

Early Learning News

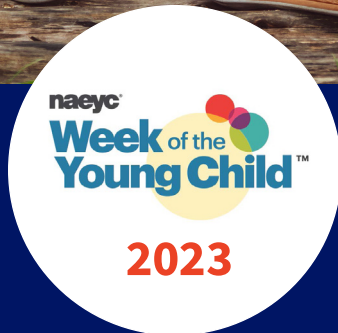
April, May, June 2023



Play



CHILD ABUSE PREVENTION MONTH
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WEEK OF THE YOUNG CHILD
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PILLARS OF PEACE
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ALABAMA'S NEW SPECIAL
NEEDS CHILDCARE SUBSIDY
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Take a Look Inside

This edition of *Early Learning News* may have a different style, but it continues to be filled with helpful, relevant information.

The calendar view of our monthly training classes is perforated for easy removal. This allows you to tear it out and share as needed.

The "Pass Along to Parents" page is also perforated. This is a wonderful resource to share with parents, and it's copyright-free!

Child Abuse Prevention

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#WOYC2023

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Safety is not the
absence of threat, It is
the presence of
connection.

-Dr. Gabor Mate

April is

Child Abuse Prevention Month

National Child Abuse Prevention Month recognizes the importance of families and communities working together to strengthen families to prevent child abuse and neglect. Through this collaboration, prevention services and supports help protect children and produce thriving families.

Please join GRECS and The Alabama Department of Child Abuse and Neglect Prevention, "The Children's Trust Fund", in advocating for children and the strengthening of families in an effort to provide children with happier, healthier and safer lives.

Together we can make a difference!



the physical, emotional and mental well-being of the children and families in our communities!

Pinwheel Garden – Pinwheels are the national symbol for child abuse prevention by representing the happy, healthy childhoods that all children deserve. Donate to PCA America and plant a pinwheel with your message of support to show how you are helping families and children thrive! GRECS will plant a pinwheel garden to kick off Child Abuse Prevention month. Let's watch them whirl!

For more information about the virtual garden
visit www.preventchildabuse.org



naeyc® Week of the Young Child™

April 1st-7th

#WOYC23

Join NAEYC as we celebrate our youngest learners with five fun-filled, themed days. All week long we'll be featuring resources and activity ideas for teachers and families that will make play meaningful and learning fun!

NAEYC invites you to celebrate and shine a spotlight on your classroom, advocacy, and family engagement activities via our social channels. We look forward to seeing all the creative ways you find to engage young children and their families with hands-on, collaborative activities encouraging movement and healthy lifestyles through music, food, and art

Kick-off is Saturday **April 1st**. Take that day to prepare your activities for the following week, email your parents so they can plan for Family Friday activities and plan a virtual event with your social media community! The important thing is that we're celebrating the potential of ALL young children to learn, grow and thrive!

This is your time to celebrate and shine a spotlight on your classroom, advocacy, and family engagement activities via social media channels. Post your activities on Facebook, Instagram and Twitter using #WOYC23!

Learn more by visiting:
www.naeyc.org/events/woyc/overview

Contact us at www.greecs.org or through our Facebook page - @GRECSMobile



MUSIC MONDAY

Music Monday is more than singing and dancing, it's a way to encourage children to be active while developing their early literacy skills and having fun with friends and family!

FEATURED CLASSES

Get Kids Moving!

April 3, 2023 | 6:00pm-8:00pm | 2 hrs | 0.2 CEUs

Music to Our Ears:

The Benefits of Music and Movement

April 27, 2023 | 6:30pm-8:30pm | 2 hrs | 0.2 CEUs

APRIL 3RD

#woyc23
naeyc.org/events/woyc



TASTY TUESDAY

Tasty Tuesday isn't just about eating your favorite snacks together. It's also about cooking together and connecting math with literacy skills and science while introducing ways to incorporate healthy habits into children's lifestyles!

FEATURED CLASS

You Are What You Eat:

Nutrition for Infants and Toddlers

April 4, 2023 | 6:30pm-8:30pm | 2 hrs | 0.2 CEUs

APRIL 4TH

#woyc23
naeyc.org/events/woyc



WORK TOGETHER WEDNESDAY

When children build together they explore math and science concepts and develop their social and early literacy skills. Children can use any building material - from a fort of branches on the playground to a block city in the classroom, or a hideaway made from couch pillows at home!

FEATURED CLASS

Communicating Effectively with Parents

April 5, 2023 | 6:30pm-8:30pm | 2 hrs | 0.2 CEUs

APRIL 5TH

#woyc23
naeyc.org/events/woyc



ARTSY THURSDAY

On Artsy Thursday, celebrate the joy and learning children experience when engaged in creative play. create and share photos of your children's creations on social media using the hashtag #woyc23.

FEATURED CLASSES

Paint with GRECS!

Moving from Crafts to Process Art

April 6, 2023 | 6:00pm-8:00pm | 2 hrs | 0.2 CEUs

The Art Lesson

April 29, 2023 | 9:30am-11:30am | 2 hrs | 0.2 CEUs

APRIL 6TH

#woyc23
naeyc.org/events/woyc



FAMILY FRIDAY

Engaging and celebrating families is at the heart of supporting our youngest learners. NAEYC applauds family members' role as young children's first and most important teachers. Share pictures and stories about your family on social media using the hashtag #woyc23

APRIL 7TH

#woyc23
naeyc.org/events/woyc



Get To Know Our Training Sites and Locations!

When Registering for training classes, please make note of the time & locations of the session. Classes are held in 7 counties - Baldwin, Clarke, Conecuh, Escambia, Mobile, Monroe & Washington.

Baldwin County

Daphne Public Library

Kids Plus CDC

Goodwill Community Center

The Learning Tree at "First Fairhope"

Coastal Alabama Community College, Bay Minette Campus

Country Day School

Clarke County

Jackson City Hall

Conecuh County

David Burt Agriculture Center

Future Achievers

532 S. Main St Evergreen, AL 36401

Escambia County

Coastal Alabama Community College

Flomaton Public Library

Monroe County

Monroe County Public Library

Patty Pat's Daycare Center #2

Mobile County

GRECS Training Rooms -

3101 International Dr bldg 6

Washington County

Spot for Tots Child Care Center

Washington County Public Library



If you have any questions or need directions

Call us at
251-473-1060
or visit
www.grecs.org

CCDF Health and Safety Courses 2023

Looking for DHR CCDF Health and Safety Training Courses? We've Got You Covered for this quarter in April, May and June 2023!

