

Promoting Cultural Awareness

BKC-EC-17

Participants Workbook

BASIC KNOWLEDGE

CURRICULUM

EARLY CHILDHOOD



2021

Preface

Basic Knowledge Curriculum – Early Childhood

This curriculum has been designed to give child care and early learning professionals foundational knowledge to be successful when caring for children. The information presented in the curriculum is for all professionals working in family or center-based child care and early learning programs. This basic information about concepts and skills is ideal for an entry-level staff member, but may also be beneficial for more seasoned professionals as a “refresher course.” The entire Basic Knowledge Curriculum – Early Childhood curriculum is 36 clock hours and consists of 20 sessions trainings meeting *Core Competencies for Early Childhood and Youth Development Professionals (Kansas and Missouri)* (Levels 1 and 2) and Child Development Associate Credential content areas. Participants can complete these trainings in any order. All sessions are offered by Child Care Aware® of Missouri through a local child care resource and referral agency.

For additional information about this curriculum series contact:

Child Care Aware® of Missouri 1-800-200-9017

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Basic Knowledge Curriculum – Early Childhood

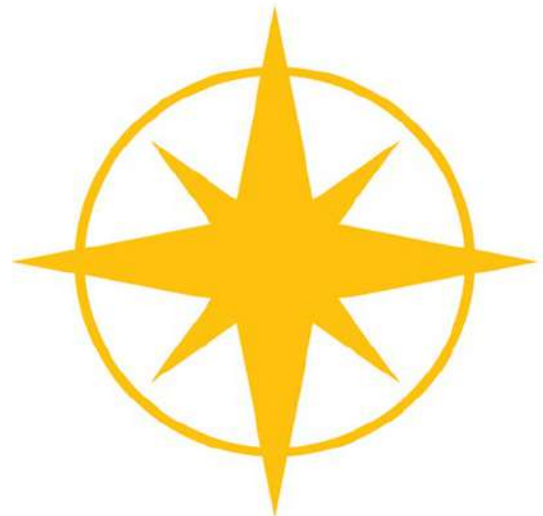
Session Success

Foundational:

- Positive Interactions with Children (*BKC-EC 1*)
- Child Safety & Routine Care (*BKC-EC 2*)
- Child Abuse & Neglect-Mandated Reporter (*BKC-EC 3*)
- Safe Environments (*BKC-EC 4*)
- Guiding Children’s Behavior (*BKC-EC 5*)
- Playing with a Purpose (*BKC-EC 6*)
- Routines, Rituals & Schedules (*BKC-EC 7*)

Supporting:

- Physical Development (*BKC-EC 8*)
- Language & Communication Development (*BKC-EC 9*)
- Social & Emotional Development (*BKC-EC 10*)
- Creative Development in Children (*BKC-EC 11*)
- Cognitive Development (*BKC-EC 12*)
- Promoting Physical & Mental Health (*BKC-EC 13*)
- Healthy Eating (*BKC-EC 14*)
- Group Interactions in Child Care (*BKC-EC 15*)
- Family & Community Engagement (*BKC-EC 16*)
- Promoting Cultural Awareness (*BKC-EC 17*)**
- Professionalism & Leadership (*BKC-EC 18*)
- Emergency Planning (*BKC-EC 19*)
- Introduction to Homelessness (*BKC-EC 20*)*



Learning Objectives

Promoting Cultural Awareness

At the end of the training, participants will be able to:

1. Define what influences culture.
2. Describe culturally responsive teaching.
3. Define the 3 A's of Communication and how to use them.

These objectives relate directly to the Exit Assessment.

The training will meet the requirements of the *Core Competencies for Early Childhood and Youth Development Professionals* (Kansas and Missouri) and the Child Development Associate Credential (CDA) in the following content areas:

CDA	4. Building productive relationships with families	
Core Competencies for Early Childhood and Youth Development Educators (Kansas and Missouri)	VII. Professional Development and Leadership 4. Displaying Cultural Awareness and Respect	
	Level 1	a. Develops awareness of own cultural beliefs and practices.
	Level 2	b. Promotes cultural awareness and respect using appropriate skills, services, and resources, including technology.

