Room, Mobile

Presenter: Pamela Senters, RNC **Age Group:** ALL
Basic Training Level **2 hours / 2 Contact Hours** **CCDF:** 5, 8
AL Pathways: HSN **CDA:** 1 **DHR:** HSUP

November 2, 2021; 9:00am - 11:00am
Registration Ends 10/26/21

Participants will discuss essential information on ways to identify potential risks and promote building and physical premises safety in the child care setting including Electrical Hazards, Bodies of Water, Vehicular Traffic, Playground Safety, and Sun Safety. Participants will also review essential information on handling and storing hazardous materials in the child care setting.

Who is Taking Care of You? (APT)

GRECS Training Room, Mobile

Presenter: Kim Johnson **Age Group:** ALL
Basic Training Level **2 hours / 0.2 CEUs** **CCDF:** 15
AL Pathways: PPD **CDA:** 1, 6 **DHR:** CCPF, QCCL

November 2, 2021; 6:00pm - 8:00pm
Registration Ends 10/26/21

Self-care is not selfish. You can't take care of others unless you take care of you. It's about making choices on how to most effectively spend your time and energy. We will explore what you can do to take care of yourself, recognize your limits, and accept yourself.

Alabama Early Learning Guidelines (AELG) Session 4- Self Concept and Emotional Dev.

GRECS Training Room, Mobile

Presenter: GRECS Staff **Age Group:** Infants, Toddlers, Preschool
Basic Training Level **2 hours / 0.2 CEUs** **CCDF:** 13, 15, 17, 20
AL Pathways: CGD, DIV **CDA:** 3, 8 **DHR:** CD, PDG

November 3, 2021; 6:00pm - 8:00pm
Registration Ends 10/27/21

This basic-level, 18-hour course is broken down into 9, two-hour sessions. After completing the 18-hour course, you will receive an Alabama Early Learning Guidelines Credential from The Department of Human Resources **You must attend Session 1: Orientation before taking any other session.**

Moving On: Transitioning from the Infant Room to the Toddler Room

GRECS Training Room, Mobile

Presenter: Victoria Bolton

Age Group: Infants, Toddler

November 4, 2021; 6:00pm - 8:00pm

Basic Training Level

2 hours / 0.2 CEUs

CCDF: 13, 16, 20

Registration Ends 10/28/21

AL Pathways: ICFC, CGD, LEE

CDA: 1, 2, 3, 4, 6

DHR: QCCL, CCPF, CD

When you think about an infant room, it is filled with sleeping babies, rocking chairs, soft music and lighting, and babies on mats playing. Now peek next door into the toddler room. It's busy, bustling and very active. Toddlers are in constant motion. This training will offer suggestions and insights into how to make this transition go as smoothly as possible.

Positive Guidance for Infants, Toddlers and Preschoolers

GRECS Training Room, Mobile

Presenter: Abigail Baxter

Age Group: Infant, Toddler, Preschool

November 8, 2021; 6:00pm - 8:00pm

Intermediate Training Level

2 hours / 0.2 CEUs

CCDF: 13, 15

Registration Ends 11/1/21

AL Pathways: CGD, ICFC

CDA: 2, 3, 8

DHR: CD, PDG

Conflicts between young children are all too common. Learn some easy, effective strategies for responding to children's behavior and helping children learn important skills for resolving their own conflicts.

Getting Started 2021

GRECS Training Room, Mobile

Presenter: GRECS Staff

Age Group: ALL

November 9-11, 2021; 8:30am - 12:30pm

Basic Training Level

12 hours / 1.2 CEUs

CCDF: 5, 7, 13, 15, 20

Registration Ends 11/2/21

AL Pathways: CGD, ICFC, LEE, HSN, PPD

CDA: 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 8

DHR: HSUP, CD, CCPF, LD, QCCL, PDG

This basic-level, 12-hour course is broken down into (3), four-hour segments. The training you receive will meet Alabama Department of Human Resources' 12-hour training requirement to work in child care. **You must attend all sessions and will receive credit in all DHR categories.**

Free Public Health and Safety: First Aid and CPR Training

GRECS Training Room, Mobile

Presenter: Pamela Senters, RNC

Age Group: ALL

November 9, 2021; 12:00pm - 4:30pm

Basic Training Level

4 hours

CCDF: 10

Registration Ends 11/2/21

AL Pathways: HSN

CDA: 1

DHR: HSUP

Training is to provide participants with the practice and assimilation of skills to perform CPR and Basic First-aid with a certification from The Emergency Care and Safety Institute (ECSI).

Addressing Homelessness: The Role of the Early Childhood Educator

GRECS Training Room, Mobile

Presenter: Virginia Mostellar

Age Group: ALL

November 9, 2021; 6:00pm - 8:00pm

Basic Training Level

2 hours / 0.2 CEUs

CCDF: 12

Registration Ends 11/2/21

AL Pathways: CGD, ICFC

CDA: 2, 4

DHR: CD, CCPF

This training will help participants gain a better understanding of the definition of homelessness according to the McKinney-Vento Act while becoming familiar with the often unseen but growing prevalence of homelessness in Alabama.

