

# The Child Care Circle

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## The Purpose of Child Assessment

Karen Ruprecht, Research Assistant, Purdue University

Assessing children can seem overwhelming, but when done regularly, it can help you create fun, challenging, and interesting environments for children. It can also help in communicating with families by providing parents with a picture on how their child is growing and developing in your care.

In order to understand assessment, you must first determine *why* you are assessing a child. Is it to determine progress on significant developmental milestone, such as crawling, walking, using words, or other important achievements? Or, are you assessing a child to help you plan your learning environments? Perhaps you are assessing a child because of behavior or discipline issues. Knowing the clear reason behind why you are assessing a child will help you make choices about which tool to use or when to ask for help from another early childhood professional.

Where do you begin with your assessment? Here are some questions to help you get started.

- What holds the child's interest? What learning centers do they gravitate toward, and what learning centers don't seem to hold their attention?
- What friends do they interact with?
- Are there certain times of the day where the child seems happy or sad?
- What skills have they achieved, and what skills are developmentally appropriate for them to work on next?

Take notes and observe at different times during the day, such as during mealtimes and free play. Once you have a picture of children's skills and abilities, you can then begin to develop a plan on how to use your assessment findings to set goals for children.

Remember, assessing children isn't something that is completed once, but rather it is an ongoing process. By regularly assessing children's skills and interests, you can help them achieve their developmental milestones and strengthen your partnership with families.

***Want more information and training hours? Read this article integrating music with your infants and toddlers <http://www.naeyc.org/files/yc/file/201003/ParlakianWeb0310.pdf> and then answer questions through Survey Monkey at <https://www.surveymonkey.com/s/beyondtwinkletwinkle> for 1.0 training hours. Survey will be open until May 29, 2015. All certificates will be mailed after the survey closes.***



# WEEK of the YOUNG CHILD™

The Week of the Young Child™ is an annual celebration sponsored by the National Association for the Education of Young Children (NAEYC), the world's largest early childhood education association. The purpose of the Week of the Young Child™ is to focus public attention on the needs of young children and their families and to recognize the early childhood programs and services that meet those needs.

Join NAEYC in *Celebrating Our Youngest Learners*, April 12-18, 2015. You can participate in the activities below or create your own. For more information and details on the activities below, visit <http://www.naeyc.org/woyc>.

Music Monday, 4/13	Taco Tuesday, 4/14	Work Together Wednesday, 4/15	Artsy Thursday, 4/16	Family Friday, 4/17
Sing, dance, celebrate, and learn	Healthy eating and fitness at home and school	Work together, build together, learn together	Think, problem solve, create	Sharing family stories
Through music, children develop math, language, and literacy skills - and of course, have fun while being active!	This fun, food-themed day is more than just cheese and salsa.	When children build together they explore math and science concepts and develop their social and early literacy skills.	Children develop creativity, social skills and fine muscles with open-ended art projects where they can make choices, use their imaginations and create with their hands.	Engaging and celebrating families is at the heart of supporting our youngest learners: families!

## Webinar



Are you looking for training hours close to home? Child Care Solutions is pleased to add webinar opportunities to our training calendar!

Topic and times can be found on our training calendar. To register, contact us at least 48 business hours in advance of the webinar. You will receive an email two business days before the webinar with the link to log in to the session.

Questions? Contact Allison at Child Care Solutions.

## Welcome, Katherine!

Child Care Solutions would like to welcome Katherine Coleman, our new Infant/Toddler Specialist. Katherine comes to us from Bona Vista Keys for Kids Preschool where she was a lead teacher in the three and four year old classroom.

Outside of work, Katherine enjoys knitting, traveling, and playing with her dog.



Katherine looks forward to helping you with all things Infant and Toddler related! She can support you in reducing biting, effectively potty training, safe sleep as well as ideas of what to put in the sensory table in your classroom. Katherine can be reached at 1-800-493-3231 or at [kcoleman@bonavista.org](mailto:kcoleman@bonavista.org).