- **April 11:** 2-Hour DHR Health & Safety CCDF: 3, 4; 8:30am-10:30am; **Mobile**
- **April 12:** Prevention of Shaken Baby Syndrome and Abusive Head Trauma and Sudden Infant Death Syndrome (SIDS) Prevention and Use of Safe Sleep Practices; CCDF: 2, 6 (CTF); 8:30am-10:30am; **Mobile**
- **April 13:** 2-Hour DHR Health & Safety CCDF: 5, 8; 8:30am-10:30am; **Mobile**
- **April 17:** 2-Hour DHR Health & Safety CCDF: 1, 7; 8:30am-10:30am; **Mobile**
- **April 18:** Recognizing and Reporting Child Abuse and Neglect in Early Child Care (CTF); 5:30pm-7:30pm; **Mobile**
- **April 26:** 2-Hour DHR Health & Safety CCDF: 9, 11; 8:30am-10:30am; **Mobile**
- **May 11:** Free Public Health and Safety: First-Aid and CPR Training; 8:00am-12:00pm; **Mobile**
- **May 22:** CPR and First Aid Refresher Session; 9:30am-10:30am; **Mobile**
- **May 25:** 2-Hour DHR Health & Safety CCDF: 1, 2; 8:30am-10:30am; **Mobile**
- **June 28:** 2-Hour DHR Health & Safety CCDF: 5, 7; 8:30am-10:30am; **Mobile**



Getting Started

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.

(Presenter: GRECS Staff; DHR: CD, CCPF, LD, QCCL, PDG, HSUP; Alabama Pathways: CGD, ICFC, LEE, HSN, PPD; CDA: 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 8; CCDF: 3, 4, 13, 15, 20; Basic Training Level: 12 hours/12 CEUs; Appropriate for ALL Age Groups)

May 2nd - May 4th, 2023 | 12:00pm - 4:00pm
GRECS Training Room, Mobile

New Time!



Super Saturday with Christian Bellissimo!

As a practicing Play Therapist for 23+ years, my passion is to share with Early Childhood Educators, the same play-based interactional skills that I have used to support the social-emotional learning of thousands of children! My training workshops deliver developmentally appropriate best practice strategies that align with preschool curriculums, assessments and any other resources your program might utilize. Christian is a graduate of Seton Hall University and Rutgers University, with degrees in Psychology and Clinical Social Work. He is a New Jersey Licensed Clinical Social Worker, a Certified School Social Worker, and a Registered Play Therapist with the Association for Play Therapy.

Christian also served as a Preschool Intervention Specialist for a school district in New Jersey for more than 19 years. His work with teachers and children in the preschool classroom influenced the development of *Universal Play Therapy: A Guide for Supporting Children's Development*, published in 2016. Currently, Christian maintains a full-time private practice and is committed to sharing what he has learned in his career with Early Childhood Educators and parents through Play to Grow and workshop presenting.

Using Play to Support Social-Emotional Learning

In this session, Christian will demonstrate how to use Play to support social-emotional learning. He will deliver developmentally appropriate best practice strategies that align with preschool curriculums, assessments, and other resources your program might utilize. Through Play, participants will learn to set limits and manage challenging behaviors while learning to support self-regulation. Be prepared to have fun as participants in this workshop actively practice the play skills in small groups, preparing them to confidently implement the strategies with their students the very next day!

(AL Pathways: CGD, LEE, DIV, HSN, ICFC, PPD; DHR: CD, PDG, CCPF, QCCL; CDA: 2, 3, 8; CCDF: 13, 15, 19, 20; Basic Training Level; 4 hours/ 0.4 CEUs; Age Groups: ALL)

June 3rd, 2023 | 8:30am-12:30pm
GRECS Training Room, Mobile

Preschool Course 2023

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. *(AL Pathways: CGD, LEE, DIV, HSN, ICFC, PPD; DHR: CD, QCCL, PDG, LD, CCPF, HSUP; CDA: 1, 2, 3, 4, 6, 8; CCDF: 5, 8, 13, 15; Intermediate Training Level; 12 hours/1.2 CEUs; Age Groups: Preschool)*

June 1 AND 8, 2023

8:30am-3:30pm

GRECS Training Room, Mobile



Special Delivery Courses

Please Contact: Vicki Giles

251-473-1060

vgiles@grecs.org

We are offering special delivery courses for the following sessions:

- Introduction to the Child Associate Credential (CDA)
- What is Your PIECE? Professionalism in Early Childhood Education (APT)
- Kids and Allergies: What to Look For (APT)
- Preparing for Emergencies In the Child Care Setting

Please contact us for more details on how you can schedule a training or if there are other sessions you need!

Online Sessions GRECS Webinars:

April, May and June 2023 Webinars:

- **April 19th** - Moving On: Transitioning from the Infant Room to the Toddler Room; 6:00pm-7:00pm
- **May 10th** - Introduction to the Child Development Associate Credential (CDA); 6:00pm-8:00pm
- **May 15th** - What is Alabama Pathways?; 9:30am-11:30am;
- **May 15th** - What is Alabama Pathways?; 6:00pm-8:00pm
- **June 28th** - Creative Collaboration! (APT); 6:00pm-8:00pm

Go Online and Register Today!

All webinars are available 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

Highlighted Courses for Child Abuse Prevention Month 2023!

Playing It Safe: How to Create Safe Spaces (CTF)

April 13, 2023 | 6:30pm-8:30pm

CCDF: 13, 15, 16 | AL Pathways: CGD, LEE | CDA: 1, 3, 8 | DHR: CD, PDG | ALL | Basic | GRECS Training Room | .2 CEUs | 2 hrs

PRESENTER: Erin Franklin

Recognizing and Reporting Child Abuse and Neglect in Early Child Care (CTF)

April 18, 2023 | 5:30pm-7:30pm

CCDF: 6, 11 | AL Pathways: HSN, PPD | CDA: 1, 3 | DHR: HSUP | ALL | Basic | GRECS Training Room, Mobile | .2 CEUs | 2 hrs

PRESENTER: Paula Reese

Directors Forum: ACEs: Implementing Strategies for Childhood Trauma

May 31, 2023 | 9:30am-11:30am

CCDF: 13, 14, 15, 16 | AL Pathways: LEE, CGD, DIV, PPD | CDA: 3, 4, 6, 8 | DHR: QCCL, CCPF | Infants, Toddlers, Preschoolers | Basic | GRECS Training Room, Mobile | .2 CEUs | 2hrs

PRESENTER: Paula Reese

Trauma-Informed Practices: Nurturing Resilience for Success

June 7, 2023 | 6:00pm-8:00pm

CCDF: 13, 15, 19 | AL Pathways: LEE, ICFC | CDA: 3, 8 | DHR: CD, PDG | Preschoolers & School-Age | Basic | GRECS Training Room, Mobile | .2 CEUs

PRESENTER: Sandy Resa & Michelle Denney

Alabama Early Learning Guidelines (AELG)

The Alabama Early Learning Guidelines were developed to promote continuity of high-quality care and learning for children ages 0-5. The AELG course serves as a guide for understanding child development and for implementing best practices to prepare children for success in school and in life. Participants who complete this course will receive 18 training hours and the official AELG Credential issued by the Alabama Department of Human Resources. This course may only be completed once. If you have received this credential through AELG face-to-face training or the online version, you will not receive credit again. (CDA Content Areas: 1, 2, 3, 4, 6, 7, 8 | DHR Categories: CD, CCPF, HSUP, LD, PDG, QCCL | Alabama Pathways to Quality and Education Core Areas: CGD, COA, DIV, HSN, ICFC, LEE, MA, PPD | CCDF: 5, 8, 13, 15, 16, 17, 18, 20)

You must attend

Session 1: Orientation before taking any other session.