Alabama Early Learning Guidelines (AELG) Session 5 - Social Development

GRECS Training Room, Mobile

Presenter: GRECS Staff

Age Group: Infants, Toddlers, Preschool

November 10, 2021; 6:00pm - 8:00pm

Basic Training Level

2 hours / 0.2 CEUs

CCDF: 15, 17, 20

Registration Ends 11/3/21

AL Pathways: CGD

CDA: 3, 8

DHR: CD, PDG

This basic-level, 18-hour course is broken down into 9, two-hour sessions. After completing the 18-hour course, you will receive an Alabama Early Learning Guidelines Credential from The Department of Human Resources **You must attend Session 1: Orientation before taking any other session.**

Did You Hear What I Said? How to Communicate Effectively (APT)

GRECS Training Room, Mobile

Presenter: Desira Keith

Age Group: Toddler, Preschool

November 11, 2021; 6:00pm - 8:00pm

Basic Training Level

2 hours / 0.2 CEUs

CCDF: 15, 20

Registration Ends 11/4/21

AL Pathways: PPD, ICFC

CDA: 4, 6

DHR: CCPF, QCCL

Participants will discover ways to communicate effectively and respectfully in order to better navigate challenging conversations, explore realistic ways of managing expectations, and examine the ways in which professional relationships can be positively promoted and maintained in the child care setting.



October
November
December
2021

Calendar of Events

A Pull-Out Section for Posting & Copying!



Getting Started 2021

We will introduce you to the foundational information you need to provide safe environments, nurturing interactions & developmentally appropriate experiences for the children in your care. This basic-level, 12-hour course is broken down into (3), four-hour segments. The training you receive will meet Alabama Department of Human Resources' 12-hour training requirement to work in child care. **You must attend all sessions and will receive credit in all DHR categories.** (Pre-senior: GRECS Staff; DHR: CD, CCPE, LD, QCCL, PDG, HSUP; Alabama Pathways: CGD, ICFC, LEE, HSN, PPD; CDA: 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 8; CCDE: 5, 7, 13, 15, 20; Basic Training Level; 12 hours/1.2 CEUs; Appropriate for ALL Age Groups)

November 9, 10, 11, 2021
8:30am-12:30pm
GRECS Training Room

Webinars Offered for October, November, December 2021

These webinars are offered through ZOOM.us and you will be able to register for these sessions through our online portal on our website at www.grecs.org. All webinars are offered for all counties and centers who are interested and are free of charge! Contact hours will be offered for each session and can be found in your student profile upon completion!

Check out our YOUTUBE page to learn how to register today!

October 7 - I Did It! Let's Talk Potty Training and Toddler Development (APT); 6:00p-8:00p; All Counties; Webinar

November 13 - The Tale of Books: How to Build Your Classroom Library; 9:00a-11:00a; All Counties; Webinar

December 2 - Chores Are Choices: We All Can Be Helpers (APT); 6:00pm-8:00pm; All Counties; Webinar

webinars will be offered throughout the quarter! Be sure to regularly check our website and social media pages for updates!

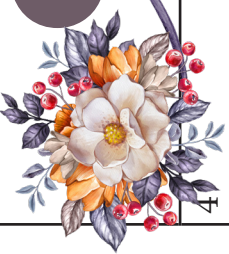


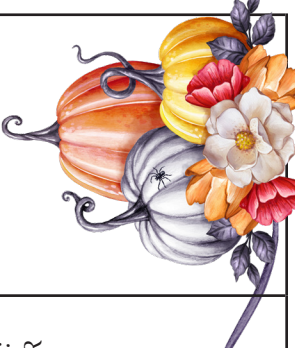
Quality Early Childhood Environments Series


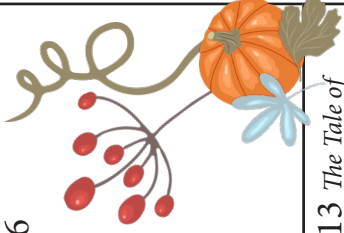
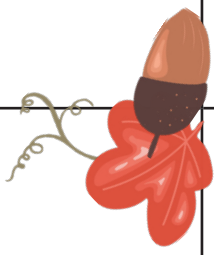
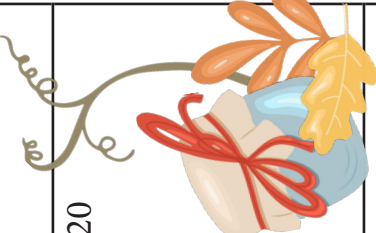

