

A Professional Development Catalog for Early Childhood Educators

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"Supporting Educators Who Support Everyone Else."

Please Note:

Year-round professional development sessions are offered based on availability and may be limited during peak training seasons. All PD offerings are designed with early childhood educators in mind and are tailored to support real-world classroom needs. Only programs located within New York State are eligible to receive OCFS-approved certificates of training hours at this time, as Bryanne Adler is an Aspire-registered trainer certified through the New York State training registry. We're committed to making your PD experience meaningful, practical, and worth your team's time.

Summer-Only Professional Development Offerings

The sessions listed in this section are exclusively available from May through August to align with pre-service training and summer staff development windows. These workshops are perfect for preparing your team for the upcoming school year, refreshing practices, and fostering stronger classroom culture.

Advance booking is encouraged!

Sessions are offered on a first-come, first-served basis and may fill quickly. If your desired date is available, we recommend securing it early. All other workshops in the catalog are available year-round and can be customized to fit your team's schedule and goals.

Classroom Management & Behavior

Classroom Management Strategies

Learn practical, proactive, and inclusive strategies to create a calm, structured classroom where children thrive. This training explores common behavior challenges in early childhood settings and equips educators with tools to set clear expectations, maintain consistency, and respond with intention. Participants will walk away with customizable strategies that support both individual needs and whole-group routines—all rooted in positive, relationship-based approaches.

Meaningful Transitions in the Classroom

Transitions don't have to be chaotic! This training explores how to turn transitional moments—like cleanup time, lining up, and arriving or leaving—into intentional, calm, and developmentally appropriate routines that promote classroom flow and reduce challenging behaviors. Educators will learn how to build structure, use visual and auditory cues, and embed learning moments into transitions. We'll also discuss how to anticipate and support children who struggle with changes and help them feel secure and successful.

Classroom Management: Foundations for a Thriving Classroom

Building a well-managed classroom starts long before a behavior arises. This training focuses on the core pillars of effective classroom management in early childhood settings, including setting expectations, designing environments that support behavior, and fostering strong routines. We explore the "why" behind management, helping educators reflect on their classroom culture, tone, and personal teaching style. This session is ideal for new teachers, those transitioning into lead roles, or teams looking to align their foundational practices.

Social & Emotional Learning (SEL) in the Early Childhood Classroom

Emotional growth is just as important as academic skills. This workshop equips educators with strategies to foster emotional intelligence, empathy, and self-regulation in young learners. From circle time conversations to calm-down corners, we'll explore everyday tools that help children understand their feelings, build positive relationships, and thrive socially and emotionally.

Understanding Behavior Through a Sensory Lens

Behind every behavior is a message—and sometimes, that message is sensory. This workshop introduces educators to the basics of sensory processing and how it affects children's ability to focus, follow directions, and regulate emotions. We'll explore common sensory profiles (seekers, avoiders, under-responders, etc.) and discuss how classroom environments and daily routines can either help or hinder a child's ability to engage. Teachers will learn to recognize the signs of sensory needs, adapt strategies for support, and reduce unnecessary behavior challenges. Includes tools, real-life scenarios, and simple changes that can make a big difference.

Positive Language & Redirection Strategies That Work

What we say—and how we say it—matters. This interactive training equips educators with simple yet powerful communication techniques that de-escalate conflict, build trust, and support children's developing self-regulation skills. Participants will learn how to use positive phrasing, clear expectations, and effective redirection to reduce power struggles and guide behavior with empathy and confidence. We'll model real classroom scenarios and explore how to shift from reactive discipline to responsive classroom language that aligns with PBIS practices.



Leadership & Team Culture

Leadership & Team Culture in ECE

Great programs are built on strong teams. This session explores what effective leadership looks like in early childhood settings—from leading with empathy to setting clear expectations. We'll tackle communication breakdowns, role ambiguity, and the importance of cultivating a team culture rooted in respect, trust, and shared vision. *Perfect for directors, lead teachers, and aspiring leaders.*

Leadership Development: Growing the Leader Within

Designed for aspiring and current early childhood leaders, this session explores how to develop your leadership identity, build confidence, and lead with clarity and compassion. Participants will reflect on their personal leadership style, strengthen their communication and decision-making skills, and explore transformational leadership approaches tailored for ECE environments. *Perfect for teachers stepping into leadership roles, new directors, or program leaders who want to grow professionally and lead with intention.*

Supporting TAs & Paraprofessionals: Building Confidence & Clarity

Teaching Assistants and Paraprofessionals are essential to the classroom—but too often, they receive limited guidance or training. This session is designed to empower support staff by clarifying their role, boosting confidence, and providing practical tools for communication, classroom presence, and teamwork. We'll explore strategies to help TAs and paras feel like valued, informed collaborators, and ensure that lead teachers and administrators are providing the structure and mentorship they need to thrive.