- **March 4** | 8:30-10:30am | Session 1 – Orientation
- **March 4** | 10:30-12:30pm | Session 2 – Observations and Assessment
- **March 8** | 6:00-8:00pm | Session 3 – The Role of Parent and Caregiver
- **March 18** | 8:30-10:30am | Session 4 – Self-Concept and Emotional Development
- **March 18** | 10:30-12:30pm | Session 5 – Social Development
- **March 22** | 6:00-8:00pm | Session 6 – Language and Literacy
- **April 1** | 8:30-10:30am | Session 7 – Physical Development
- **April 1** | 10:30-12:30pm | Session 8 – Cognitive Development
- **April 5** | 6:00-8:00pm | Session 9 – Putting It All Together

If you have taken any AELG Sessions within the last year but missed a session, you can register, attend and make up those classes to complete and receive your AELG Credential!

April '23 TRAINING

April 1, 2023 | 8:30am-10:30am 2 hrs

AELG Session 7 - Physical Development

CCDF: 5, 8, 13, 20 | AL Pathways: CGD, HSN | CDA: 1, 2, 8 | DHR: CD, HSUP | ALL | Basic | GRECS Training Room, Mobile | .2 CEUs

PRESENTER: GRECS Staff

This session will use the AELG to discuss gross motor, fine motor and self-help skills.

April 1, 2023 | 10:30am-12:30pm 2 hrs

AELG Session 8 - Cognitive Development

CCDF: 13, 17, 20 | AL Pathways: CGD | CDA: 2, 8 | DHR: CD | ALL | Basic | GRECS Training Room, Mobile | .2 CEUs

PRESENTER: GRECS Staff

This AELG session 8 will discuss basic child development concepts.

April 3, 2023 | 6:00pm-8:00pm 2 hrs

Get Kids Moving

CCDF: 13, 17, 19, 20 | AL Pathways: CGD | CDA: 2, 8 | DHR: CD, LD | ALL | Basic | GRECS Training Room, Mobile | .2 CEUs

PRESENTER: Vicki Giles

Get your children moving with simple, strategic activities that encourage movement both indoors and outdoors.

April 4, 2023 | 6:30pm-8:30pm 2 hrs

You Are What You Eat: Nutrition for Infants and Toddlers

CCDF: 13 | AL Pathways: CGD, ICFC | CDA: 2, 3 | DHR: CD, CCPF | Infants, Toddlers | Basic | GRECS Training Room, Mobile | .2 CEUs

PRESENTER: Victoria Bolton

In this training, participants will develop an understanding of the importance of nutrition for infants and toddlers.

April 5, 2023 | 6:30pm-8:30pm 2 hrs

Communicating Effectively with Parents

CCDF: 16 | AL Pathways: PPD, ICFC | CDA: 4, 5, 6 | DHR: CCPF, AM | ALL | Basic | GRECS Training Room, Mobile | .2 CEUs

PRESENTER: LaDanika York

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

April 5, 2023 | 6:00pm-8:00pm 2 hrs

AELG Session 9 - Putting It All Together

CCDF: 16, 18, 20 | AL Pathways: ICFD, PPD | CDA: 4, 6 | DHR: CCPF, QCCL | ALL | Basic | GRECS Training Room, Mobile | .2 CEUs

PRESENTER: GRECS Staff

This AELG session 9 participants will review the AELG and previous sessions.

April 6, 2023 | 6:00pm-8:00pm 2 hrs

Paint with GRECS! Moving from Crafts to Process Art

CCDF: 13 | AL Pathways: CGD, LEE | CDA: 2, 3, 8 | DHR: CD, LD | Preschoolers | Intermediate | GRECS Training Room, Mobile | .2 CEUs

PRESENTER: Desira Keith & Paula Reese

Come learn the value of moving from craft activities to process art. Learn how unstructured exploration of art materials helps children form connections in their brains.

April 11, 2023 | 8:30am-10:30am 2 hrs

DHR Health & Safety CCDF: 3, 4

CCDF: 3, 4 | AL Pathways: HSN | CDA: 1 | DHR: HSUP | ALL | Basic | GRECS Training Room

PRESENTER: Pamela J. Senters, RNC

Participants will discuss ways to identify situations which may require administration of medications and list the symptoms of allergies.

April 11, 2023 | 6:30pm-8:30pm 2 hrs

Best Practices for Language Acquisition: Read, Write, Talk, Sing, & Play (APT)

CCDF: 13, 17 | AL Pathways: CGD, LEE | CDA: 2, 8 | DHR: CD, LD | Infants & Toddlers | Basic | GRECS Training Room | .2 CEUs

PRESENTER: APT Instructor

Learn about the five practices of literacy covered in this training that are fundamental to children's growth as future readers.

April 12, 2023 | 8:30am-10:30am 2 hrs

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

CCDF: 2, 6 | AL Pathways: HSN | CDA: 1, 8 | DHR: HSUP | ALL | Basic | GRECS Training Room

PRESENTER: Pamela J. Senters, RNC

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 (SIDS) in a day care or home day care setting, with emphasis on safe sleep.

April 13, 2023 | 8:30am-10:30am 2 hrs

DHR Health & Safety Training CCDF: 5, 8

CCDF: 5, 8 | AL Pathways: HSN | CDA: 1 | DHR: HSUP | ALL | Basic | GRECS Training Room

PRESENTER: Pamela J. Senters, RNC

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.

April 13, 2023 | 6:30pm-8:30pm 2 hrs

Playing It Safe: How to Create Safe Spaces (CTF)

CCDF: 13, 15, 16 | AL Pathways: CGD, LEE | CDA: 1, 3, 8 | DHR: CD, PDG | ALL | Basic | GRECS Training Room | .2 CEUs

PRESENTER: Erin Franklin

We are living in a day and time where creating safe spaces for children is a vital part of the learning environment. Come along with us as we discuss the elements of a safe space and ways to effectively implement those spaces for young children.

April 17, 2023 | 8:30am-10:30am 2 hrs

DHR Health & Safety Training CCDF: 1, 7

CCDF: 1, 7 | AL Pathways: HSN | CDA: 1 | DHR: HSUP | ALL | Basic | GRECS Training Room

PRESENTER: Pamela J. Senters, RNC

The purpose of this training is to make aware ways to prevent the spread of diseases in the child care setting and how to prepare for emergency situations in the child care setting, and how to explain emergencies to young children and what to do after an emergency.

April '23 TRAINING

April 18, 2023 | 5:30pm-7:30pm 2 hrs

Recognizing and Reporting Child Abuse and Neglect in Early Child Care (CTF)

CCDF: 6, 11 | AL Pathways: HSN, PPD | CDA: 1, 3 | DHR: HSUP | ALL | Basic | GRECS Training Room, Mobile | .2 CEUs

PRESENTER: Paula Reese

Participants will examine the roles and responsibilities of child care providers in recognizing, reporting, and responding to child abuse and neglect within the early child care setting.