Agenda

Promoting Cultural Awareness

Welcome.....	10 minutes
Shared Agreements	
Review Objectives	
Defining Culture.....	50 minutes
Culturally Responsive Teaching	
Creating a Culturally Aware Classroom	
Break.....	10 minutes
Culturally Aware Educators.....	40 minutes
Strategies for Learning About Families	
<i>Wrap Up</i>	10 minutes
Action Steps	
Review Objectives	
Exit Assessment	
Session Satisfaction Surveys	
MOPD Systems Key Functions	
T.E.A.C.H. MISSOURI Scholarship	
Online On Demand Training—MO Workshop Calendar	
<i>Show Me Child Care Resources</i>	
CDA Scholarship Project	

Action Items

Promoting Cultural Awareness

Use this page to record things you plan to do, Topics for further clarification and new ideas from this training.

I WANT TO REMEMBER...

ACTION STEPS:

1.

2.

What is the definition of culture?

What is your definition of your Personal Culture?

How Family & Society Define Our Personal Culture



Family structure – The people we define as family members, their roles and authority, and their assigned duties and functions.

Definitions of childhood - Beliefs about how to define childhood, what it means to be a child and expectations of children.

Socialization goals – The behavior, skills, beliefs, values, and attitudes adults want children to learn and display as they become adults.

Child-rearing practices - Attitudes that influence child care and the strategies used to socialize (make children behave in socially acceptable ways) children.

Gender roles – The duties, responsibilities and behaviors assigned to people based on their gender – male or female.



Identity – A person's self-concept influenced by gender, ethnicity, race, religious beliefs, group identity, family history and traditions, national origin, and loyalty to group or defined purpose.

Individualism – The focus on self apart from a specific group and acting and thinking on one's own and being different from social expectations.

Spirituality - The recognition of a feeling, sense or belief that there is something greater than oneself, something more to being human than sensory experience, and that the greater whole of which we are part is cosmic or divine in nature.

Emotional expression – The range of feelings viewed as acceptable and allowed within a family or social group.

Social Class – Societies and cultural groups often classify members by level of power and influence based on factors such as wealth, education, birth lines, occupation role, and age.

Celebrations – Marking events of spiritual, social, political, or economic significance with special foods, artistic expression, music, or rituals.



Friendship circles – A network of close friends, community members and acquaintances with whom you experience life.

Civic Engagement – Community life; participation in political, social or community decision making; devoting oneself to activities to improve the lives of others or increase community well-being.

Adapted from California Department of Education. (2016). Family Partnerships and Culture. Sacramento. Department of Education. (2016). *Family Partnerships and Culture*. Sacramento.

Celebrating our Culture



“Preservation of one’s own culture does not require contempt or disrespect for other cultures.”

Cesar Chavez

Name(s) of discussion partner(s):

Three aspects of culture we have in common:

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.

Three aspects of culture where we differ:

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.

