



Agenda for CHILDREN

...a voice for Louisiana's children and families

EARLY CHILDHOOD PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT SEMINAR



Implementing a Quality Curriculum

Laying the Foundation for Future Success

Saturday, April 1, 2017

8:00 am – 3:30 pm | Registration begins at 7:30 am

**Southeastern Louisiana University
War Memorial Student Union 303 Texas Ave. | Hammond, La.**

Dear Colleague,

I am pleased to announce that we are changing our approach to providing professional development opportunities to better serve the early childhood community. In much the same way that everything you do in the classroom is intentional and designed to maximize children's learning, we want to make sure that all of our professional development offerings are designed specifically to maximize your learning and effectiveness in the classroom.

In the past, we mostly offered "stand-alone" three-hour workshops in the evenings and on Saturdays, as well as targeted trainings for centers participating in technical assistance. We found that most people were not registering for our training workshops in a manner that could maximize their classroom teaching/and or understanding of child development.

Going forward, we want to provide you with a cohesive learning experience, so most of our workshops will be offered through all-day seminars on Fridays and/or Saturdays. Rather offering a random assortment of workshops throughout the year, our seminars will give you the option of registering for up to four related two-hour workshops in a single day, letting you earn up to eight clock hours of professional development in one day. Each seminar will give you a "deep dive" into a theme related to CLASS so that you can gain the knowledge and skills you need to improve your interactions with children.

We hope that you are as excited by this new approach as we are! We believe that this change will create a better learning experience for you, as well as free up more of your time throughout the year to enjoy your evenings and weekends with your family and friends.

We look forward to receiving your feedback on our new approach to providing improved professional development opportunities for you.

Sincerely,



Dr. Anthony Recasner
Chief Executive Office

Changes to our Approach: the Nuts & Bolts

- ⇒ **We will regularly offer one- or two-day seminars on Fridays and Saturdays focused on specific CLASS-aligned themes.**
- ⇒ **Seminars will be held at different locations throughout the region that can accommodate several workshops at the same time.**
- ⇒ **We will no longer offer evening workshops** because we saw that it was just too hard for educators to engage in meaningful professional development activities after they had already had a full day of working.
- ⇒ **We will continue to offer Saturday morning workshops**, but we won't offer quite as many so that we can concentrate on the full-day seminars.
- ⇒ **We will offer fewer Health and Safety classes** because the Louisiana Department of Education will offer these classes.
- ⇒ **All workshops will be two (not three) hours in length.**

AT-A-GLANCE SCHEDULE

APRIL 1, 2017

Sessions will begin promptly at the scheduled time. Please arrive 15 minutes prior to the start of the session.

Open Registration **7:30 am - 1:00 pm**

Session 1 **8:00 am - 10:00 am**

	Frog Street (Infants & Toddlers)	<i>Glenda Bennett</i>	Room 2202
	Frog Street (Pre-K)	<i>Anita Redding</i>	Room 2203
	Curriculum 101	<i>Suzea Millerhebert</i>	Room 2215
	Language Is Key	<i>Vanice Zenon</i>	Room 2216
	Fostering Children's Thinking	<i>Lisa Sandifer</i>	Room 2217

Session 2 **10:30 am - 12:30 pm**

	Frog Street (Infants & Toddlers)	<i>Glenda Bennett</i>	Room 2202
	Frog Street (Pre-K)	<i>Anita Redding</i>	Room 2203
	Curriculum 101	<i>Suzea Millerhebert</i>	Room 2215
	I Am Moving, I am Learning: Activities For All	<i>Lisa Sandifer</i>	Room 2216
	Thick & Thin Conversations	<i>Vanice Zenon</i>	Room 2217

Lunch (on your own) **12:30 pm - 1:30 pm**

Session 3

1:30 pm - 3:30 pm



Frog Street (Infants & Toddlers)

Glenda Bennett

Room 2202



Frog Street (Pre-K)

Anita Redding

Room 2203



Stating Behavior Expectations

Vanice Zenon

Room 2215



I Am Moving, I am Learning:
Body Language

Suzea Millerhebert

Room 2216



Novel Words

Lisa Sandifer

Room 2217

Have you heard about the Curriculum Initiative?