April 18, 2023 | 5:30pm-7:30pm 2 hrs

Creating an Environment for Every Child to be Successful (CTF)

CCDF: 13, 15 | AL Pathways: CGD, LEE | CDA: 1, 2, 3, 8 | DHR: CD, QCCL | ALL | Basic | Future Achievers, Evergreen | .2 CEUs

PRESENTER: Theresa Patterson

Participants will learn how to reenergize/revamp classrooms to be inviting and safe. During this session participants will work with different scenarios and materials while using the ECERS-R tool to create a quality classroom environment.

April 19, 2023 | 6:00pm-7:00pm 1 hr

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

CCDF: 13, 16, 20 | AL Pathways: CGD, LEE, ICFC | CDA: 1, 2, 3, 4 | DHR: CD, CCPF | ALL | Infants, Toddlers | Webinar

PRESENTER: Victoria Bolton

Toddlers are in constant motion. How do you transition that sweet little baby in the infant room into the busy world of toddlers? What do you say to the families? This training will offer suggestions and insights into how to make this transition go as smoothly as possible.

April 20, 2023 | 6:30pm-8:30pm 2 hrs

Developmentally Appropriate Practice (DAP): What's That?

CCDF: 13, 16, 20 | AL Pathways: ICFC, CGD | CDA: 2, 5 | DHR: CD, CCPF | ALL | Intermediate | GRECS Training Room | .2 CEUs

PRESENTER: Vicki Giles

Come to this session to discover how DAP promotes young children's optimal learning and development, strategies for implementation, and ideas for helping families understand DAP.

April 24, 2023 | 6:00pm-8:00pm 2 hrs

Motor Development

CCDF: 17, 19, 20 | AL Pathways: ICFC, CGD, LEE | CDA: 2, 3, 6, 8 | DHR: CD, HSUP | ALL | Intermediate | GRECS Training Room | .2 CEUs

PRESENTER: Dr. Abigail Baxter

Participants will discuss developmentally appropriate activities that foster physical development and build self-esteem.

April 25, 2023 | 6:00pm-8:00pm 2 hrs

Welcome to Your Writing Center

CCDF: 13 | AL Pathways: CGD, LEE | CDA: 2, 8 | DHR: CGD, LEE | Preschoolers, School-Age | Intermediate | GRECS Training Room, Mobile | .2 CEUs

PRESENTER: Desira Keith

This class will discuss the importance of having a writing center and writing materials available each day and the impact on pre-school growth and development in young children.

April 26, 2023 | 8:30am-10:30am 2 hrs

DHR Health and Safety CCDF: 9, 11

CCDF: 9, 11 | AL Pathways: HSN | CDA: 1 | DHR: HSUP | ALL | Basic | GRECS Training Room, Mobile

PRESENTER: Pamela J. Senters, RNC

The purpose of this training is to provide participants with basic information on safely transporting children.

April 27, 2023 | 6:30pm-8:30pm 2 hrs

Music to Our Ears: The Benefits of Music and Movement

CCDF: 13, 20 | AL Pathways: CGD, LEE | CDA: 2, 3, 8 | DHR: CD | Infants, Toddlers | Basic | GRECS Training Room | .2 CEUs

PRESENTER: LaDanika York

Music to Our Ears is a training designed to inform participants how music can stimulate infants' and toddlers' development (cognitive, physical, and socio-emotional).

April 29, 2023 | 9:30am-11:30am 2 hrs

The Art Lesson

CCDF: 17, 18 | AL Pathways: CGD, LEE, ICFC | CDA: 2, 3, 4, 8 | DHR: LD, CCPF | Toddlers, Preschoolers | Beginner | GRECS Training Room, Mobile | .2 CEUs

PRESENTER: Lisa Kirkland

This training will use picture books to expand art activities and include take home bags to encourage family involvement.



April 2023



GULF REGIONAL
Early Childhood Services

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					1 (AELG) Session 7; 8:30am-10:30am; Mobile (AELG) Session 8; 10:30am-12:30pm; Mobile
3 Get Kids Moving; 6:00pm-8:00pm; Mobile Music Monday #WOYC2023	4 You are What You Eat: Nutrition for Infants and Toddlers (APT); 6:30pm-8:30pm; Mobile Tasty Tuesday #WOYC2023	5 Communicat- ing Effectively with Parents; 6:30pm-8:30pm; Mobile (AELG) Session 9; 6:00pm-8:00pm; Mobile Work Together Wednesday #WOYC2023	6 Paint with GRECS! Moving from Crafts to Process Art; 6:00pm-8:00pm; Mobile Artsy Thursday #WOYC2023	7 GRECS and EHS Closed for Good Friday Wear Blue Day CTF  Family Friday #WOYC2023	8
10	11 2-Hour DHR Health & Safety CCDF: 3, 4; 8:30am-10:30am; Mobile Best Practices for Language Acquisition: Read, Write, Talk, Sing & Play (APT); 6:30pm-8:30pm; Mobile	12 Prevention of Shaken Baby Syndrome and Sudden Infant Death Syndrome (SIDS) Prevention and Use of Safe Sleep Practices; CCDF: 2, 6 (CTF); 8:30am-10:30am; Mobile 	13 2-Hour DHR Health & Safety CCDF: 5, 8; 8:30am-10:30am; Mobile Playing It Safe: How to Create Safe Spaces (APT) (CTF); 6:30pm-8:30pm; Mobile 	14	15
17 2-Hour DHR Health & Safety CCDF: 1, 7; 8:30am-10:30am; Mobile	18 Recognizing and Reporting Child Abuse and Neglect in Early Child Care (CTF); 5:30pm-7:30pm; Mobile Creating an Environment for Every Child to be Successful (CTF); 5:30pm-7:30pm; Future Achievers, Evergreen 	19 Moving On: Transitioning from the Infant Room to the Toddler Room; 6:00pm-7:00pm; Webinar	20 Developmentally Appropriate Practice (DAP): What's That?; 6:30pm-8:30pm; Mobile	21	22
24 Motor Development; 6:00pm-8:00pm; Mobile	25 Welcome to Your Writing Center; 6:00pm-8:00pm; Mobile	26 2-Hour DHR Health & Safety CCDF: 9, 11; 8:30am-10:30am; Mobile	27 Music to Our Ears: The Benefits of Music and Movement; 6:30pm-8:30pm; Mobile	28 Day of Caring UWSA 	29 The Art Lesson; 9:30am-11:30am; Mobile