### *Did you know?*

Bona Vista Programs is offering CPR/First Aid/Universal Precautions. There is a reduced fee for child care providers in the Child Care Solutions' service area. There is a required minimum of five (5) participants and maximum of 12 participants. Payment is due at the time of registration. **For cost information and/or to register, please contact Miriam O'Malley-Long at [momalleylong@bonavista.org](mailto:momalleylong@bonavista.org) or call 765-236-4070 .**

*Another service offered by Bona Vista Programs.*

# CHILD CARE SOLUTIONS' TRAINING CALENDAR

Day	Date	Time	Title	County
Wednesday	April 1	6-7 pm	22 to Do	Blackford Co.
Tuesday	April 7	1:30-2:30 pm	Management Webinar: Supporting Staff in Child Observations	Online
Tuesday	April 7	6-8:30 pm	Safe Sleeping Practices	Adams Co.
Thursday	April 9 April 23	6-8 pm	Introduction to the FOUNDATIONS* Building on the FOUNDATIONS*	Wabash Co.
Saturday	April 11	10 am-4 pm	Mayhem be gone!*	Howard Co.
Tuesday	April 14	2-4 pm 4-5 pm	Orientation I - An overview of starting a child care business Child Abuse Neglect Detection and Prevention	Tipton Co.
Wednesday	April 15	6:30-8:30 pm	Allergies and Asthma	Howard Co.
Thursday	April 16	6:30-8:30 pm	School Age: Curriculum Supportive Environment	Grant Co.
Monday	April 20	1-2 pm	Webinar: Time Management	Online
Monday	April 20	6-8:30 pm	Safe Sleeping Practices	Tipton Co.
Tuesday	April 21 April 28	6-8 pm	IMIL: Body Language* IMIL: Moving with the Brain in Mind*	Huntington Co.
Saturday	April 25	9 am-12 pm	Off to the Right Start (with Technical Assistance)	Howard Co.
Monday	April 27	6:15-7:15 pm	22 to Do	Miami Co.
Tuesday	April 28	1-4 pm	Orientation II - A pre-licensing requirement for starting a family child care home	Tipton Co.
Tuesday	April 28	8-9 pm	Webinar: Family Involvement: More than Just Parent Teacher Conferences	Online

Day	Date	Time	Title	County
Saturday	May 2	10 am-4 pm	Reflections of You*	Howard Co.
Monday	May 4	6-8 pm	Creating Smart Hearts: Social Emotional FOUNDATIONS	Blackford Co.
Monday	May 4	6-8 pm	My Cousin with the Wheels: Inclusion Awareness	Jay Co
Tuesday	May 5	1:30-2:30 pm	Management Webinar: Knowing Learning Styles	Online
Thursday	May 7 May 14 May 21	6:15-8:15 pm	Effective Interest Areas: Language and Literacy* Effective Interest Areas: Math and Manipulatives* Effective Interest Areas: Science and Sensory* (with Technical Assistance)	Wells Co
Thursday	May 7 May 14	6-8 pm	Creative and Adaptive Arts: Dramatic Play* Creative and Adaptive Arts: Visual Arts*	Grant Co
Monday	May 11	6:30-8:30 pm	Ages and Stages Questionnaires and Developmental Screenings	Howard Co.
Tuesday	May 12 May 26	8-9 pm	Webinar: Professional Development Planning, Part 1 Webinar: Professional Development Planning, Part 2	Online
Wednesday	May 13	4-6 pm 6-7 pm	Orientation I - An overview of starting a child care business Child Abuse Neglect Detection and Prevention	Howard Co.
Monday	May 18	1-2 pm	Webinar: Outdoor Health and Safety	Online
Tuesday	May 19	6-8:30 pm	Safe Sleeping Practices	Howard Co
Thursday	May 21 May 28	6-8 pm	Creative and Adaptive Arts: Music Arts* Creative and Adaptive Arts: Physical Arts*	Fulton Co.
Wednesday	May 27	12:30-3:30 pm	Orientation II - A pre-licensing requirement for starting a family child care home	Howard Co.

