

Description of Events

Classroom Environments -More than Room Arrangement

As educators of young children we want our students and their families to feel safe and secure in their learning environment. Please join us as we explore how to create an early childhood environment that reflects belonging and facilitates learning. Don't miss this opportunity to develop a working knowledge of how to build a community of learners through intentional classroom design.

Conflict Resolution

In order for teachers to be successful in the early childhood classroom they need to be able to facilitate conflict resolution strategies among children. This session will identify the steps to scaffolding conflict resolution in classroom settings. Video models will be used to demonstrate conflict resolution strategies.

Participants will:

- Learn the steps to conflict resolution
- Practice identifying steps in video clips
- Make a plan to use conflict resolution in their own classrooms

Developmentally Appropriate Practices:

This guidance provides the core to any early childhood program from birth to the primary grades. In this interactive session, you will identify key components to quality early childhood practice and reflect on how practices, activities, and instructional methods should be evidenced in your classroom. We will discuss and explore what a teacher needs to know to help them establish developmentally appropriate practices in this age of accountability

Dramatic Play

In this interactive session participants will learn the importance of dramatic play and the teacher's role in setting up a quality scenario. A dramatic play plan will be reviewed and participants will use the plan to develop a dramatic play scenario for their classrooms.

Participants will:

- Reflect on importance of pretend play in their lives
- Review the forms of play
- Learn the educational benefits of enriched dramatic play
- Develop a dramatic play scenario to take home
- Receive a copy of the plan and example for future use

ECQUIP TRAINING

The Early Childhood Quality Improvement Practice Process (ECQUIP) was developed as a means to assure quality and accountability on behalf of the districts who receive state funding through ADE-ECE. In order to guide districts through the self assessment process (working towards quality improvement), the framework to this approach needs to be clearly stated. This session will use a variety of instructional techniques that will involve whole body and mind learning, learning that is created and not consumed, involves collaboration, occurs on various levels and provides attendees with information on the topic that they can use to immediately begin the ECQUIP process.

Fine Arts Standard Module Training

The arts nurture the imagination and creative spirit of all children. Sensory awareness is the foundation for all imaginative activity and creative expression. For young children, the importance of the arts is in the process of creating rather than the end result. In this interactive session, participants will actively explore the arts and how it connects to all areas of learning and how they are fundamental to children's development and education. Through hands-on activities, participants will gain practical ideas that will allow children to develop independence, self-esteem, and self-expression through the arts process which in turn will allow children to discover more about who they are and gain insight into their own culture and the cultures around them.

Participants will:

- Identify ways in which visual art, music, creative movement, and dramatic play can be forms of inquiry
- Reflect on ways you can intentionally foster children's creative expression
- Explain the relationship between the Fine Arts standard and all the other Early Learning Standards
- Evaluate your existing repertoire of activities to determine how they can be used more intentionally to teach visual art, music, creative movement, and dramatic play
- Create an action plan to implement the Fine Arts standard in your classroom

Introduction to the Early Learning Standards

The Early Learning Standards have been developed to provide a framework for the planning of quality learning experiences for all children 3 to 5 years of age. They cover a broad range of skill development and provide an instructional foundation for all children.

Participants will:

- Gain knowledge in the structure of the Early Learning Standards
- Define the Domain, Concepts and Indicators
- Use the Early Learning Standard to practice and identify the use of domain, concepts and indicator involved with pictures.

Language and Literacy Standard Module Training

Daily exposure to verbal and written language provides young children with the opportunities to begin acquiring a basic understanding of the concepts of literacy and its functions. Through play, children learn to create meaning from language and communicate with others using verbal and non-verbal language, pictures, symbols, and print. In this six hour session, participants will actively explore the Language and Literacy Standard. Through hands on activities:

Participants will:

- Gain practical ideas to use in the classroom to enhance preschool language and literacy

Lesson Planning

In this age of accountability, preschool teachers need a lesson plan that will display what will happen in small and large group activities, changes to the environment, and what the goals or objectives are for the week. In this session, participants will explore lesson planning and what it should involve.

Participants will:

- Review elements of lesson planning
- Explore how to include early learning standards and children's interests in planning
- Learn to document changes to the environment

- Learn to use child observations to modify the lesson plan

Mathematics Standard Module Training

To provide an in-depth examination of the Arizona Early Learning Mathematics Standard that will lead to effective planning of quality learning mathematics' experiences for children three to five years of age. Participants will actively explore the Early Learning Mathematics Standard through this module. Through hands on activities, participants will learn the theory of mathematics and also gain practical ideas to use in the classroom.

Participants will:

- Identify the five strands of the Early Learning Mathematics Standard,
- Identify Mathematics Standard strands and concepts when observing children at play/work
- Describe and design a mathematically-rich environment.