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

May 2023



Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1	2 <i>Getting Started (Day 1)</i> ; 12:00pm-4:00pm; Mobile <i>Baby Let's Go Outside!</i> ; 6:30pm-8:30pm; Mobile	3 <i>Getting Started (Day 2)</i> ; 12:00pm-4:00pm; Mobile	4 <i>Getting Started (Day 3)</i> ; 12:00pm-4:00pm; Mobile <i>Who is Taking Care of YOU?</i> ; 6:00pm-8:00pm; Mobile	5	6
8	9 <i>Positive Guidance: "Strategies for Challenging Behaviors"</i> ; 6:00pm-8:00pm; Mobile	10 <i>Introduction to the Child Development Associate Credential (CDA)</i> ; 6:00pm-8:00pm; Webinar	11 <i>Indoors Out and Outdoors In: Connecting Infants and Toddlers to Animals and Nature (APT)</i> ; 6:30pm-8:30pm; Mobile <i>Free Public Health and Safety: First-Aid and CPR Training</i> ; 8:00am-12:00pm; Mobile	12	13
15	16 <i>What is Alabama Pathways?</i> ; 9:30am-11:30am; Webinar <i>What is Alabama Pathways?</i> ; 6:00pm-8:00pm; Webinar 	17	18 <i>Read, Read, Read: The Importance of Reading to Young Children</i> ; 6:00pm-8:00pm; Mobile	19	20 <i>Creating an Environment for Every Child to be Successful (CTF)</i> ; 9:30am-11:30am; Monroe County Public Library, Monroeville 
22 <i>CPR and First Aid Refresher Session</i> ; 9:30am-10:30am; Mobile <i>Guidance! Not Discipline</i> ; 6:00pm-8:00pm; Mobile	23 <i>Cognitive Development</i> ; 6:00pm-8:00pm; Mobile	24	25 <i>2-Hour DHR Health & Safety CCDF: 1, 2</i> ; 8:30am-10:30am; Mobile <i>The Outdoor Classroom "No Child Left Indoors"</i> ; 6:00pm-8:00pm; Mobile	26	27
29 GRECS and EHS Closed for Memorial Day	30	31 <i>Directors Forum: ACEs: Implementing Strategies for Childhood Trauma</i> ; 9:30am-11:30am; Mobile			

May '23 TRAINING

May 2-4, 2023 | 12:00pm-4:00pm 12 hrs

Getting Started May 2023 (3-Day Course)

CCDF: 3, 4, 13, 15, 20 | AL Pathways: CGD, ICFC, LEE, HSN, PPD | CDA: 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 8 | DHR: CD, CCPE, LD, QCCL, PDG, HSUP | ALL | Basic | GRECS Training Room, Mobile | 1.2 CEUs

PRESENTER: GRECS Staff

See Course Highlights on page 4 for more information! Don't forget we have a new time for this session!

May 2, 2023 | 6:30pm-8:30pm 2 hrs

Baby Let's Go Outside!

CCDF: 13, 17, 20 | AL Pathways: CGD, LEE, HSN | CDA: 1, 2, 8 | DHR: CD, HSUP | Infants | Basic | GRECS Training Room, Mobile | .2 CEUs

PRESENTER: Victoria Bolton

Do babies really need to go outside to play? This course explores the why and the how of outdoor play for our youngest children.

May 4, 2023 | 6:00pm-8:00pm 2 hrs

Who Is Taking Care of YOU?

CCDF: 13, 18 | AL Pathways: PPD | CDA: 1, 6 | DHR: QCCL, CCPE | ALL | Basic | GRECS Training Room, Mobile | .2 CEUs

PRESENTER: Erin Franklin

Self-care is not selfish. You can't take care of others unless you take care of YOU.

May 9, 2023 | 6:00pm-8:00pm 2 hrs

Positive Guidance: "Strategies for Challenging Behaviors"

CCDF: 13, 15 | AL Pathways: CGD, COA | CDA: 3, 5 | DHR: CD, PDG | Infants, Toddlers, and Preschoolers | Basic | GRECS Training Room, Mobile | .2 CEUs

PRESENTER: Paula Reese

Participants will state strategies to support challenging behaviors and Early Childhood Positive Behavior Interventions.

May 10, 2023 | 6:00pm-8:00pm 2 hrs

Introduction to the Child Development Associate Credential (CDA)

CCDF: 20 | AL Pathways: PPD | CDA: 6 | DHR: QCCL, CCPE | ALL | Basic | Webinar

PRESENTER: LaDanika York

This introduction is designed for any professional early child care educator considering applying for the CDA credential.

May 11, 2023 | 6:30pm-8:30pm 2 hrs

Indoors Out and Outdoors In: Connecting Infants and Toddlers to Animals and Nature

CCDF: 12, 13 | AL Pathways: LEE | CDA: 1, 2, 3, 8 | DHR: QCCL | Infants, Toddlers | Basic | GRECS Training Room, Mobile | .2 CEUs

PRESENTER: APT Instructor

Learn fun hands-on activities and explore PBS Kids programming that extends children's understanding of nature and connects children to the world around them.

May 11, 2023 | 8:00am-12:00pm 4 hrs

First-Aid and CPR Training

CCDF: 10 | AL Pathways: HSN | CDA: 1 | DHR: HSUP | ALL | Basic | GRECS Training Room, Mobile

PRESENTER: Pamela J. Senters, RNC

Practice and assimilation of skills to perform CPR and Basic First-Aid with a certification from The Emergency Care and Safety Institute (ECSI) for the child care setting.

May 16, 2023 | 9:30am-11:30am 2 hrs

What is Alabama Pathways?

CCDF: 18 | AL Pathways: PPD | CDA: 5, 6 | DHR: QCCL, CCPE | ALL | Basic | Webinar

PRESENTER: DHR Staff

Participants will discuss the goal of Alabama Pathways and how it can help teachers in the early childhood profession.

May 16, 2023 | 6:00pm-8:00pm 2 hrs

What is Alabama Pathways?

CCDF: 18 | AL Pathways: PPD | CDA: 5, 6 | DHR: QCCL, CCPE | ALL | Basic | Webinar

PRESENTER: DHR Staff

Participants will discuss the goal of Alabama Pathways and how it can help teachers in the early childhood profession.

May 18, 2023 | 6:00pm-8:00pm 2 hrs

Read, Read, Read: The Importance of Reading to Young Children

CCDF: 13, 17 | AL Pathways: CGD, LEE | CDA: 2, 3, 8 | DHR: CD, LD | ALL | Basic | GRECS Training Room, Mobile | .2 CEUs

PRESENTER: Desira Keith

Reading aloud to a child early and often is the single most important activity for ensuring eventual academic success.

May 20, 2023 | 9:30am-11:30am 2 hrs

Creating an Environment for Every Child to be Successful

CCDF: 13, 15 | AL Pathways: CGD, LEE | CDA: 1, 2, 3, 8 | DHR: CD, QCCL | ALL | Basic | *Monroe County Public Library | .2 CEUs

PRESENTER: Theresa Patterson

Participants will learn how to reenergize/revamp classrooms to be inviting and safe. *Please enter through the front porch door. The class will be in the upstairs activity room.*

May 22, 2023 | 9:30am-10:30am 1 hr

CPR & First Aid Refresher Session

CCDF: 10R | AL Pathways: HSN | CDA: 1 | DHR: HSUP | ALL | ALL | GRECS Training Room, Mobile

PRESENTER: Pamela J. Senters, RNC

DHR recommends that you should take a CPR and First Aid refresher course every 12 months after your initial certification. We will provide participants with CPR and basic First Aid refresher facts.

