

Child Care Aware of NH

Mini-Conference Descriptions

On-Site Support for Child Care Programs

Child Care Aware of NH, Child Care Resource and Referral Program of Community Action Partnership Hillsborough and Rockingham Counties, is excited to offer no cost, on-site mini-conferences! Choose up to four engaging topics from our curated list and enjoy dynamic, interactive workshops at your program's location.

Infant Toddler Tips and Tricks

This training offers tips to help infant/toddler teachers maintain self-regulation (stay calm) and support children in developing their own self-regulation skills.

Trainer: Lindsey Parisi, M.Ed., ECMPWT

Core Knowledge Area: Promoting Child Growth & Development

Creative Play: Unleashing Imagination with Loose Parts

Delve into the world of loose parts! Learn how natural and recycled materials spark curiosity, collaboration, and creativity, promoting problem-solving and imaginative play. Discover tips for setting up safe, inviting loose parts play areas indoors and out.

Trainer: Kris Tabor-Hall, M.Ed., ECPDSF

Core Knowledge Area: Teaching & Learning

STEAM for Preschool

Designed with hands-on engagement and practical classroom application in mind, this training helps preschool educators discover how to integrate STEAM (Science, Technology, Engineering, art and Mathematics) concepts through play, exploration, and inquiry-based learning. Trainer: Judy Thilbault, M.Ed., ECPDSMTCCF

Core Knowledge Area: Promoting Child Growth & Development



Universal Design for Learning: A Framework for Early Learning Success

In this session, explore Universal Design for Learning (UDL) and its goal of removing barriers so all children can access, engage with, and demonstrate learning in ways that suit their strengths and abilities. Trainer: Stephanie Therrien, M.Ed., ECMPWTMPC

Core Knowledge Area: Promoting Child Growth & Development

Lose Control/Letting Go

This workshop invites open conversations about allowing more child autonomy by letting go of control in daily routines. Teachers may experience greater peace and ease, while children gain independence and guide their own development. We'll explore scenarios through a lens of control versus flow. Trainer: Dee Dee Thurber M.Ed., ECPDSTCM

Core Knowledge Area: Developing as A Professional

Choose Love Implementation – Choose Love is for Everyone!

Learn how Choosing Love for yourself connects to sharing the Choose Love program with the children and families you work with. Activities, books, and Choose Love lessons will be shared to help you begin your Choose Love journey. Trainer: Dee Dee Thurber M.Ed., ECPDSTCM

Core Knowledge Area: Teaching & Learning

Early Learning Standards

Discover how the NH Early Learning Standards (ELS) can enhance your work with children by supporting environment design, activity planning, intentional conversations, and observation evaluation. Join us to explore how the NH ELS can be a valuable resource for your program! Trainer: Lindsey Parisi, M.Ed., ECMPWT

Core Knowledge Area: Promoting Child Growth & Development

Career Mapping in the Early Childhood Field

Lost on the path to achieving your career goals? Join us to create your roadmap to success! Discover how the DOL Early Childhood Apprenticeship Program and TEACH Scholarship can help you reach your goals. Directors will also learn strategies to support staff in advancing their careers while building a stronger early childhood workforce. Trainer: Dee Dee Thurber M.Ed., ECPDSTCM

Core Knowledge Area: Promoting Child Growth & Development



Encouraging Intentional Indoor and Outdoor Movement During Play for All Ages

Join us to explore movement-based programs like Mindful Movements, Havening, Brain Gym, Yoga, Tapping, and Integrated Movements. Perfect for transitions, circle time, or anytime kids and teachers need to move, you'll experience these techniques firsthand!

Trainer: Dee Dee Thurber M.Ed., ECPDSTCM

Core Knowledge Area: Promoting Child Growth & Development

Playful Learning: Nurturing Young Minds in Math and Science

Centering on purposeful engagement, using the environment as the third teacher, and fostering active exploration, this workshop is dedicated to teaching math and science concepts in the early childhood classroom through hands-on play.

Trainer: Stephanie Therrien, M.Ed. ECMPWTMPC

Core Knowledge Area: Promoting Child Growth & Development

R.E.A.C.T: Response Action Drills - Emergency Preparedness Training (Respond, Execute, Apply, Communicate, Train)

This session guides programs in implementing response actions and drills to prepare for, respond to, and recover from emergencies or disasters. We'll also discuss potential scenarios child care centers may face. Trainer: Dee Dee Thurber M.Ed., ECPDSTCM

Core Knowledge Area: Promoting Child Growth & Development

Guiding Respectful Communication in the Classroom

Delve into the causes of challenging communication and explore effective techniques through interactive activities and discussions to foster respectful dialogue and enhance interactions with children. Trainer: Stephanie Therrien, M.Ed., ECMPWTMPC

Core Knowledge Area: Developing as A Professional

Credential Guidance

This training will provide all the information needed to apply for a credential within the NH Early Childhood Professional Development System. We will review the application and all of the parts stated on the credentialing checklist such as professional development plans, Professional Activity Units (PAU's), etc.