Day	Date	Time	Title	County
Monday	June 1	6-8 pm	Getting to Know Young Children: Observing and Assessing, Pt.2* (with Technical Assistance)	Adams Co.
Tuesday	June 2	1:30-2:30 pm	Management Webinar: Emergency Preparedness	Online
Thursday	June 4	6-8 pm	Spin, Slam, Slime: School Readiness (with Technical Assistance)	Wabash Co.
Saturday	June 6	10 am-4 pm	What's D.A.P?*	Howard Co.
Monday	June 8	6-8 pm	Making Mini Einstein's: Science and Math FOUNDATIONS	Adams Co.
Tuesday	June 9	8-9 pm	Webinar: Child Observations	Online
Wednesday	June 10	4-6 pm 6-7 pm	Orientation I - An overview of starting a child care business Child Abuse Neglect Detection and Prevention	Fulton Co.
Wednesday	June 10	6-8 pm	Marketing the Paths to QUALITY Advantage	Adams Co.
Thursday	June 11 June 18 June 25	6-8 pm	The Role of Meaningful Experiences in supporting Early Language and Literacy (Cradling Literacy) The Link Between Observation, Assessment, and Language and Literacy Curriculum (Cradling Literacy) Strategies for Supporting Language & Literacy in Infant and Toddlers (Cradling Literacy)	Huntington Co.
Monday	June 15	1-2 pm	Webinar: Call Me Mary Poppins!	Online
Saturday	June 20	9:30 am-12 pm 12:30-3:30 pm	Safe Sleeping Practices Orientation II - A pre-licensing requirement for starting a family child care home	Fulton Co.
Monday	June 22	6-8:30 pm	Safe Sleeping Practices	Blackford Co.
Monday	June 29	6-9 pm	Introduction to the FOUNDATIONS and Building on the FOUNDATIONS*	Tipton Co.

\* Indicates an opportunity to earn CEUs for completing all parts of a training series. Contact us for more information.