May 22, 2023 | 6:00pm-8:00pm 2 hrs

Guidance! Not Discipline

CCDF: 15 | AL Pathways: CGD | CDA: 3, 8 | DHR: PDG, CD | Toddlers & Preschoolers | Basic | GRECS Training Room, Mobile | .2 CEUs

PRESENTER: Vicki Giles

Promoting positive behavior can be challenging. Having a variety of guidance strategies can make it more achievable to create a positive classroom environment.

May 23, 2023 | 6:00pm-8:00pm 2 hrs

Cognitive Development

CCDF: 17, 19, 20 | AL Pathways: CGD, LEE, ICFC | CDA: 2, 3, 6, 8 | DHR: CD, QCCL | Preschoolers | Advanced | GRECS Training Room, Mobile | .2 CEUs

PRESENTER: Abigail Baxter, PhD

This presentation will include video exemplars of cognitive skills to help participants identify developmental skills.

May 25, 2023 | 8:30am-10:30am 2 hrs

DHR Health & Safety CCDF: 1, 2

CCDF: 1, 2 | AL Pathways: HSN | CDA: 1 | DHR: HSUP | ALL | Basic | GRECS Training Room, Mobile

PRESENTER: Pamela J. Senters, RNC

We will introduce you to the foundational information you need to provide safe and healthy environments in the child care setting.

May 25, 2023 | 6:00pm-8:00pm 2 hrs

The Outdoor Classroom "No Child Left Indoors"

CCDF: 13, 20 | AL Pathways: LEE, CGD, ICFC | CDA: 1, 2, 8 | DHR: LD, CD | Toddlers, Preschoolers | Basic | GRECS Training Room, Mobile | .2 CEUs

PRESENTER: LaDanika York

In this workshop, come and see the many ways to incorporate lessons in an outdoor environment by using hands on, visual activities and so much more.

May 31, 2023 | 9:30am-11:30am 2 hrs

Directors Forum: ACEs: Implementing Strategies for Childhood Trauma

CCDF: 13, 14, 15, 16 | AL Pathways: LEE, CGD, DIV, PPD | CDA: 3, 4, 6, 8 | DHR: QCCL, CCPE | Infants, Toddlers, Preschoolers | Basic | GRECS Training Room, Mobile | .2 CEUs

PRESENTER: Paula Reese

In this training, you'll learn about risks and protective factors, outcomes associated with ACEs, and evidence-based strategies you can use to reduce or eliminate the impact of ACEs.

June '23 TRAINING

June 1, 2023 | 8:30am-3:30pm 6 hrs

Preschool Course 2023 (Day 1) (CTF)

CCDF: 5, 8, 13, 15 | AL Pathways: CGD, LEE, DIV, HSN, ICFC, PPD | CDA: 1, 2, 3, 4, 6, 8 | DHR: CD, QCCL, PDG, LD, CCPE, HSUP | Preschoolers | Intermediate | GRECS Training Room, Mobile | 1.2 CEUs

PRESENTER: GRECS Staff

This informative 12-hour training course for preschool teachers promotes ways to interact and respond to preschool children through planned experiences that support individual development.

June 1, 2023 | 6:30pm-8:30pm 2 hrs

Stop, Look, and Listen: The Value of Observation (APT)

CCDF: 20 | AL Pathways: COA, LEE | CDA: 7 | DHR: CD, CCPE | Infants, Toddlers | Basic | GRECS Training Room, Mobile | .2 CEUs

PRESENTER: Erin Franklin

The goal of this training is to recognize how observation plays an integral part in the childcare setting.

June 3, 2023 | 8:30am-12:30pm 4 hrs

Super Saturday with Christian Bellissimo! Using Play to Support Social - Emotional Learning

CCDF: 13, 15, 19, 20 | AL Pathways: CGD, LEE, PPD, ICFC | CDA: 2, 3, 8 | DHR: CD, CCPE, LEE, PPD | ALL | Basic | GRECS Training Room, Mobile | .4 CEUs

PRESENTER: Christian Bellissimo

Christian will demonstrate how to use play to support social-emotional learning. He will deliver developmentally appropriate best practice strategies that align with preschool curriculums and other resources your program might utilize.

June 6, 2023 | 6:00pm-8:00pm 2 hrs

Teaching Empathy

CCDF: 15 | AL Pathways: CGD, ICFC, LEE | CDA: 3, 4 | DHR: CD, PDG | ALL | Basic | GRECS Training Room, Mobile | .2 CEUs

PRESENTER: Paula Reese

This training will help participants gain a better understanding of the definition of empathy and offers information.

June 7, 2023 | 6:00pm-8:00pm 2 hrs

Trauma-Informed Practices: Nurturing Resilience for Success

CCDF: 13, 15, 19 | AL Pathways: LEE, ICFC | CDA: 3, 8 | DHR: CD, PDG | Preschoolers & School-Agers | Basic | GRECS Training Room, Mobile | .2 CEUs

PRESENTER: Sandy Resa & Michelle Denney

We will share strategies for relationship-building and for nurturing the skills children need to be resilient after going through difficult circumstances.

June 8, 2023 | 8:30am-3:30pm 6 hrs

Preschool Course 2023 (Day 2) (CTF)

CCDF: 5, 8, 13, 15 | AL Pathways: CGD, LEE, DIV, HSN, ICFC, PPD | CDA: 1, 2, 3, 4, 6, 8 | DHR: CD, QCCL, PDG, LD, CCPE, HSUP | Preschoolers | Intermediate | GRECS Training Room, Mobile | 1.2 CEUs

PRESENTER: GRECS Staff

This informative 12-hour training course for preschool teachers promotes ways to interact and respond to preschool children through planned experiences that support individual development.

June 8, 2023 | 6:00pm-8:00pm 2 hrs

Creating Zones: Reduce Behavior Problems

CCDF: 15, 20 | AL Pathways: CGD, LEE | CDA: 1, 2, 8 | DHR: CD, PDG | ALL | Basic | GRECS Training Room, Mobile | .2 CEUs

PRESENTER: Desira Keith

Participants will discuss how to create zones that foster a stimulating environment for children while reducing behavior problems associated with boredom and frustration.

June 12, 2023 | 6:00pm-8:00pm 2 hrs

Autism 101: What Child Care Providers Need to Know

CCDF: 13, 15 | AL Pathways: CGD, LEE | CDA: 2, 3, 8 | DHR: QCCL, PDG | ALL | Intermediate | GRECS Training Room, Mobile | .2 CEUs

PRESENTER: Dr. Abigail Baxter

In this session, participants will be able to apply teaching strategies that are effective for children with autism in their classrooms.

June 13, 2023 | 6:00pm-8:00pm 2 hrs

So Much More Than Nothing: Translating Play Based Learning for Families

CCDF: 13, 16 | AL Pathways: CDG, ICFC | CDA: 2, 4 | DHR: CD, CCPE | Infants, Toddlers, Preschoolers | Basic | GRECS Training Room, Mobile | .2 CEUs

PRESENTER: Vicki Giles

We will explore how to use high-quality documentation to help families understand the link between play and learning.