Teacher Support & Collaboration: Creating a Culture of Connection

When teachers feel supported, they stay. This session focuses on building a collaborative culture within your program—one where educators feel heard, respected, and empowered to grow. Participants will explore peer support systems, reflective practices, and the power of intentional communication between staff. We'll discuss how to foster shared responsibility, reduce isolation, and create a team environment that uplifts everyone—from new hires to veteran educators.

Team Teaching: Collaborating with Coworkers Without Losing Your Mind

Teaching is tough—but teaching with a team can be even tougher without the right tools and mindset. This interactive session focuses on building stronger teaching teams through communication, trust, shared responsibility, and healthy boundaries. We'll cover common challenges in co-teaching partnerships (e.g., uneven workloads, differing expectations, or unclear roles) and offer real-world strategies for improving collaboration, resolving tension, and creating a united classroom culture. Expect relatable scenarios, reflective prompts, and laugh-out-loud moments that make this a staff favorite!

Building a Culture of Professionalism in ECE Teams

Ready to reset the tone before the new school year? This summer-exclusive workshop is your chance to start fresh. We'll take a proactive approach to defining what professionalism looks like in your center—and how to embed it into everyday practice. From onboarding expectations to communication systems and team norms, this session helps administrators and educators co-create a shared vision of professionalism that fosters pride, accountability, and purpose. Whether you're leading a veteran team or bringing on new hires, this is the perfect time to align values, clarify roles, and launch the year with a united front.



Creativity & Sensory Learning

Sense-sational Learning: Sensory Art in ECE

This hands-on workshop dives into the power of sensory art experiences in early childhood education. Participants will explore how art that engages the senses—like texture, scent, sound, and motion—supports brain development, emotional regulation, fine motor skills, and creative thinking. We'll discuss the difference between sensory play and sensory art, how to set up inviting sensory stations, and how to scaffold experiences for all developmental levels and sensory needs—including children with SPD, autism, or anxiety. *Perfect for educators looking to spark curiosity, reduce stress, and create inclusive, joyful classroom environments!*

Process Over Product: Open-Ended Creative Work in ECE

In early childhood education, the magic happens in the process, not the final product. This inspiring workshop helps educators shift their focus from Pinterest-perfect crafts to authentic, child-led creativity. Participants will explore the benefits of open-ended art, sensory exploration, and creative expression that honors individual learning styles. We'll also address how to communicate the value of process-focused work to families and how to make small changes that create a more inclusive, imaginative classroom. Includes hands-on ideas, photos of real examples, and a printable resource for reflection and planning.

Sensory Learning: Engaging the Whole Child Through Touch, Sound, Sight, and Movement

Sensory experiences are essential in early childhood. This session dives into how intentional sensory learning supports brain development, emotional regulation, and academic readiness. We'll explore practical strategies for creating sensory-rich environments and activities that align with children's developmental needs. Educators will learn how to incorporate sensory input across the curriculum—from literacy and math to calming routines and transitions—while also understanding the importance of sensory preferences and sensitivities in behavior and engagement.

The Importance of Art & Expression in Early Childhood Education

Art is more than just paint and paper—it's a child's voice, their imagination in motion, and their way of making sense of the world. In this session, we explore how process-based art fosters creativity, problem-solving, language development, and emotional expression. Teachers will gain strategies for integrating open-ended art experiences into daily routines and learn how to create inclusive spaces where every child feels empowered to explore and create. *Ideal for teachers, paraprofessionals, and directors looking to deepen their understanding of how art supports the whole child.*



Wellbeing & Reflection

Supporting Teacher Wellbeing

A thriving classroom starts with a supported teacher. This training centers the emotional, mental, and physical wellbeing of early childhood educators. We'll dive into stress management strategies, identify burnout warning signs, explore systems of support, and build routines that prioritize teacher wellness—without the guilt. *Ideal for administrators and teaching teams looking to create a culture of care.*

The Reflective Teacher: Using Journaling & Visual Tools to Grow Your Practice

Reflection isn't just a buzzword—it's a powerful professional development tool. In this session, we explore how journaling, visual mapping, and simple self-assessments can help early childhood educators process their experiences, reduce burnout, and grow their practice with intention. Participants will engage with sample prompts, visual planning tools, and techniques that foster self-awareness, problem-solving, and professional identity building. Ideal for teachers ready to slow down, reflect, and refocus.