Training Titles	Training Descriptions
<b>Strategies for Supporting Language &amp; Literacy in Infant and Toddlers (Cradling Literacy)</b>	Teaching infants and toddlers literacy skills can be challenging. Learn how teachers can provide purposeful language and literacy interactions and experiences for the youngest learners. <b>Paths to QUALITY™ Level 3</b>
<b>The Link Between Observation, Assessment, and Language and Literacy Curriculum (Cradling Literacy)</b>	Utilizing observation and assessment to maximize literacy experiences can be challenging. This training will explore the process and help improve existing strategies.. <b>Paths to QUALITY™ Level 3</b>
<b>The Role of Meaningful Experiences in supporting Early Language and Literacy (Cradling Literacy)</b>	Stories and experiential activities help children connect more fully with concepts developing their language and imagination skills laying down essential foundation for learning of literacy skills. Learn how you can take advantage of those teachable moments to improve literacy and language learning in your environment.. <b>Paths to QUALITY™ Level 3</b>
<b>IMIL: Moving with the Brain in Mind</b>	The development of the brain in a child's first five years of life clearly shapes the learning capacity they have for the rest of their life. Learn how the brain structure and functioning can be enhanced through movement and physical activity. <b>Paths to QUALITY™ Level 2</b>
<b>IMIL: Body Language</b>	Learn the movement vocabulary that supports children in achieving movement milestones. Participants will understand the verbal cues to engage and encourage children in a wide variety of movements. <b>Paths to QUALITY™ Level 2</b>
<b>22 To Do</b>	Your mission, should you choose to accept it, explore and participate in 22 activities with just three commonly found materials that cross ages and developmental domains. Join us for this interactive training session. <b>Paths to QUALITY™ Level 1</b>
<b>Management Webinar: Emergency Preparedness</b>	A webinar designed for the unique needs of a director. We all know that parent conferences are an integral part of working with families. Reflect on your current practices and plan strategies to enhance them for your site. <b>Paths to QUALITY™ Level 2</b>
<b>Management Webinar: Knowing the Learning Styles of Your Staff</b>	A webinar designed for the unique needs of a director. After completing webinars on observing, this session will address different learning styles so you can plan trainings and meetings to support staff in the best way possible. <b>Paths to QUALITY™ Level 3</b>
<b>Management Webinar: Supporting Staff in Completing Child Observations</b>	Child care teachers should be completing observation of the children in their class. How can you as a director support them in completing those observations effectively and meaningfully? Join us for this webinar. <b>Paths to QUALITY™ Level 3</b>
<b>Effective Interest Areas: A Multi-Session Series</b>	Explore interest areas - learning how to maximize the potential and enhance your curriculum by the plans you make for your interest areas. This three part series will look at setting up your interest areas as well as how they can be effectively used with the children. <b>Paths to QUALITY™ Level 2</b>
<b>Creative and Adaptive Arts: A Multi-Session Series</b>	This series focuses on how early childhood educators can support and promote the creative arts in their programs. We will also explore how we can make adaptations to meet special needs of children and/or families. <b>Paths to QUALITY™ Level 2 and 3</b>
<b>Getting to Know Young Children: Observing and Assessing (with TA)</b>	Observations and assessments are a critical part to getting to know young children. Learn how they can support you as you plan to meet their developmental needs. <b>Paths to QUALITY™ Level 1</b> <b>*Participants must have attended the first two sessions offered in March.</b>
<b>Off to a Good Start- Planning Your Home Child Care Business</b>	Participants will learn about starting their child care program and employing practices that raise the level of professionalism, provide for sustainability of their business, and protect themselves and the families in their care. This presentation was developed by Tom Copeland and is designed for home child care providers who are new to or have little experience with the business side of child care. <b>Paths to QUALITY™ Level 2</b>
<b>Spin, Slam, Slime: School Readiness</b>	Do you know children who slam their bodies into walls? Spin around the room all the time? Can not stand the feel of slime? Learn how our senses impact everything we do and how to support health sensory development. We will also explore how this can impact children's learning and strategies to support them towards school readiness. <b>Paths to QUALITY™ Level 3</b>
<b>Mayhem be gone!</b>	How do you support children's learning both academically and behaviorally? Join us for this full day session as we explore environmental set up and other strategies to help young children grow and develop. <b>Paths to QUALITY™ Level 1</b>
<b>Reflections of You</b>	Reflection is a part of caring for children. This full day session will provide participants time and topics on which to reflect, as well as the opportunity to plan for the next step in strengthening their program. <b>Paths to QUALITY™ Level 1</b>
<b>What's D.A.P.?</b>	This full day session will help participants define and explore developmentally appropriate practices. <b>Paths to QUALITY™ Level 1</b>
<b>School Age: Curriculum Supportive Environments</b>	A quality program provides an environment that feels safe, comfortable and has appealing interest areas. The after-school environment includes a variety of indoor and outdoor space and is equipped with age appropriate materials and supplies. This session will provide school age providers with ideas for learning centers and homework areas that support their planned curriculum. <b>Paths to QUALITY™ Level 3</b>
<b>Introduction to the FOUNDATIONS</b>	Participants will learn about the FOUNDATIONS to the Indiana Academic Standards for Young Children from Birth to Age 5. The FOUNDATIONS assist adults in providing developmentally appropriate activities for young children that will support the child's growth and development. This interactive workshop will support many of the learning opportunities that you already provide to young children and will serve as a framework for further planning. <b>Paths to QUALITY™ Level 1</b>
<b>Building on the FOUNDATIONS</b>	Have you attended the Introduction to the FOUNDATIONS? You are invited to join us for this training that will help you build upon the Foundations in your experience planning for the children. (Prerequisite of attendance at the Introduction to the FOUNDATIONS) <b>Paths to QUALITY™ Level 2</b>
<b>Child Abuse and Neglect Detection and Prevention</b>	Created by the FSSA, Nurse Health Consultants, this one hour training provides participants with information on the prevalence of abuse and neglect, causes and prevention of abuse and neglect, and how to report abuse and neglect. <b>This training will meet the standard for completing Child Abuse Detection and Prevention training as required by Indiana law for Unlicensed CCDF providers as well as any other child care providers who are required to complete the training.</b>
<b>Safe Sleep: Safe Sleeping Practices and Reducing the Risk of SIDS in Child Care</b>	<b>Requirement of PL162-2005 for all licensed family child care homes.</b> This training covers how to create and maintain a safe sleep environment, risk factors associated with unsafe sleeping practices and the creation and implementation of a safe sleep policy.