The Louisiana Department of Education is helping Type III centers purchase Tier I curriculum. Centers can get reimbursed for 80% of their costs of purchasing up to two curricula (up to a maximum reimbursement of \$4,000). Here's how it works:

1. The center director researches curriculum options, working with her staff and Agenda coach to inform her decision.
2. The center purchases one or two curricula, keeping copies of the invoice and delivery receipts.
3. The center submits an application, including assurances, implementation plans and supporting documents (receipts and invoices) to Agenda for Children.
4. Agenda for Children reviews the materials and submits the application to LDE.
5. LDE reimburses Agenda for Children.
6. Agenda for Children reimburses the center.

Learn MUCH more on our web site:

www.agendaforchildren.org/curriculum

CLASS DESCRIPTIONS

Curriculum 101

Age Groups: All Ages

In the new rating system, each center's Program Profile will include information about whether a program uses a "Tier One" curriculum. The Louisiana Department of Education is working with local Child Care Resource and Referral agencies (such as Agenda for Children) to help Type III early learning centers purchase curricula for their programs. This session is a great opportunity to learn about how to use a curriculum to plan and guide your instruction so that you will be well-informed when you are ready to purchase a new curriculum. **Please note that this session is offered multiple times. It is mandatory for all lead teachers, assistant teachers, and directors in Type III early learning centers that would like to receive financial help from the Louisiana Department of Education to purchase a curriculum.**

Fostering Children's Thinking Skills

Age Group: Preschool

CLASS Alignments: Instructional Support (Concept Development)

CDA Areas: 2- Advancing children's physical and intellectual development ; 7- Observing and recording children's behavior; 8- Understanding principles of child development and learning

This workshop describes three main strategies teachers can use to foster children's thinking: using the scientific method, problem solving, and applying knowledge. Participants will be able to provide a definition of fostering children's thinking skills, give examples and strategies for how teachers can foster children's thinking skills in the classroom and provide suggestions for teachers on how to improve their ability to foster children's thinking skills.

Introduction to Frog Street: Infants and Toddlers

Age Group: Infants & Toddlers

This session will give you the information and tools you need to implement Frog Street curriculum for Infants and Toddlers in your classroom. This session is intended for teachers and administrators who are working in centers that have either already purchased Frog Street or are planning to purchase it.

Introduction to Frog Street: Preschool

Age Group: Preschool

This session will give you the information and tools you need to implement Frog Street curriculum for Preschool in your classroom. This session is intended for teachers and administrators who are working in centers that have either already purchased Frog Street or are planning to purchase it.

Language is Key

Age Groups: Infant, Toddler and Preschool

CLASS Alignments: Engaged Support for Learning (Language Modeling) and Instructional Support (Concept Development and Language Modeling)

CDA Areas: 2- Advancing children's physical and intellectual development; 8- Understanding principles of child development and learning

Learn new strategies for creating language-rich conversations with children! This workshop will incorporate background knowledge, exploration, and real-life application in the art of conversing with children. Together, we will cover the research on oral language development and use Language Modeling indicators to describe best practices for language and vocabulary development. We'll also practice ways to create engaging conversations throughout the classroom.

I am Moving; I am Learning: Activities for All

Age Group: Infant, Toddler, Preschool

CDA Areas: 1- To establish and maintain a safe, healthy, learning environment, 2- To advance physical and intellectual competence, 5- To ensure a well-run, purposeful program responsive to participant needs

Learn how to structure the environment and activities so that ALL young children can participate regardless of their ability level.

I am Moving; I am Learning: Body Language

Age Group: Infant, Toddler, Preschool

CDA Areas: 1- To establish and maintain a safe, healthy, learning environment, 2- To advance physical and intellectual competence, 5- To ensure a well-run, purposeful program responsive to participant needs

Body Language teaches the correct vocabulary for the movement and activities that we do with children. Participants will also learn basics of teaching children to move and participate in activities that help to prepare them for elementary school.