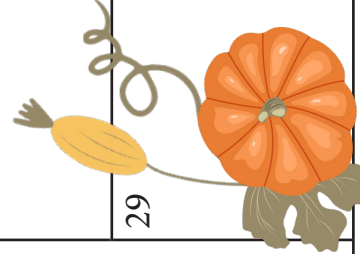
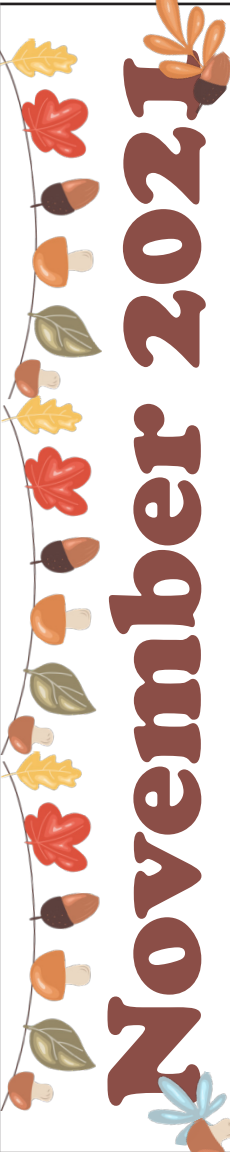
In each session, we'll explore best practices for infant, toddler, and preschool classrooms.

Session 1: Language, Literacy, and Interactions
Session 2: Rooms and Routines
Session 3: Learning Activities

Presenting: Vicki Giles and Virginia Mostellar

Session 1: October 19, 2021
Session 2: November 16, 2021
Session 3: December 7, 2021
6:00pm-8:00pm
GRECS Training Room

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<p>READ CAREFULLY - IMPORTANT!</p> <p>Beginning October 2017, GRECS will be using an online service, ABC SignUp, for training class registrations. You will need to set up a free account with a valid e-mail address before registering. AN E-MAIL ADDRESS CAN ONLY BE USED FOR ONE PERSON.</p> <p>www.grecs.org</p> <p>Gulf Regional Early Childhood Services</p> <p>3100 Cottage Hill Rd., Building 4, Suite 400 Mobile, AL 36606; 251-473-1060 www.grecs.org otherwise.</p> <p><i>*All classes in Mobile County will be held at Gulf Regional Early Childhood Services unless noted otherwise.</i></p>	<p>4 </p>	<p>5 </p>	<p>6</p>	<p>7 <i>I Did It! Let's Talk Potty Training and Toddler Development (APT); 6:00pm-8:00pm; All Counties; Webinar</i></p>	<p>8</p>	<p>9 </p>
	<p>11 <i>Introduction to the Child Development Associate Credential (CDA); 6:00p-8:00p; Mobile</i></p>	<p>12 <i>Preparing for Emergencies in the Child Care Setting; 6:00p-8:00p; Mobile</i></p>	<p>13 <i>Director's Forum – Strengthening Business Practices; Building a Budget; 9:00a-12:00p; Mobile</i> <i>Alabama Early Learning Guidelines (AELG) Session 1 – Orientation; 6:00pm-8:00pm; Mobile</i></p>	<p>14 <i>Fall Into Fun!; 6:00pm-8:00pm; Mobile</i></p>	<p>15</p>	<p>16</p>
	<p>18 <i>Being Strategic in the Midst of Conflict: Conflict Resolution and Bullying Prevention; 6:00pm-8:00pm; Mobile</i></p>	<p>19 <i>Quality Early Childhood Environments Session 1: Language Literacy and Interactions; 6:00pm-8:00pm; Mobile</i></p>	<p>20 <i>Prevention and Control of Infectious Diseases and Response to Emergencies Due to Food and Allergic Reactions; 9:00a-11:00a; Mobile</i> <i>(AELG) Session 2; 6:00pm-8:00pm; Mobile</i></p>	<p>21 <i>Toddlers and Challenging Behaviors: Why They Do It and How To Respond (APT); 6:00p-8:00p; Mobile</i> <i>Science Made Simple; 5:30pm-7:30pm; David Burt Center, Evergreen</i></p>	<p>22</p>	<p>23 <i>Opening A Family Childcare Home 9:00a-11:00a; Mobile</i></p>
	<p>25</p>	<p>26 <i>Creating Zones: Ways to Reduce Behavior Problems; 6:00pm-8:00pm; Mobile</i></p>	<p>27 <i>Prevention of Shaken Baby Syndrome and Abusive Head Trauma and Sudden Infant Death Syndrome (SIDS) Prevention and Use of Safe Sleep Practices; 8:30a-10:30a; Mobile</i> <i>(AELG) Session 3; 6:00pm-8:00pm; Mobile</i></p>	<p>28 <i>Communicating Effectively with Parents; 6:00p-8:00p; Mobile</i></p>	<p>29 <i>Free Public Health and Safety: First-Aid and CPR Training; 8:00a-12:00p; Mobile</i></p>	<p>30 </p>