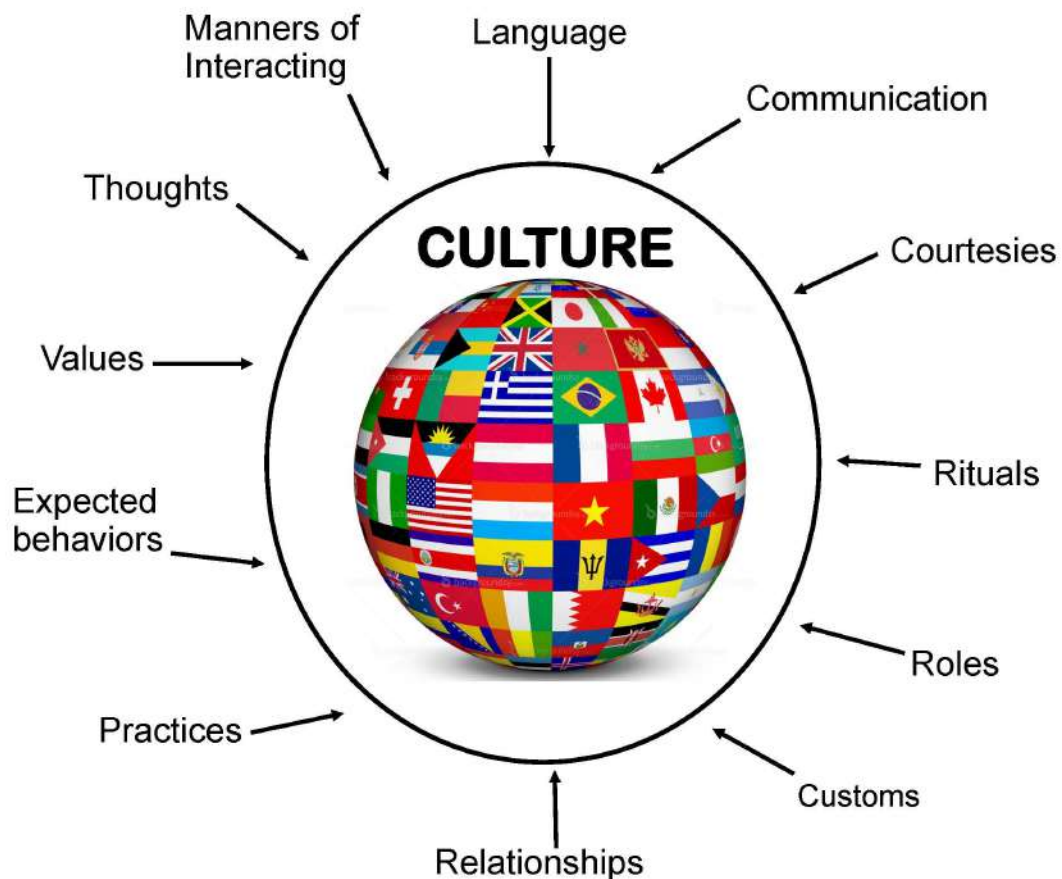


Culture

- The customs, traditions, arts, social institutions, and achievements of a particular nation, people, or other social group.
- Culture influences the behaviors, values and beliefs that a group shares and passes on from one generation to the next, such as:
 - Family customs
 - Religion or spirituality
 - Celebrations
 - Values and traditions of the community
 - How children are valued and reared

“A people without the knowledge of their past history, origin and culture is like a tree without roots.”

-Marcus Garvey



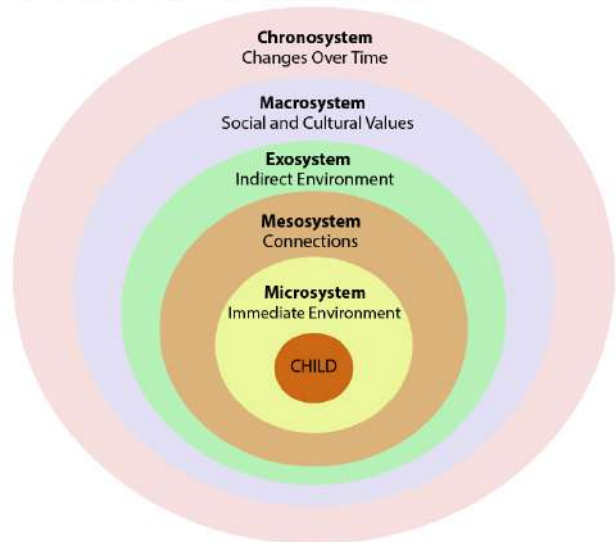


Culture and Young Children

- Each child in your classroom or program brings their own unique cultural background.
- As professionals, child care educators embrace, value and incorporate the teaching about all cultures into their classroom.



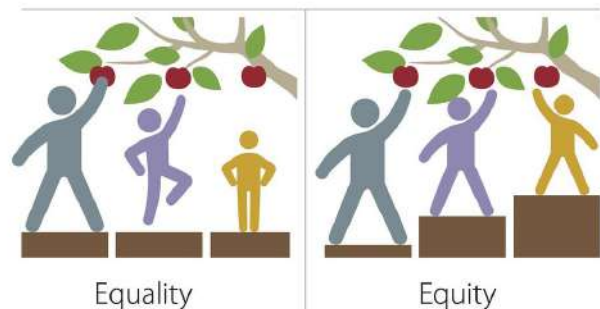
Bronfenbrenner's Ecological Systems Theory



(C) The Psychology Notes Headquarters <https://www.PsychologyNotesHQ.com>

Equity—each person and child is treated fairly and justly to meet their needs.