June 15, 2023 | 5:30pm-7:30pm 2 hrs

Little Books for Little Cooks (CTF)

CCDF: 13, 15 | AL Pathways: CGD, LEE | CDA: 1, 2, 3, 8 | DHR: CD, LD | ALL | Basic | Spots for Tots, Chatom, AL | .2 CEUs

PRESENTER: Theresa Patterson

Cooking can help develop life skills such as reading, math concepts, literacy concepts and ways to boost self-confidence as it relates to healthy eating habits.

June 15, 2023 | 6:00pm-8:00pm 2 hrs

Socialization for Infant & Toddler

CCDF: 13 | AL Pathways: CGD | CDA: 3, 4, 8 | DHR: CD | Infants & Toddlers | Basic | GRECS Training Room, Mobile | .2 CEUs

PRESENTER: Victoria Bolton

Learn ways caregivers can promote and aid socialization for infants and toddlers.

June 17, 2023 | 9:30am-11:30am 2 hrs

What's So Positive About Positive Discipline and Other Mysteries of Child Guidance

CCDF: 15, 17 | AL Pathways: CGD, LEE | CDA: 2, 3, 8 | DHR: PDG, QCCL | ALL | Basic | Coastal Community College, Bay Minette | .2 CEUs

PRESENTER: Lisa Kirkland

This training will introduce participants to the concept of using positive discipline and guidance in their classrooms.

June 27, 2023 | 9:30am-11:30am 2 hrs

Director's Forum Re-Energize, Refresh, Reboot! Remembering the Why

AL Pathways: MA | CDA: 1, 5 | DHR: AM, CCPE | ALL | Basic | GRECS Training Room, Mobile | .2 CEUs

PRESENTER: Sandy Resa & Michelle Denney

Reignite your passion by reflecting on the difference you are making in the lives of children and the difference those children are making in your life.

June 27, 2023 | 6:30pm-8:30pm 2 hrs

The Power of Play

CCDF: 13 | AL Pathways: CGD, LEE | CDA: 2, 3 | DHR: CD, QCCL | Infants, Toddlers | Basic | GRECS Training Room, Mobile | .2 CEUs

PRESENTER: LaDanika York

Through this 2-hour training, we will discuss ways to effectively implement play throughout the day using songs, movements, free play, as well as structured play.

June 28, 2023 | 8:30am-10:30am 2 hrs

DHR Health & Safety CCDF: 5, 7

CCDF: 5, 7 | CDA: 1 | DHR: HSUP | ALL | Basic | GRECS Training Room, Mobile

PRESENTER: Pamela J. Senters, RNC

The purpose of this training is to make participants aware of potential disaster situations in early childhood programs, and to discuss appropriate responses to those situations.

June 28, 2023 | 6:00pm-8:00pm 2 hrs

Creative Collaboration!

CCDF: 13, 15, 19 | AL Pathways: CGD, LEE | CDA: 2, 3, 8 | DHR: CD | Preschoolers | Basic | Webinar

PRESENTER: APT Instructor

Young children who engage in collaborative play work together to reach a common goal. Let's explore how to do this with preschoolers using art projects, games, music, books and more.

June 29, 2023 | 6:00pm-8:00pm 2 hrs

Children's Development of Executive Functions

CCDF: 13 | AL Pathways: CGD | CDA: 2, 3, 4 | DHR: CD | Preschoolers | Basic | GRECS Training Room, Mobile | .2 CEUs

PRESENTER: Desira Keith

Through discussions and hands-on and group activities, we will uncover ways to engage children in the growth of executive functions.



Register online: www.grecs.org

June 2023

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1 Preschool Course 2023 (CTF); 8:30am-3:30pm; Mobile <i>Stop, Look, and Listen: The Value of Observation (APT); 6:30pm-8:30pm; Mobile</i>	2	3 Super Saturday <i>with Christian Bellissimo - Using Play to Support Social-Emotional Learning; 8:30am-12:30pm; Mobile</i>
5	6 Teaching Empathy; 6:00pm-8:00pm; Mobile	7 Trauma-Informed Practices: Nurturing Resilience for Success; 6:00pm-8:00pm; Mobile 	8 Preschool Course 2023 (CTF); 8:30am-3:30pm; Mobile <i>Creating Zones: Reduce Behavior Problems; 6:00pm-8:00pm; Mobile</i>	9	10
12 Autism 101: What Child Care Providers Need to Know; 6:00pm-8:00pm; Mobile	13 So Much More than Nothing: Translating Play Based Learning for Families; 6:00pm-8:00pm; Mobile	14	15 Socialization for Infant and Toddler; 6:00pm-8:00pm; Mobile <i>Little Books for Little Cooks (CTF); 5:30pm-7:30pm; Spots for Tots, Chatom, AL</i> 	16	17 What's So Positive About Positive Discipline and Other Mysteries of Child Guidance; 9:30am-11:30am; Coastal Alabama, Bay Minnette
19 GRECS and EHS Closed for Juneteenth	20	21 	22	23	24
	AALECE 2023 Shaping Today's Vision into Tomorrow's Reality				
26	27 Director's Forum Re-Energize, Refresh, Reboot! Remembering the Why; 9:30am-11:30pm; Mobile <i>The Power of Play; 6:30pm-8:30pm; Mobile</i>	28 2-Hour DHR Health & Safety CCDF; 5, 7; 8:30am-10:30am; Mobile <i>Creative Collaboration! (APT); 6:00pm-8:00pm; Webinar</i>	29 Children's Development of Executive Functions; 6:00pm-8:00pm; Mobile	30	

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



Pillars of Peace: Tips for Peacemaking in the Early Childhood Classroom



1. Acknowledge children's peacemaking skills

Recognize when a child resolves a conflict, solves a problem, or clearly communicates an emotion. These are all essential components of peacemaking. When we acknowledge and label these actions, we show children how to recognize and value their own capacities for peacemaking: **"Wow, Maria figured out a way for you all to share these blocks and work together. She has shown great problem-solving skills."**

4. Watch, listen, and learn

When children express big emotions, it is important to pay careful attention and give them the chance to teach us about what they are experiencing. Tuning in with full awareness can help us make sense of big emotions as they arise: Why is this child feeling this way? What do we know about the child (at school and at home)? When we practice attentive listening, we also demonstrate to children that we value them and respect their feelings: **"I see that you are upset. I would like to know why—will you tell me?"**

5. Respect the whole child

Positive peacemaking for the whole child requires that every aspect of the learning environment be respectful. Look around your classroom and ask yourself

- How does each child navigate the design, the space, and the materials?
- What challenges is each child faced with? Are these challenges developmentally appropriate?
- What design changes can I make to help each child maneuver and learn with and from the environment?

Young children's social and emotional development is crucial to their success in school. When children communicate their feelings appropriately, develop positive relationships with their peers, and come up with ways to solve problems and make peace in their world, they are better able to focus and learn. However, as early childhood educators, we are regularly asked to prioritize academic skills, leaving little time to focus on important social skills such as curiosity, self-awareness, and problem-solving. The following tips will help you foster peacemaking skills in the classroom.