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<div>  <p>READ CAREFULLY - IMPORTANT!</p> <p>Beginning October 2017, GRECS will be using an online service, ABC SignUp, for training class registrations. You will need to set up a free account with a valid e-mail address before registering. AN E-MAIL ADDRESS CAN ONLY BE USED FOR ONE PERSON.</p> <p>www.grecs.org</p> </div>	1	2 Building and Physical Premises Safety/ Handling and Storage of Hazardous Materials; 9:00a-11:00a; Mobile Who Is Taking Care of You? (APT); 6:00p-8:00p; Mobile	3 (AELG) Session 4; 6:00pm-8:00pm; Mobile	4 Moving On: Transitioning from the Infant Room to the Toddler Room; 6:00p-8:00p; Mobile	5	6 <div>  </div>
	8 Positive Guidance for Infants, Toddlers and Preschoolers; 6:00p-8:00p; Mobile	9 Getting Started 2021 (Day 1); 8:30a-12:30p; Mobile Free Public Health and Safety: First-Aid and CPR Training; 12:00p-4:30p; Mobile Addressing Homelessness: The Role of the Early Childhood Educator; 5:00p-7:00p; Mobile	10 Getting Started 2021 (Day 2); 8:30a-12:30p; Mobile (AELG) Session 5; 6:00pm-8:00pm; Mobile	11 Getting Started 2021 (Day 3); 8:30a-12:30p; Mobile Did You Hear What I Said? How to Communicate Effectively (APT) 6:00p-8:00p; Mobile	12	13 The Tale of Books: How to Build Your Classroom Library; 9:00a-11:00a; All Counties; Webinar
	15 Kids and Allergies: What to Look For (APT); 6:00p-8:00p; Mobile	16 Quality Early Childhood Environments Session 2: Rooms and Routines; 6:00pm-8:00pm; Mobile <div>  </div>	17 (AELG) Session 6; 6:00pm-8:00pm; Mobile	18 Prevention of Shaken Baby Syndrome and Abusive Head Trauma and Sudden Infant Death Syndrome (SIDS) Prevention and Use of Safe Sleep Practices; 5:00pm-7:00pm; Mobile	19	20 <div>  </div>
	22	23 Recognizing and Reporting Child Abuse and Neglect and A Prevention of and Response to Emergencies Due to Food and Allergic Reactions; 9:00a-11:00a; Mobile	24	25 GRECS and EHS Closed for Thanksgiving <div>  </div>	26	27
	29 <div>  </div>	30 The Visual Classroom: Increasing Student Confidence Using Visual Cues; 6:00p-8:00p; Mobile	<div>  <h1>November 2021</h1> </div>			

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
December 2021						
READ CAREFULLY - IMPORTANT! Beginning October 2017, GRECS will be using an online service, ABC SignUp, for training class registrations. You will need to set up a free account with a valid e-mail address before registering. AN E-MAIL ADDRESS CAN ONLY BE USED FOR ONE PERSON. www.grecs.org	6	7 Quality Early Childhood Environments Session 3: Learning Activities; 6:00pm-8:00pm; Mobile	8 (AELG) Session 8; 4:00pm-6:00pm; Mobile (AELG) Session 9; 6:00pm-8:00pm; Mobile	9 You Are What You Eat: Nutrition for Infants and Toddlers (APT); 6:00p-8:00p; Mobile	10	11 Farm To Table: Teaching Children About Healthy Foods; 9:30a-11:30a; Monroeville County Public Library
	13 Let's Talk Money: The Economics of Money; 6:00p-8:00p; Mobile	14 Exploring Diversity In the ECE Classroom (APT); 6:00p-8:00p; Mobile	15	16	17	18
	20 Free Public Health and Safety: First-Aid and CPR Training; 12:00p-4:30p; Mobile	21	22	23	24	25
	27	28	29	30	31	

Online Webinar: The Tale of Books: How to Build Your Classroom Library

ALL Counties, Webinar

Presenter: Lisa Kirkland

Age Group: Infant, Toddler

November 13, 2021; 9:00am - 11:00am

Basic Training Level

2 hours / 2 Contact Hours

CCDF: 13

Registration Ends 11/12/21

AL Pathways: LEE, CGD, HSN

CDA: 1, 3

DHR: CD, LD

We will discuss how to build a classroom library and why the books you choose are important. We will discuss how to incorporate picture books, nursery rhyme books, multicultural books and PBS KIDS books. At the end of the workshop you will even receive several of these books to add to your own library.

Kids and Allergies: What to Look For (APT)

GRECS Training Room, Mobile

Presenter: LaDanika York

Age Group: ALL

November 15, 2021; 6:00pm - 8:00pm

Basic Training Level

2 hours / 0.2 CEUs

CCDF: 4

Registration Ends 11/8/21

AL Pathways: HSN

CDA: 1

DHR: HSUP

This training will identify what to look for and how to treat common food and environmental allergies.

Quality Early Childhood Environments Session 2: Rooms and Routines

GRECS Training Room, Mobile

Presenter: Vicki Giles and Virginia Mostellar

Age Group: Infant, Toddler, Preschool

November 16, 2021; 6:00pm - 8:00pm

Intermediate Training Level

2 hours / 0.2 CEUs

CCDF: 13, 20

Registration Ends 11/9/21

AL Pathways: CGD, HSN

CDA: 1, 2, 3, 8

DHR: QCCL, HSUP

Session 2 in the Quality Early Childhood Environments Series. In this session, we'll explore best practices in the areas of space and furnishings, personal care routines, and program structure.