Building Professional Identity in ECE

Who we are as educators matters. This training helps early childhood professionals explore and define their values, strengths, and sense of purpose in the field. Participants will reflect on what it means to be a "professional" in ECE, how to advocate for their role, and how identity impacts decision-making, communication, and collaboration. We'll examine how building a strong professional identity can improve morale, reduce burnout, and promote growth-oriented team culture. *Great for new teachers and seasoned educators alike, this session offers powerful insight into leadership from every role.*



Custom Topic or Multi-Topic PD

Looking for something tailored to your program's unique needs? This flexible option allows directors or education coordinators to combine multiple workshop topics or request a custom professional development session designed just for your team. Whether you want to address a specific challenge (like behavior or burnout), focus on a theme (like SEL, sensory learning, or leadership), or create a training day that spans multiple OCFS categories, we'll collaborate to build a PD experience that's engaging, relevant, and impactful. You'll receive a planning consultation to outline your goals, and together we'll create a session (or series) your team will actually look forward to.

1:1 Mentoring or Coaching (for teachers or directors)

Sometimes the most powerful growth happens in one-on-one conversations. These personalized sessions are designed to support individual educators or administrators in targeted areas like classroom setup, staff leadership, burnout prevention, behavior guidance, or professional development planning. Coaching sessions are collaborative, reflective, and built around your specific goals. *Perfect for new teachers, transitioning leaders, or anyone seeking support with real-time challenges.*





Creating a Calm Classroom: Environments That Support Regulation

How we set up a space shapes how children feel, respond, and engage. This summer workshop is all about creating calm—not just quiet. Together, we'll explore how intentional design choices—from lighting and layout to color palettes and cozy corners—can reduce overstimulation, support sensory needs, and help children (and adults!) self-regulate. Whether you're designing a brand-new space or rethinking your current layout, you'll leave with practical tools to create a classroom that feels safe, supportive, and centered.

This is perfect for programs looking to make intentional environmental changes before the school year starts.

Before the Day Begins: Systems for a Smooth School Year

Great days don't happen by accident—they happen by design. This hands-on planning workshop helps educators and leaders establish the daily systems that set classrooms (and staff!) up for success before the first day. We'll walk through setting up arrival routines, classroom jobs, transitions, communication tools, and team check-ins. You'll leave with a customizable planning template and a fresh perspective on how to build consistency, clarity, and calm into each school day. *Perfect for directors, teachers, and teams looking to start strong in the fall.*

Leadership Starts in the Circle Time Rug

Leadership isn't just for administrators—it starts on the carpet. This session explores how early childhood educators model leadership for children every day through routines, voice, presence, and classroom culture. Participants will reflect on their personal leadership style, examine power dynamics in ECE spaces, and learn how to foster child-centered environments where responsibility and collaboration are nurtured from day one. *Ideal for teachers and assistants alike—because leadership grows from the ground up.*

Cozy Corners & Calm Classrooms: Routines That Work

A calm classroom doesn't happen by accident—it's created with purposeful routines and cozy, safe spaces that support emotional regulation and positive behavior. This session will guide educators through designing practical routines, transitions, and calm-down areas that actually work in real-life early childhood classrooms. From arrival time to cleanup, every moment is an opportunity to build structure, safety, and trust. We'll explore how to make classroom expectations clear, how to respond to chaos without escalating it, and how to bring coziness into every corner of your space.





The Power of the First 10 Minutes

What happens in the first ten minutes of your day sets the tone for everything that follows. This session helps educators design intentional morning routines that build connection, reduce anxiety, and increase engagement from the moment children arrive. You'll walk away with a toolkit of arrival-time strategies, family-friendly greetings, visual supports, and community-building rituals that help children (and adults!) start the day regulated and ready to learn. We'll also explore how these early moments affect behavior, co-regulation, and emotional safety throughout the day.

Supporting Social-Emotional Learning Through Social Stories

This hands-on summer session focuses on using social stories as a tool to support emotional development, reduce challenging behaviors, and guide young children through everyday classroom routines. Participants will learn how to write, adapt, and implement personalized social stories that support transitions, expectations, and peer interactions. You'll walk away with ready-to-use templates—and even create your own!

Classroom Management Reset & Refresh

Designed specifically for the pre-service season, this interactive training invites educators to pause, reflect, and reimagine their classroom management before the new year begins. Together, we'll explore what worked (and what didn't), update routines, refine expectations, and set fresh goals for the year ahead. **Perfect for teams seeking a clean slate, renewed energy, and aligned systems from day one.**



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