2. Make space for peace

Peacemaking is challenging—even for adults. To support young children in peacemaking both in the moment and as a lasting pillar of the classroom community, you can designate space in the classroom and use readily available objects. For example, a peace corner or table can be used for children to work out conflicts with their peers, and peace puppets can help children act out their feelings. **Introduce to and practice with the children using a peace-related space and materials.**

Over time, children can take ownership of working through problems using these supports.

3. Model and label your own peacemaking skills

Children look to us as educators and caregivers to be the models of what peacemaking looks like. While you demonstrate positive problem-solving, remember to talk through your own feelings and label them for children to hear. Share with the children, **"I too am feeling frustrated right now and also a little overwhelmed. I'm going to try taking a few deep breaths to relax my body and my mind."**



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 Performance 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





Alabama Pathways is a free online resource to provide a path to support and advance the best practices for those who care for and teach children from birth through 12 years. In accordance with Child Care Licensing and Performance Standards for Day Care Centers and Nighttime Centers Regulations and Procedures and Licensing and Performance Standards for Family Day Care Homes Family Nighttime Homes and Group Day Care Homes Group Nighttime Homes Regulations and Procedures, all licensed providers in the State of Alabama are required to participate in the Alabama Professional Development Registry (PDR) and must be enrolled in the PDR system by September 16, 2022.

The Professional Development Registry (PDR) will allow you to:

- Create your own early childhood professional and training profile.
- Document your professional accomplishments and professional certificates.
- Identify your current place on the Alabama Pathways Professional Development Lattice.
- Collaborate with state-designated training agencies to help you identify and reach your goals.
- Link to official training organizations.
- Access to available resources.

Things to remember:

- Website address – www.alabamapathways.org
- An updated User Guide is always available for your reference on your dashboard
- FAQ's - <https://www.alabamapathways.org/api/file/s/faq>
- When adding info into the profile, go to each tab to add information: education, employment, etc.
- A Help Desk will be available on the footer of the page on the left side.
- When setting up your account, remember to use your PERSONAL email.
- As a FINAL step, don't forget to associate yourself with the facility at which you are working.

Your profile belongs to you! Take it along wherever your professional journey may take you! All you have to do is log in!

What is Alabama Pathways?

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 15, 2023 | 9:30-11:30A AND 6:00-8:00P | GRECS TRAINING ROOM, MOBILE

TUESDAY, MAY 16, 2023 | 9:30-11:30A AND 6:00-8:00P | VIRTUAL TRAINING, WEBINAR

TUESDAY, AUGUST 29, 2023 | 9:30-11:30A AND 6:00-8:00P | VIRTUAL TRAINING, WEBINAR

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 12, 2023 | 9:30-11:30A AND 6:00-8:00P | GRECS TRAINING ROOM, MOBILE

Do you have questions about Alabama Pathways? Participants will discuss the goal of Alabama Pathways and how it can help teachers in the early childhood profession. Alabama Pathways is a free online resource for early childhood professionals working in child care facilities. The professional development system addresses the training and education needs of caregivers and teachers in the field of early childhood and school-age care. The goal of Alabama Pathways is to provide a path to support and advance the best practices of those who care for and teach children from birth through 12 years.

CCDF: 18 | AL Pathways: PPD | CDA: 5, 6 | DHR: QCCL , CCPF | ALL | Basic | Q.I. Professional Development | 0.2 CEUs | 2 hours | Presenting DHR Staff



SHAPING TODAY'S *Vision* INTO TOMORROW'S *Reality*

2023 Gulf Coast Early Childhood Summer Symposium

Monday, June 19, 2023 - Wednesday, June 21, 2023

Island House Hotel - A Doubletree by Hilton

Orange Beach, AL

Register Online - www.alabamachildcare.org

Contact us for more information - aalece@gmail.com

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

Registration opens on their website

Monday, March 13th.

Alabama Early Learning Guidelines: *April 3 – May 22, 2023*

Early Brain Development and the Lasting Importance of Caregiver-Child Relationships: *April 3 - April 24, 2023*

Talking to Young Children About Race and Racism:

April 3 - April 24, 2023

CDA Credential: An Introduction

May 1 - May 22, 2023

New! New Kindergarten Readiness: Essential Math Skills for Preschoolers

May 1 - May 22, 2023



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We have scholarships available for this program!

Call Sofie McNamara at 251-473-1060 for more information!



ALABAMA'S NEW SPECIAL NEEDS CHILDCARE SUBSIDY

Benefits for Child Care Centers, Family and Group Home Providers

Availability

Alabama's new Special Needs Childcare Subsidy is available statewide.

Reimbursement

Participating centers will be reimbursed \$250 per week. There is no penalty when a child is not in attendance, so the center will be reimbursed regardless of attendance.

Inclusion Support

Childcare staff will have FREE access to training, consultation, technical assistance, and adaptive materials provided by Childcare Enhancement with a Purpose (CCEP) Inclusion Consultants statewide to support inclusion in the classroom.



About the Subsidy

Financial assistance is now available for qualifying Alabama families of a child with special needs to attend quality, inclusive childcare programs statewide. To qualify, the child must be receiving services (IFSP, IEP, private therapy, etc.).

To learn more, or to determine eligibility, contact Melissa Anderson, Statewide Childcare Enhancement with a Purpose Project Manager, at manderson@ucphuntsville.org or 256-859-4900.



The Resource Place

at  **GULF REGIONAL
Early Childhood Services**

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**Children's Books * Teacher Resource Books* Outdoor Play Materials*
Manipulatives* Puzzles* Puppets* Big Books * Laminating Machine *
Bulletin Board Paper and More!!!!**

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**Register today.
Scan and select the
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**Lift them higher with quality early
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 **334-604-6260**  **info@alabamaqualitystars.org**



Support Children's Trust Fund

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 provide training and support to 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.

The next time you renew your car tag, Purchase this specialty tag at your local Probate office. It is tax deductible & proceeds directly fund community-based prevention programs.



The Bright Beginnings Project families and children are enrolled in the comprehensive center based early learning programs provided in the GRECS Early Head Start classrooms. In addition, families of children enrolled in other infant-toddler classrooms at our child care center partner centers are also invited to participate. Many thanks to our friends at PNC, to all of the families for their enthusiastic response, and to the staff for their part in making this project such a success!



Gulf Regional Childcare Management Agency, Inc.

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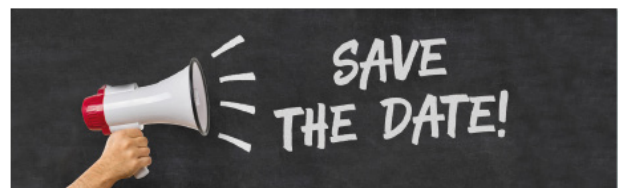
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the latest happenings and
events!



April 7th, 2023

GRECS & EHS offices are CLOSED for
Good Friday

May 29th, 2023

GRECS & EHS offices are CLOSED for
Memorial Day

June 19th, 2023

GRECS & EHS offices are CLOSED for
Juneteenth