Alabama Early Learning Guidelines (AELG) Session 6- Language and Literacy Development

GRECS Training Room, Mobile

Presenter: GRECS Staff

Age Group: Infants, Toddlers, Preschool

November 17, 2021; 6:00pm - 8:00pm

Basic Training Level

2 hours / 0.2 CEUs

CCDF: 17, 20

Registration Ends 11/10/21

AL Pathways: CGD

CDA: 2, 8

DHR: LD

This basic-level, 18-hour course is broken down into 9, two-hour sessions. After completing the 18-hour course, you will receive an Alabama Early Learning Guidelines Credential from The Department of Human Resources **You must attend Session 1: Orientation before taking any other session.**

Preventing Child Abuse and Neglect in Early Childhood Settings

GRECS Training Room, Mobile

Presenter: Judy Cunningham

Age Group: Infants, Toddler

November 18, 2021; 5:00pm - 7:00pm

Basic Training Level

2 hours / 0.2 CEUs

CCDF: 6, 11

Registration Ends 11/11/21

AL Pathways: CGD, HSN, ICFC

CDA: 1, 3, 7

DHR: CD, HSUP

This session is designed to help caregivers recognize, appropriately address, and prevent abuse and neglect in early child care. Participants will also discuss the prevention of Shaken Baby Syndrome and abusive head trauma.

Recognizing and Reporting Child Abuse and Response to Emergencies Due to Food and Allergic Reactions

GRECS Training Room, Mobile

Presenter: Pamela Senters, RNC

Age Group: ALL

November 23, 2021; 9:00am - 11:00am

Basic Training Level

2 hours / 2 Contact Hours

CCDF: 11, 4

Registration Ends 11/16/21

AL Pathways: HSN

CDA: 1

DHR: HSUP

Participants will discuss essential information on how to recognize and report child abuse and neglect. And to provide participants with essential information on how to prevent and respond to emergencies, specifically in relationship to food and allergic reactions in the child care setting.

The Visual Classroom: Increasing Student Confidence Using Visual Cues

GRECS Training Room, Mobile

Presenter: Vicki Giles

Age Group: Preschoolers, School-agers

November 30, 2021; 6:00pm - 8:00pm

Intermediate Training Level

2 hours / 0.2 CEUs

CCDF: 15, 19

Registration Ends 11/23/21

AL Pathways: CGD

CDA: 1, 3

DHR: PDG

Using visuals allows children to confidently participate in classroom activities and routines. Let's explore different kinds of visual cues that can help improve communication, transitions, choice-making, and attention to task.

Training classes are listed in date order.

DECEMBER TRAINING 2021

Appropriate Pre-Cautions in Transporting Children/Emergency Preparedness/ Response Planning for Natural or Man-Caused Events

GRECS Training Room, Mobile

Presenter: Pamela Senters, RNC

Age Group: ALL

December 1, 2021; 9:00am - 11:00am

Basic Training Level

2 hours / 2 Contact Hours

CCDF: 7, 9

Registration Ends 11/29/21

AL Pathways: HSN

CDA: 1

DHR: HSUP, PDG

Participants will be more aware of potential disaster situations in early childhood programs, and to discuss appropriate responses to those situations.

Alabama Early Learning Guidelines (AELG) Session 7-Physical Development

GRECS Training Room, Mobile

Presenter: GRECS Staff

Age Group: Infants, Toddlers, Preschool

December 1, 2021; 6:00pm - 8:00pm

Basic Training Level

2 hours / 0.2 CEUs

CCDF: 5, 8, 13, 20

Registration Ends 11/24/21

AL Pathways: CGD, HSN

CDA: 1, 2, 8

DHR: CD, HSUP

This basic-level, 18-hour course is broken down into 9, two-hour sessions. After completing the 18-hour course, you will receive an Alabama Early Learning Guidelines Credential from The Department of Human Resources **You must attend Session 1: Orientation before taking any other session.**

Online Webinar: Chores and Choices! We Can All Be Helpers! (APT)

ALL Counties, Webinar

Presenter: APT Staff

Age Group: Preschool

December 2, 2021; 6:00pm - 8:00pm

Basic Training Level

2 hours / 2 Contact Hours

CCDF: 13, 15, 16

Registration Ends 12/3/21

AL Pathways: CGD, ICFC

CDA: 2, 3, 4, 8

DHR: CD, PDG

Preschoolers love to be helpers! This training will explore providing child-size chores, teaching responsibility, and offering appropriate choices to young children. We will discuss how to effectively help the child and ways to effectively communicate with parents about providing chores and choices at home!

Minding Our Manners

GRECS Training Room, Mobile

Presenter: Lisa Kirkland

Age Group: Preschool

December 4, 2021; 9:00am - 11:00am

Basic Training Level

2 hours / .2 CEUs

CCDF: 13, 15

Registration Ends 11/29/21

AL Pathways: LEE

CDA: 3, 8

DHR: CD, PDG

This session will identify ways to support the development of social skills. Participants will identify ways to teach children manners.