Novel Words



Age Groups: Infant, Toddler, Preschool

CLASS Alignments: Instructional Support (Concept Development, Quality of Feedback and Language Modeling)

CDA Areas: 2- Advancing children's physical and intellectual development ; 7- Observing and recording children's behavior; 8- Understanding principles of child development and learning

Children’s vocabularies grow fastest when they’re exposed to new words on a regular basis, even if they don’t understand them at first. In this session, you’ll learn how to incorporate new and novel words in extended, back-and-forth conversations with young children, including young infants and toddlers. You will also learn how children benefit from extended conversations that introduce new words AND how to know *when* to introduce new words in conversation. We will also share other resources you can use to help you have more enriching conversations with children.

Stating Behavior Expectations



Age Groups: Preschool

CLASS Alignments: Classroom Organization (Behavior Management)

CDA Areas: 1- Planning a safe and healthy learning environment; 3- Supporting children's social and emotional development; 7- Observing and recording children's behavior; 8- Understanding principles of child development and learning

Learn how to develop and teach expectations for children’s behaviors in the preschool classroom. Stating behavioral expectations in advance is a proactive strategy that helps prevent behaviors before they may happen. Participants will learn the four main steps: anticipating behaviors, developing a plan, teaching expectations, and recognizing children’s appropriate behaviors.

Thick and Thin Conversations



Age Groups: Infant, Toddler, Preschool

CLASS Alignments: Emotional Support (Positive Climate) and Instructional Support (Language Modeling)

CDA Areas: 2- Advancing children's physical and intellectual development; 7- Observing and recording children's behavior; 8- Understanding principles of child development and learning

Conversations are the bedrock of effective teacher-child interactions. This session will give you new ideas you can use to increase the length and quality of conversation with children, including young infants and toddlers. Having “thick” conversations with lots of back-and-forth helps children develop their communication skills, develop higher-level thinking skills, improve their vocabularies and grammar, and much more. Come to this session to learn how to define an “extended conversation” and find out what makes a conversation “thick.”

Resources for Early Childhood Professionals

Professional Development Credentials

Louisiana Pathways

<https://pathways.nsula.edu>

(800) 245-8925

Louisiana Pathways is Louisiana's career development system for early childhood professionals. Pathways verifies training and credentials for teachers and directors, which is a key part of getting your School Readiness Tax Credits. Pathways also provides scholarships for CDAs, as well as college degrees!

Frequently Asked Questions about Ancillary Certificates

<http://bit.ly/2ahykjm>

Beginning on June 30, 2019, all lead teachers in publicly-funded centers (Type III) will be required to have a current Early Childhood Ancillary Teaching Certificate as a minimum credential. Read this F.A.Q. for valuable information about how to get your ancillary certificate.

Council for Professional Recognition

www.cdacouncil.org

202-265-9090

The Council for Professional Recognition administers the Child Development Associate® (CDA) National Credentialing Program. The Council awards and renews CDAs. Visit their website to learn more about the requirements for attaining a CDA or to find a Professional Development Specialist to verify your educational documentation and observe your teaching practice for the CDA credential.

Useful Early Childhood Web Sites & Resources

Center on the Social and Emotional Foundations for Early Learning (CSEFEL)

<http://csefel.vanderbilt.edu>

CSEFEL offers teachers, trainers and coaches information on how to promote young children's social and emotional development. Teachers might be especially interested in their "book nook," which gives you ideas on how you can use specific books to promote social-emotional development. They also have downloadable resources, such as feeling charts and solutions kits, to help build children's social-emotional development.

Zero to Three

www.zerotothree.org

Zero to Three offers a broad range of information for teachers and parents about early learning and early development. They have a big selection of videos and their series, *Your baby's development: age based tips from birth to 36 months*, would make great handouts in your program's "Parent Corner."

Learn the Signs. Act Early.

<http://www.cdc.gov/ncbddd/actearly/ccp>

"Learn the Signs. Act Early." is a campaign by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) to increase public awareness of the full range of child development. They have some excellent free materials on developmental milestones for you to share with families. All of their publications are available for free download, and many can be mailed to you as hard copies. They even have tip sheets you can use to help you talk to parents when you have concerns about a child's development.

1011 North Causeway Blvd., Suite 39, Mandeville, LA 70471

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Register for more seminars at <https://training.agendaforchildren.org>

www.agendaforchildren.org