



Training TIPS

As an early childhood educator, supervisor, director or staff development personnel, it is important for you and/or your staff members to stay current in your knowledge, skills and abilities concerning early childhood education. Developing a positive attitude towards personal growth and life-long learning is important to the quality of any early care and education program.

We know that daily conversations early childhood educators hold about best practice, curriculum, and goals for children and the program produce the most powerful growth and knowledge base for educators. To compliment ongoing conversations, staff training events can enhance the quality of programs, rejuvenate staff members, and provide excellent sources of new information and best practice.

Use the following information to help you identify, select and get the most out of any training.

How do I identify training needs and take appropriate training?

Tips for reflecting on strengths/needs and growth outcomes:

- Ask another staff member or your director to help you identify your strengths and areas of need. They could do a class observation and give you feedback. Based on the observation, you can identify your strengths/needs so you can work on areas that were noted as needing improvement and maintain those which are strengths.
 - Consider a teacher you admire. What skills or abilities does she have that you would like to develop in yourself?
 - What aspect of your work do you find difficult/hard to understand and implement?
 - Get feedback from parents on possible topics of training they believe are needed.
 - Assess your own knowledge of early childhood education using any evaluation method you choose – plenty are out there.
 - What trainings have you taken in the past? Was there a balance? If not, why?
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- **Ask yourself – “Am I avoiding topics I really need for continued professional growth and development?”**