Quality Early Childhood Environments Session 3: Learning Activities

GRECS Training Room, Mobile

Presenter: Vicki Giles and Virginia Mostellar

Age Group: Infant, Toddler, Preschool

December 7, 2021; 6:00pm - 8:00pm

Intermediate Training Level

2 hours / 0.2 CEUs

CCDF: 13, 20

Registration Ends 11/30/21

AL Pathways: CGD, LEE, DIV

CDA: 2, 8

DHR: CD, LD

Session 3 in the Quality Early Childhood Environments Series. In this session, we'll explore best practices in the area of learning activities.

Alabama Early Learning Guidelines (AELG) Session 8- Cognitive Development

GRECS Training Room, Mobile

Presenter: GRECS Staff

Age Group: Infants, Toddlers, Preschool

December 8, 2021; 4:00pm - 6:00pm

Basic Training Level

2 hours / 0.2 CEUs

CCDF: 13, 17, 20

Registration Ends 12/1/21

AL Pathways: CGD

CDA: 2, 8

DHR: CD

This basic-level, 18-hour course is broken down into 9, two-hour sessions. After completing the 18-hour course, you will receive an Alabama Early Learning Guidelines Credential from The Department of Human Resources **You must attend Session 1: Orientation before taking any other session.**

Alabama Early Learning Guidelines (AELG) Session 9 - Putting It All Together

Presenter: GRECS Staff

Age Group: Infants, Toddlers, Preschool

GRECS Training Room, Mobile

December 8, 2021; 6:00pm - 8:00pm

Basic Training Level

2 hours / 0.2 CEUs

CCDF: 16, 18, 20

Registration Ends 12/1/21

AL Pathways: ICFC, PPD

CDA: 4, 6

DHR: QCCL, CCPF

This basic-level, 18-hour course is broken down into 9, two-hour sessions. After completing the 18-hour course, you will receive an Alabama Early Learning Guidelines Credential from The Department of Human Resources **You must attend Session 1: Orientation before taking any other session.**

You are What You Eat: Nutrition for Infants and Toddlers (APT)

Presenter: Victoria Bolton

Age Group: Infant, Toddler

GRECS Training Room, Mobile

December 9, 2021; 6:00pm - 8:00pm

Basic Training Level

2 hours / 0.2 CEUs

CCDF: 13

Registration Ends 12/2/21

AL Pathways: CGD, HSN

CDA: 2, 3

DHR: CD, CCPF

How often should an infant eat? What if a toddler is a picky eater? Why is nutrition important for an infant and toddler? How should textured food be incorporated? In this training, these questions will be answered, and much more will be covered, featuring hands-on activities, engaging discussions, and books.

Farm to Table: Teaching Children About Healthy Foods

Presenter: Theresa Patterson

Age Group: Preschool

Monroeville County Public Library, Monroe

December 11, 2021; 9:30am - 11:30am

Basic Training Level

2 hours / 0.2 CEUs

CCDF: 13, 16

Registration Ends 12/4/21

AL Pathways: HSN, LEE

CDA: 1

DHR: CD, HSUP

The Healthy, Hunger-Free Kids Act of 2010 formally established (Farm to School Program within USDA to improve access to local foods in school. Farm to Table explores the possibilities that children may have never eaten food directly from a farmer or know what a farmer does on a day to day basis.

Let's Talk Money: The Economics of Money

Presenter: Desira Keith

Age Group: School-Age

GRECS Training Room, Mobile

December 13, 2021; 6:00pm - 8:00pm

Basic Training Level

2 hours / 0.2 CEUs

CCDF: 19

Registration Ends 12/6/21

AL Pathways: CGD

CDA: 2, 3

DHR: CD

The concept of money can be difficult to convey to children. In this training, we will discuss ways to actively help children make connections about the importance of money, the value of money and finding fun ways they can make money. We will also discuss basic budgeting and financial planning skills.

Exploring Diversity in the ECE Classroom (APT)

Presenter: LaDanika York

Age Group: Preschoolers

GRECS Training Room, Mobile

December 14, 2021; 6:00pm - 8:00pm

Basic Training Level

2 hours / 0.2 CEUs

CCDF: 15, 16

Registration Ends 12/7/21

AL Pathways: DIV

CDA: 3, 4

DHR: CD, LD, PDG

Participants will discover that diversity is about more than differences; it is about similarities and differences combined – those characteristics that make us who we are.

Free Public Health and Safety: First Aid and CPR Training

Presenter: Pamela Senters, RNC

Age Group: ALL

GRECS Training Room, Mobile

December 20, 2021; 12:00pm - 4:30pm

Basic Training Level

4 hours

CCDF: 10

Registration Ends 12/13/21

AL Pathways: HSN

CDA: 1

DHR: HSUP

Training is to provide participants with the practice and assimilation of skills to perform CPR and Basic First-aid with a certification from The Emergency Care and Safety Institute (ECSI).

TRAINING LEGEND DHR 2019

Training Levels

Basic = Most appropriate for entry-level professionals who are new to early childhood and/or school-age care. Basic Level Training covers a foundational understanding and demonstration of developing skills.