I am unique!
 I am special just the way I am!
 I come from my own cultural background!
 We all learn when we share our cultures!



The values, beliefs and cultural acceptance you support in your classroom actually shapes each child's life now and in the future.

You are helping to shape a child's identity every day.

How you present information about cultural practices and what you say to children about their culture matters.

Culturally Responsive Teaching

- **Culturally Responsive Teaching** is being sensitive to and responding to children's cultural and ethnic backgrounds and needs.
- It draws upon the cultural knowledge, skills and talents children bring with them from home.



A Culturally Aware Classroom...

- Intentionally encourages all children to be contributing members within the classroom community.
- Builds young children's self-confidence and skills.
- Promotes the development of inclusive peer groups and friendships.



BENEFITS

- Develops a positive sense of self
- Increases a child's awareness of other cultures
- Supports children's social and cultural development
- Develops a sense of equity in children



Strategies for Creating a Culturally Aware Classroom

Children learn through using their senses.

Provide opportunities for children to speak, touch, taste, see, and feel their culture and the cultures of other children.

Remember we all have unique family traditions to share and experience together.



Infants,
Toddlers,
Twos



- Ask parents for key words or phrases they can teach you to best communicate with their child.
- If teachers are not able to speak or sing in the child's first language, ask families to record nursery rhymes, lullabies, songs or stories in their first language.

hello
bonjour
guten tag
hola
bon giorno
ya sou
ni hao
namaste
zdravstvuite
dia duit
dobry rano
shalom
hej

Other Ideas:



Strategies for Creating a Culturally Aware Classroom



Preschool

English -	Water	Car	Dog
Spanish -	Agua	Auto	Perro
Arabic -	Moya	Sayara	Kalb

- Objects labeled in more than one language supports cultural awareness and growth in children.
- Consider creating a word wall with pictures, words in English, words from other cultures, and American sign language.
- Practice saying and using the words during the day. The ability to communicate and expand understanding through experience is a powerful way to learn.

Appropriate for any age group

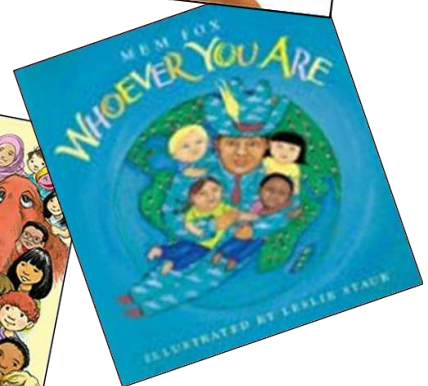
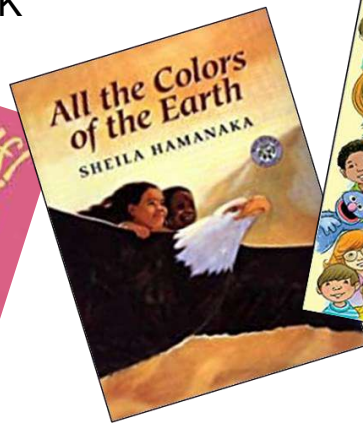
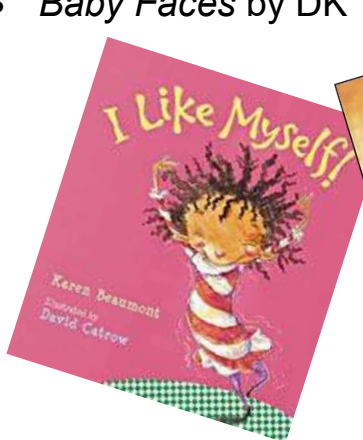
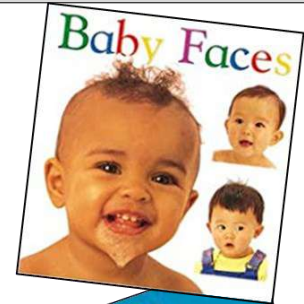
- Create family photo display.
- Add empty boxes of cultural food in Dramatic Play area to show the different types of food eaten in all homes.
- Add instruments or children's music from other cultures. Learn simple songs in other languages together.
- Hang pictures from different places in the room to encourage questions.