Music and Movement

Singing, dancing, making and moving to sounds/rhythms are fundamental musical activities of young children. The exploration of music and movement enhances all areas of a child's learning. Music and creative movement connect children to their own community and expand their personal view of the world. Through this interactive session the

Participants will:

- Gain practical ideas to use in the classroom to help children explore and to express themselves as musicians and dancers.

Ongoing Progress Monitoring is an assessment system designed to collect information about a child or a group of children. But who decides when, where and how much information should be collected? In this two part workshop participants will look at their process and develop a system for completing ongoing progress monitoring in an effective and efficient manner that clearly meets the needs of their program

Physical Development, Health and Safety Standards Module Training

Physical activity is natural for young children. Including physical activity in early childhood classrooms will help children remain physically fit later in life. Active children are healthier children. Health and safety go hand in hand with physical development and activity. In this interactive session, participants will actively explore physical development, health and safety. They will see how all three are connected and will lead to happy children and healthier adults. Through hands-on activities, participants will gain practical ideas that will allow children to develop motor skills in appropriate ways, increase children's capacity for learning and promote social well-being as well as physical and mental health.

Participants will:

- Identify the three strands of the Physical Development, Health, & Safety Standard
- Explain the interrelationship between all areas of the Early Learning Standards
- Identify characteristics of child development as it pertains to the area of Physical Development plan and implement appropriate activities that enhance the physical development of children in specific age and functional levels
- Describe an environment that contributes to the prevention of illness through the implementation of general hygiene and health practices
- Plan and implement environmental safety rules that will foster the children's physical development and skills
- Write an action plan to implement in their classrooms

Process vs. Product -Art and the Young Child

The acts of exploring and creating are what really matters with young children. Join us as we actively explore the benefits of a creatively stimulating classroom. Learn the difference between process and product art and their place in the early childhood classroom. Discuss the teachers' role in teaching art, review your existing repertoire of activities and discover new ways you can intentionally foster children's creative expression.

Ramps and Pathways

Learn how to promote children's scientific reasoning by engaging them in active experimentation through the use of Ramps and Pathways. In this interactive session you will see the benefits of using a constructivist approach to physical science learning in the early childhood classroom. You will learn why ramp activities engage children deeply in reasoning about physical objects and phenomena such as force and motion and how to apply the 10 principals of constructivist teaching in your classroom.

Scaffolding

In this session participants will explore Vygotsky's "Social Development Theory" and "Zone of Proximal Development".

Participants will:

- Learn how scaffolding provides support for a child
- Identify deliberate and planned support strategies
- Identify prompts
- Practice scaffolding and making decisions about support strategies
- Discuss ways to teach scaffolding to high school students

Science Standard – Using the AZ Early Learning Standards

Children have a natural sense of wonder and curiosity. Scientific inquiry, for young children, is asking questions and seeking answers based on their natural curiosity. Children learn by being actively engaged with hand on experiences, real objects and natural occurrences. In this full day session, participants will actively explore the Science Standard. Through hands on activities, participants will gain practical ideas to use in the classroom to enhance preschool science inquiry.

Participants will:

- Identify the four concepts of the Inquiry strand of the Science Standard
- Identify the concepts of the Inquiry strand of the Science Standard when observing children at play/work
- Identify and apply strategies that can be used to teach (1) observations, questions, and hypotheses; (2) investigation; (3) analysis and conclusions; and (4) communication
- Describe and design a science-rich environment
- Explain the relationship between Science and all the other Early Learning Standards
- Write an action plan to implement the Science Standard in their classrooms

Social Emotional Standard Module Training

Learn how to apply both explicit and indirect teaching practices to assure children's social emotional development. Focus will be placed on the alignment of curriculum with the Social Emotional Standard content area and learning will occur through the use of lecture, small group activities and discussion.

Participants will:

- Understand the interconnectedness of the Early Learning Standards content areas,
- Apply what we know about children's behavior to social emotional curriculum development
- Understand the connection between the Early Learning Standards and teacher responsiveness.

Social Studies Standard Module Training

The inclusion of Social studies in early childhood environments is important in order to nurture children's understanding of themselves and others. Through Social Studies children learn to become active, responsible citizens and what the expectations of these citizens are. In this interactive session, participants will delve into the Social Studies Early Learning Standard in order to gain practical ideas to help children acquire skills in problem solving, decision making, and critical thinking that can then be integrated in to all aspects of their world.

Participants will:

- Identify the five strands and corresponding concepts for the Arizona Early Learning Social Studies Standard
- Scrutinize the relationship between social studies and the desired outcomes for students as future leaders and citizens
- Identify and apply strategies that can be used to teach diversity, individual rights, individual and group responsibilities, role of citizenship, spatial terms, family identity and foundations of economics
- Identify and affect strategies that nurture children's understanding of both themselves and others as well as promote acquiring problem solving and decision making skills
- Explain the interconnectedness between all areas of the Arizona Early Learning Standards
- Evaluate their own early learning environment and develop an action plan to implement in both their classroom and community.