Intermediate = Most appropriate for professionals who have at least (2) years of experience and 120 hours of training in child development, and are moving toward more formal education. Intermediate Level Training includes expanding knowledge and application, and refining skills.

Advanced = Most appropriate for professionals who have at least three (3) years of experience and 30 credit hours in child development. Advanced Level Training focuses on a more thorough knowledge and understanding of developmentally appropriate practice and highly effective application and demonstration of skills.

DHR Minimum Standards Training Areas

CD = Child Development

HSUP = Health, Safety, and Universal Precautions

QCCL = Quality Child Care and Licensing

CCPF = Child Care Professional and the Family

LD = Language Development

PDG = Positive Discipline and Guidance

AM = Administration and Management

CDA (Child Development Associate) Subject Areas

1. Planning a safe, healthy learning environment
2. Advancing children's physical and intellectual development
3. Supporting children's social and emotional development
4. Building productive relationships with families
5. Managing an effective program
6. Maintaining a commitment to professionalism
7. Observing and recording children's behavior
8. Understanding principles of child development and learning

Alabama Pathways Core Knowledge Areas (CKA)

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

CCDF Training Areas

1. Prevention and control of infectious diseases (including immunizations)
2. Sudden Infant Death Syndrome (SIDS) prevention and use of safe sleep practices
3. Administration of medication
4. Prevention of and response to emergencies due to food and allergic reactions
5. Building and physical premises safety, including identifying electrical hazards, bodies of water, and vehicular traffic
6. Prevention of Shaken Baby Syndrome and abusive head trauma
7. Emergency preparedness and response planning for natural or man-caused events
8. Handling and storage of hazardous materials, including correct disposal of bio-contaminants
9. If applicable, appropriate precautions in transporting children
10. First-aid and CPR
11. Recognizing and reporting child abuse and neglect
12. Identifying and serving homeless children and their families
13. Promoting the social, emotional, physical, and cognitive development of children, including those related to nutrition and physical activity, using scientifically-based, developmentally appropriate and age appropriate strategies
14. Caring for children in geographic areas with significant concentrations of poverty and unemployment
15. Implementing behavior strategies, including positive behavior interventions and support models that promote positive social and emotional development and reduce challenging behaviors, including reducing expulsions of preschool-aged children for such behaviors
16. Engaging parents and families in culturally and linguistically appropriate ways to expand their knowledge, skills and capacity to be meaningful partners in supporting their children's positive development
17. Understanding early neurological development
18. Using data to guide program improvement
19. Supporting positive development of school-age children
20. Improving the quality of programs and services for infants and toddlers

Target Age Groups

Infants = Birth to 12 months

Toddlers = 1 and 2 year olds

Preschoolers = 3 and 4 year olds

School-agers = 5 to 12 year olds

ALL = Infants, Toddlers, Preschoolers, and School-agers





United Way
of Southwest Alabama

2021 CAMPAIGN KICKOFF



GRECS is a proud United Way Agency serving Clarke, Baldwin, Escambia and Mobile counties as a part of the Community Safety Net. The engagement of UWSWA volunteers and donors is critical to our success. The United Way of Southwest Alabama began their 2021 Campaign Kickoff September 1st. The funds raised during the campaign has a direct impact on our partners and members of the community that rely on funding.



Give *Here's How!* Today!

- Venmo to @uwsa – please include your name and email in the notes.
- Text GiveUnited2021 to 91999 and follow the directions you receive in response
- Visit www.uwsa.org
- Call 251-433-3624

As a United Way Partner Agency, we know first hand just how far your donations go to make a difference in our community. Make your donation today! You can designate your donation to be given to the tax exempt/nonprofit organization, United Way building block, program, or service area county of your choice!

Every penny stays here in Southwest Alabama!

APT Fall Online Training

EACH QUARTER, ALABAMA PUBLIC TELEVISION™ OFFERS FREE ONLINE TRAINING FOR ANYONE INTERESTED IN EXPANDING THEIR PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT! WE ENCOURAGE YOU TO CHECK OUT WHAT THEY HAVE IN

STORE AND REGISTER DIRECTLY THROUGH THEIR WEBSITE,

[HTTPS://APTV.ORG/EDUCATION/LEARN-ONLINE/](https://aptv.org/education/learn-online/)

Registration opens on their website September 6, 2021

ALABAMA EARLY LEARNING GUIDELINES: **OCTOBER 4, 2021 – NOVEMBER 22, 2021**

ESSENTIALS OF HIGH QUALITY EARLY CHILDCARE:

OCTOBER 4, 2021- NOVEMBER 15, 2021

STEM FOR THE PRESCHOOL CLASSROOM:

OCTOBER 11, 2021 - NOVEMBER 22, 2021

SESAME STREET IN COMMUNITIES: TRAINING, RESOURCE, AND SUPPORT FOR EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATORS

OCTOBER 11, 2021 - NOVEMBER 22, 2021

On-Demand Courses

- *KIDS AND ALLERGIES: WHAT TO LOOK FOR
- *ADDRESSING HOMELESSNESS: THE ROLE OF THE EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATOR
- *RECOGNIZING AND REPORTING CHILD ABUSE AND NEGLECT IN EARLY CHILD CARE
- *I CAN HANDLE IT! PROMOTING EMOTIONAL INTELLIGENCE IN THE OUT-OF-SCHOOL SETTING
- *FOUNDATIONS OF HEALTH & SAFETY IN EARLY CHILD CARE
- *CHALLENGING BEHAVIORS: WHERE DO WE BEGIN?