Other Ideas:

Cultural Awareness Children's Books

- *Whoever You Are* by Mem Fox
- *I Like Myself* by Karen Beaumont
- *We're Different, We're the Same* by Bobbi Kates
- *All the Colors of the Earth* by Shelia Hamka
- *A South African Night* by Rachel Isadora
- *Baby Faces* by DK



YouTube has children's books in English, Spanish, Chinese, and French

The Very Hungry Caterpillar by Eric Carle

Mandarin Chinese and English: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Ck4ap-O-ILg&t=91s>

Spanish and English: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=XeP8oyOEFSU&t=182s>

French and English: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=k1UARABjdSQ&t=81s>

Other Book Ideas:





Culturally Aware Educators

Are you open to experiencing different cultural traditions?

Culturally aware educators teach with respect and fairness (equity) making sure all children get the attention and opportunities they need to thrive.

Be aware of your own cultural development.

- Be aware of your attitudes and views as they relate to others' customs and culture.
- You are a role model for children through which they learn acceptance, tolerance and peaceful coexistence.
- Learn about the habits, customs, beliefs, and religious practices of the cultures represented by your children in your classroom.
- Remember, equity means we get what we need to thrive. It is not the same as equal where everyone gets the same thing. We are all different and have different needs.
- Create a safe environment in which children feel free to talk and share.

Making Every Child Welcome

- Invite parents and families to share the languages they speak at home and their cultural traditions. Music, stories and customs provide a rich learning experience about who a child is and what their families value.
- Communicate with parents in their home languages when possible.
- Use digital translators and technology when possible.
- Work with parents to help them bridge the difference between the way school operates and the norms at their homes.
- Make your classroom a place where diversity is encouraged and everyone is treated fairly
- Create a classroom that is vibrant and alive with the cultures of the children.



Culturally Aware Educators

Make Every Parent Welcome

- Invite parents and families to share the languages they speak at home and their cultural traditions.
- Music, stories and customs provide a rich learning experience about who a child is and what their families value.
- Communicate with parents in their home languages when possible.
- Use digital translators and technology when possible.
- Work with parents to help them bridge the difference between the way school operates and the norms at their homes.

Collaborate with Your Colleagues

- Ask colleagues to share with you ideas about how to respond to questions, requests and concerns of families

Become Active in Your Community

- Learn as much as you can about your community and the cultural populations and resources it provides.
- Collaborate with community and state organizations that work with culturally and linguistically diverse families and populations.
- Collaborate with the local school district on resources and preparation for Kindergarten.
- Volunteer be a part of community outreach to provide families with services such as family literacy and school readiness information.

Strategies for Learning About Children and Families

Take the time to learn about the family's customs, habits, routines, and preferences.

Conversations with Families

- When relating to families, be aware of your own cultural views.
- It is important to avoid being judgmental when you encounter cultural differences in beliefs, values and practices.
- When communicating with families, remember to practice humility, patience, openness, and respect.



Community Cultural Celebrations

- Participate in community cultural celebrations when possible. It is a great way to learn about your community and the children in your care.
- Your attendance at other cultural celebrations may provide an opportunity to foster relationships with the children and families.

Home visits

- After building trust with a family, request a visit to the families of the children in the program to get to know the household and the child's physical surroundings.
- Be aware that not all families may want someone in their home. Respect their wishes and invite them to share custom and traditions in a different way.



NOTES:



3 A's of Communication



Acknowledge

- Communicate your awareness of the issue.
- Convey sincere interest and responsiveness with a desire to involve the family in seeking a joint solution.

Ask

- Ask open ended questions or statements to learn about the family's precise point of view.
 - What can you tell me about the issue?
 - Tell me more about this...
 - How can we resolve this situation?
- Restate what you think the parent is saying, paying attention to both verbal and nonverbal responses.



Adapt

- Work with family members toward a solution by searching for areas of common agreement and negotiating around the important issues.

(Adapted from Virmani and Mangione 2013, 72–75.) Guiding Principles for Developing Cultural Competence | 11)

NOTES:





Which strategy would you like to implement with your families?

What are two actions you can take to implement the strategy?

1.

2.

Other ideas to implement:



All About My Family

Child's Name:

PW page 21

Who lives with me?

I love to:



Our three favorite activities to do together are:

Our favorite foods are:

On the weekends we:

Our favorite games to play are:



All About My Family

Child's Name:

Who lives with me?