Trainer: Lindsey Parisi, M.Ed., ECMPWT

Core Knowledge Area: Developing as A Professional



Trauma-Informed Awareness & H.O.P.E

Join us as we discuss what "trauma" can look like and how we can create Early Childhood Environments to assist young children (and adults) feel safe and supported. With support in place, children can come into the space where learning can happen. We will also talk about H.O.P.E. - Healthy Outcomes from Positive Experiences.

Trainer: Dee Dee Thurber M.Ed., ECPDSTCM

Core Knowledge Area: Developing as A Professional

Nature-Based Play

Explore the many benefits of outdoor play and nature-based activities! Discover how nature fosters creativity, problem-solving, physical development, and a love for movement while reducing stress and promoting mindfulness for both children and adults.

Trainer: Dee Dee Thurber M.Ed., ECPDSTCM

Core Knowledge Area: Promoting Child Growth & Development

Connection & Presence: The Behavior Game Changers

Letting go of agendas strengthens our connection with children, helping meet their needs and improving behavior. Join us to explore 5 key practices that support children's growth and development — you might already be using some!

Trainer: Dee Dee Thurber M.Ed., ECPDSTCM

Core Knowledge Area: Developing as A Professional

Strengthening Your Practice: Tailored Support for Early Childhood Educators

Looking to enhance your teaching with personalized guidance? Child Care Aware of NH offers customized technical assistance and training to meet your unique needs. Whether you're seeking support in classroom management, child development, or inclusive practices, our team is here to help you create engaging, developmentally appropriate learning environments where both educators and children thrive.

Let's connect—contact us today to schedule your free consultation!

Core Knowledge Area: Developing as A Professional



Mirrors & Windows: Building Identity Through Books

In this eye-opening training, you'll go beyond simply reading books to children—you'll learn how to intentionally select and analyze literature that shapes how children see themselves and others. By understanding how stories serve as mirrors and windows, you'll be equipped to foster identity development, belonging, and empathy in children ages 2–6. Leave behind uncertainty and gain the clarity and confidence to become a more inclusive, identity-affirming educator—one book at a time.

Trainer: Kris Tabor-Hall, M.Ed., ECPDSF

Core Knowledge Area: Teaching & Learning

STEAM for Infant /Toddler

Designed with hands-on engagement and practical classroom application in mind, this training helps Infant /Toddler educators discover how to integrate STEAM (Science, Technology, Engineering, art and Mathematics) concepts through play, exploration, and inquiry-based learning. Trainer: Judy Thilbault, M.Ed., ECPDSMTCCF

Core Knowledge Area: Promoting Child Growth & Development

Let's Play: Exploring Vroom and Early Learning Standards (ELS) with Infants & Toddlers/Preschool

This session combines the NH Early Learning Standards and Vroom to offer practical tips for meaningful family engagement. Learn to have purposeful conversations about child development and turn everyday moments into brain-building opportunities for children birth to five. Trainer: Lindsey Parisi, M.Ed., ECMPWT

Core Knowledge Area: Promoting Child Growth & Development

Child-Directed Play (Preschool)

Child-directed learning empowers children to explore topics meaningful to them, fostering a state of flow and aligning with their developmental stage. Join us to explore how programs can shift to child-directed learning and play! Trainer: Dee Dee Thurber M.Ed., ECPDSTCM

Core Knowledge Area: Promoting Child Growth & Development



Interactive Reading Adventure: Igniting a Love for Books

Learn the best ways to engage children with books! This session covers selecting quality literature, captivating young readers, and the benefits of reading together.

Trainer: Stephanie Therrien, M.Ed., ECMPWTMPC

Core Knowledge Area: Teaching & Learning

Play Schemas

In this training, explore play schemas—what they are, why they matter, and common types that emerge in early childhood. Reflect on your own play patterns from childhood and share experiences with fellow participants. Trainer: Dee Dee Thurber M.Ed., ECPDSTCM

Core Knowledge Area: Teaching & Learning

The Brain Architecture Game

The Brain Architecture Game is a tabletop game experience that builds understanding of the powerful role of experiences on early brain development– what promotes it, what derails it, with what consequences for society.

The goal is to build a brain that is as tall as possible, representing functionality, and as sturdy as possible, representing the ability to withstand stress. Groups of four to six players work together, drawing Life Experience cards to gain materials for brain building.

The brain architecture game helps people appreciate the impact of early childhood experiences on outcomes across the lifespan. (Many thanks to Sarah Fox and the NH Alliance of Early Childhood Coalitions for sharing their game kits with CAPHR and Child Care Aware)

Trainer: Dee Dee Thurber, M.Ed., ECPTCMA

Core Knowledge Area: Building Family & Community Relationships

For more details or to schedule a mini conference at your program,
contact Program Manager Dee Dee Thurber at DThurber@caphr.org.