AND MORE!!!!

Easy Pumpkin Pie in a Cup Recipe

Are you looking for an educational and fun way to celebrate Thanksgiving in your classroom? This simple recipe for no-bake pumpkin pie in a cup is super quick and easy to make! You can use this free printable picture sequencing activity to add an educational aspect to this activity, keep reading to grab your copy.

Let's face it, trying to make learning fun and educational at the same time can be challenging. You may even feel like there's not enough room in your schedule for fun anymore.

But what if you could combine good old-fashioned fun with academic learning at the same time? That's exactly what you'll get when you try this classic pumpkin pie in a cup recipe in your classroom!

When your little learners are making their mini no-bake pies they're learning important academic skills like following directions, sequencing, and ordinal numbers. They're also learning about measurement as they scoop, pour, and mix ingredients, all while developing fine motor skills at the very same time.

And don't even get me started on the opportunities for rich oral language development your kids will experience as they make their very own pies.

Now that you know the educational value of using simple recipes in the classroom, you can start gathering your ingredients.

Here's what you'll need:

Ingredients:

- 1 vanilla pudding cup per child
- 2 graham crackers per child
- 2 tablespoons of pumpkin pie mix per child
- Whipped cream
- Cinnamon
- You'll also need one each of the following for each child in your class: a clear plastic cup, a spoon, and a zip top plastic sandwich bag.

Steps:

- Start by giving each of your students 2 graham crackers in a zip top plastic sandwich bag. You can use cinnamon graham crackers if you want to give your mini-pumpkin pie snacks a bit of extra flavor.
- Next, secure the top of the bag to contain the crumbs and invite your students crush the graham crackers inside the bag.
- Then, invite students to sprinkle the crushed graham cracker crumbs into the bottom of their clear cups
- Now you can use a spoon to scoop the vanilla pudding on top of your crushed graham crackers.
- To transform this simple snack into pumpkin pie, invite your students to add two tablespoons of pumpkin pie filling to their cups. Invite them to use their spoons to mix the pudding and the pie filling together.
- Finally, you can invite your kids to add a squirt or dollop of whipped cream to the top of their creations and sprinkle with cinnamon.



PUMPKIN PIE in a CUP



I used to buy a pumpkin pie for my class each year at Thanksgiving, we would taste it and graph who liked it. But only a few of my students would actually taste it and most of them wouldn't even touch it on a dare.

When I switched to this fun recipe they gobbled it up and even asked for more! When your kids are involved in the process of making these tasty treats, they'll be much more engaged and willing to taste it than if you were to just serve it to them.

- Vanessa Levin, an early childhood teacher, consultant, public speaker, and author for Pre-K Pages

To download the recipe activity sheet visit www.pre-kpages.com. While you're there, check out all of her other great teaching tips, lesson plans, ideas for dramatic play and MORE!!!





The Resource Place

at  Gulf Regional
Early Childhood Services

All of our items have been sanitized and are ready for you to check out to take with you for use in your classroom or home daycare facility!

Browse our comprehensive lending library and work room where you'll find:

Children's Books * Teacher Resource Books * Outdoor Play Materials * Manipulatives * Puzzles * Puppets * Big Books
Laminating Machine * Bulletin board paper, and more!!

Call 251-473-1060

Open: Tuesday - Thursday 9a - 4p

3100 Cottage Hill Rd., Bldg. 4., Ste. 400, Mobile, AL 36606

Special Delivery Courses

Please Contact: Hannah Presley
251-473-1060 Ext 101

We are offering special delivery courses for the following sessions:

- Infant/Toddler Environment Rating Scale- Revised (ITERS-R)
- Early Childhood Environment Rating Scale - Revised ECERS-R)
- Program Administration Scale (PAS)
- Family Child Care Environment Rating Scale - Revised (FCCERS-R)

****For Family Daycare Homes ONLY****

- Business Administration Scale (BAS)

****For Family Daycare Homes ONLY****

Please Contact Hannah Presley
for more details on how you can schedule a training!

Please Call:
251-473-1060 Ext 101

CPR & First Aid Training on Saturdays!

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

You must register through and make payment to Complete Safety Works.

First Aid - \$45 | CPR - \$45

Both First Aid & CPR - \$55

Contact Complete Safety Works for more info.

90 N Sage Avenue

Mobile, AL 36607

251-479-6788



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

VISIT US
ON THE WEB!
www.greecs.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

November 25th & 26th , 2021

GRECS and EHS **Closed** for
Thanksgiving Day

December 23rd & 24th, 2021

GRECS and EHS **Closed** for
Christmas Holiday

December 31st, 2021

GRECS and EHS **Closed** for
New Years Eve