I love to:



Our three favorite activities to do together are:

Our favorite foods are:

On the weekends we:

Our favorite games to play are:



Cultural Awareness Action Plan Worksheet

Name: _____ MOPD ID: _____

Email: _____ Cell Phone: _____

Start Date: _____ Completion Date: _____

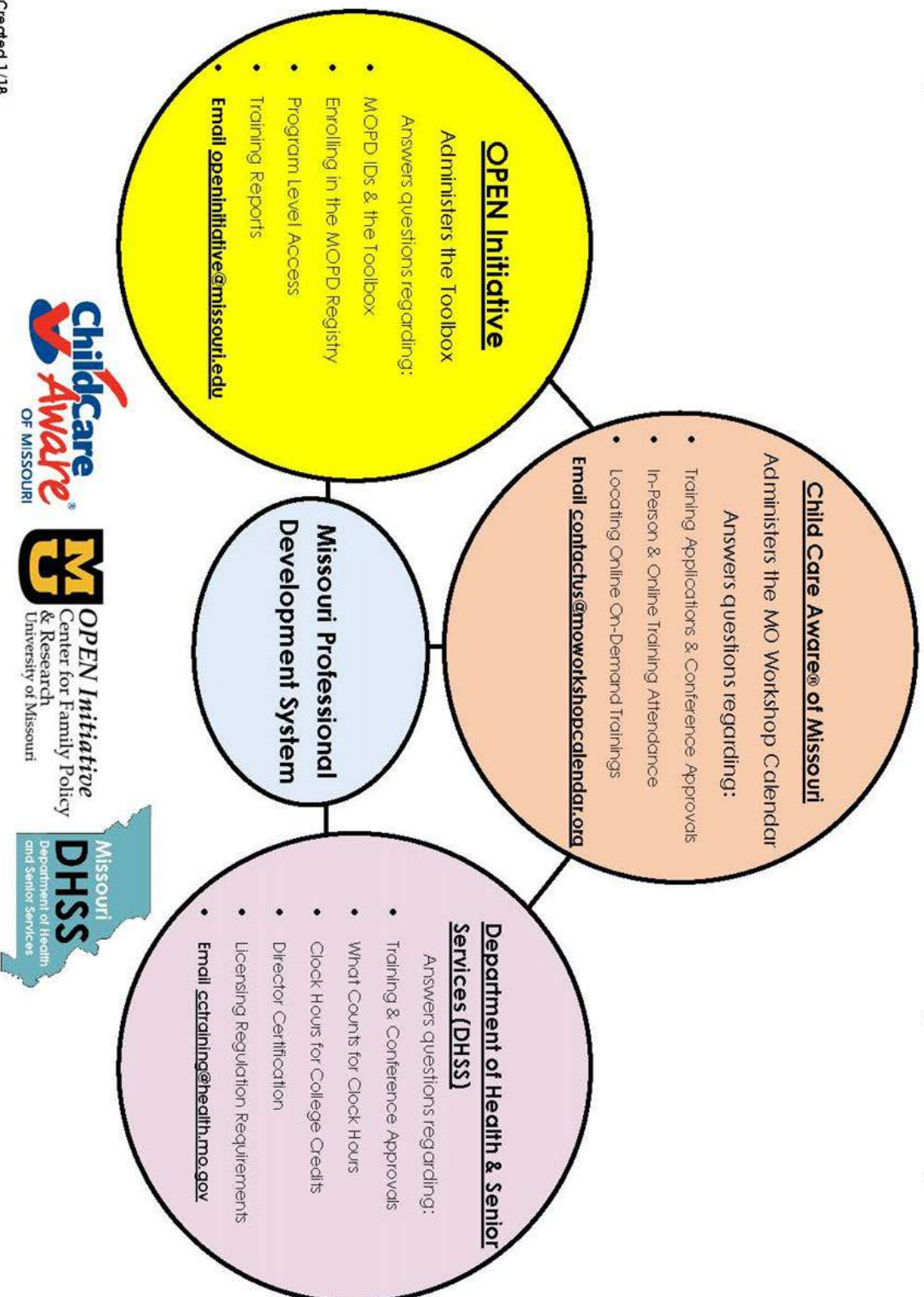
Write your Action Plan and apply at least one Culturally Responsive Teaching strategy from today's training, You will share the results at our next training. Completed Action Plans should be sent to Lauri at Lauri@mo.childcareaware.org