Is the description you are looking for not here? Call us at 1-800-493-3231 or check out training listings on Training Central at [www.iaccrr.org](http://www.iaccrr.org).

**Want to sign up for a training?** Contact us at Child Care Solutions by phone at 765-452-8870 or 800-493-3231. You can also email us using the email addresses on the front page. Training registrations must be made 48 business hours in advance of the scheduled training.

**What if you lose the calendar insert from the newsletter...** Or if you left the calendar at home? Or if your children used it for artwork? Where can you find our training calendar again? There are several places that we post our training calendar to make it easily accessible to our child care providers. Below is a list and steps to find the calendar:



**Indiana Association of Child Care Resource and Referral** <http://www.iaccrr.org>

Choose **'Statewide CCR&R Trainings'** on the right side of the page. Then select a CCR&R from the drop down: Bona Vista Programs, Inc. The trainings will appear with pertinent information. This site will also let you search by other CCR&R's. Feel free to attend trainings in other counties hosted by another Resource and Referral Agency.



**Facebook** <http://www.facebook.com/bonavistachildcaresolutions>

Be sure to **'like'** us on Facebook at Bona Vista's Child Care Solutions! The calendar will be listed on the left side under **'notes'**. We also post several articles every month on topics of interest for child care providers and/or your families. When you **'like'** us, our posts will show up on your newsfeed.



**Bona Vista** <http://www.bonavista.org/>

Choose **'services'** on the top menu bar and then choose **'Child Care Solutions.'** No matter how you find our trainings, **please remember to call us and sign up at least 48 business hours prior to the event.**

## Center Director Inclusion Training

### ATTENTION CENTER DIRECTORS!



Effective September 11, 2004, licensing requires ALL center directors to be trained on caring for children with special needs. If your center has a new director, please make arrangements to attend this FREE two-day training!

The Indiana Association for Child Care Resource and Referral will be offering the training that will assist center directors in meeting this regulation requirement.

For more information on training dates, locations, or to register, please call IACCRR at 1-800-299-1627 or email Renee Kinder at [rkinder@iaccrr.org](mailto:rkinder@iaccrr.org). If you are unsure whether or not you need to take this training, contact Pam Zunick, Inclusion Specialist, toll-free at 800-493-3231 or email [pzunick@bonavista.org](mailto:pzunick@bonavista.org).



## Congratulations!!

Please join Bona Vista's Child Care Solutions in welcoming the following child care providers to the Paths To QUALITY™ program:

- St. John, Director, Gloria King in Tipton Co.
- Kid's First, Director, Tana Sheets in Adams Co.

CCS would also like to congratulate the following providers for obtaining their VCP Certification:

- Kid's First, Director, Tana Sheets in Adams Co.

CCS congratulates the following providers for increasing their Paths to QUALITY™ Level:

- Play N Learn, Owner, Patricia Pierce in Howard Co., Level 2
- Little Friends Ministry, Director, Rachel Guyer in Wabash Co., Level 2
- Little Ones Daycare, Owner, Jessica Stoner in Adams Co., Level 2
- Life's Little Treasures, Director, Amanda Jones in Huntington Co., Level 3
- Area Five Head Start, Director, KyLynne Greer in Fulton Co., Level 3



Patricia Pierce



Rachel Guyer



Jessica Stoner



Amanda Jones

# Recalls



**Name of product:**  
Airplane and butterfly push toys  
**Hazard:**  
The wheels of the airplane and the balls at the tip of the butterfly's antenna can detach, posing a choking hazard to young children

**Name of product:**  
Kidde plastic valve disposable fire extinguishers  
**Hazard:**  
A faulty valve component can cause the disposable fire extinguishers not to fully discharge when the lever is repeatedly pressed and released during a fire emergency, posing a risk of injury.



**Name of product:**  
2-in-1 Bassinet to Cradle  
**Hazard:**  
The wire supports on the sides of the bassinet can disconnect causing the fabric sides to lower; posing a risk that infants can fall out or become entrapped and suffocate.



**Name of product:**  
Aquarium Motion Lamp  
**Hazard:**  
The lamp can overheat and spark when plugged in, posing a fire hazard.