Define - The question you want to answer about the children and families in your classroom or program.	<i>What do you want to do? Why do you want to do this? How will you answer this?</i>
Steps – What steps will you take to answer your question?	<i>Order of steps to take. What materials do you need to answer your question?</i>
People – Who will be involved in answering the question?	<i>How will you involve them and in what ways?</i>
Timeline – Plan out the dates and times needed to complete your goal.	<i>When will you start? When will you complete?</i>
Results – What you found by applying the new strategy and answering your original question.	<i>The goal, result and answer to your original question.</i>

****Your Action Plan must be emailed to Lauri no later than 24 hours after your second training session.**

Resources

Key Functions of the Missouri Professional Development System



Credited 1/18



Questions?
Contact
Child Care Aware® of Missouri
dori@mo.childcareaware.org
or 314-535-1458 x611

Engaging Families In the Classroom Saving Money Successful Program Management

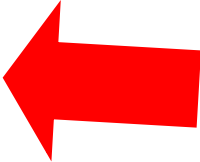


HOME / IN THE CLASSROOM / FAMILY COLLABORATION AND COMMUNICATION

IN THIS SECTION
In the Classroom
Assessment >
Curriculum >
ERS® Materials >
Executive Function >
Family Collaboration and Communication
Literacy >
Teacher Resources >
Physical Activities >
Themed Resources
Teacher Resources on Coronavirus
EFFEC+ Resources

FAMILY COLLABORATION AND COMMUNICATION

- **Communicating with Families**
 - [Family Conferences](#)
 - [Newsletters](#)
 - Staying Connected with [Technology and Apps](#)
 - [Remind](#)
 - [ClassDojo](#)
- **Creating a Welcoming Environment**
 - [LGBTQ+ Headed Families](#)
 - [Cultural Responsiveness](#)
 - [Event Ideas](#)
- **Difficult Conversations**
 - [Developmental Challenges and Tips for Talking to Families](#)
- **Social and Emotional Support**
 - [Resilience](#)
 - [Bullying](#)
 - [Caring and Empathy](#)
 - [Cooperation](#)
 - [Discipline](#)
 - [Emotions](#)
 - [Feelings](#)
 - [Play](#)
 - [Separation Anxiety](#)
 - [Traumatic Stress](#)
- **Developmental Milestones**
 - [Toilet Training](#)
 - [Sleep and Nap Routines](#)



Resources

T.E.A.C.H. MISSOURI Scholarship

Want to continue your education?



- Support college credits towards early childhood AA/AAS or BA/BS
- Statewide scholarship available to directors, teachers and assistants in *licensed* child care programs
- Partnership between the scholarship recipient, sponsoring employer and T.E.A.C.H. MISSOURI with each paying a portion of tuition and books
- Applications accepted year round
- Visit our website www.teach-missouri.org to learn more and access an application



Missouri's most trusted child care resource.

1-866-892-3228

mo.childcareaware.org

- Our referral service uses a database containing Missouri child care programs.
- Families are able to access the database and search for programs near them or contact a resource specialist to assist them in their search.
- All information in the database is self-reported by programs.
- We encourage families to ask questions about the child care programs in order to find a program that best suits the needs of their children.
- Update your Program Information Form (PIF) at least annually or when changes occur.





**ChildCare
Aware**
OF MISSOURI

**CDA SCHOLARSHIP
PROJECT**

GET YOUR CDA
CREDENTIAL!

Get Paid \$430 | No Assessment Fee | Advance Your Career

- | | |
|--|---|
|  <p>Do you work in a licensed or license-exempt child care program or as a Six or Fewer Provider?</p> |  <p>Do you work in a child care program that accepts DSS subsidy?</p> |
|  <p>Do you work a minimum of 15 hours per week?</p> |  <p>Have you worked in the same child care program for at least 1 month?</p> |

If you answered **YES** to these questions, enroll in the CDA Scholarship Project at www.cdасcholarshipmo.org

Don't delay...sign up **TODAY!**

Funded by the State of Missouri - Children's Division

