

The Child Care Circle

Volume 8 Issue 36

July August September 2015



Early Childhood Assessment

Early Childhood Assessment/Accounting for Progress
One Child at a Time

The following Frequently Asked Questions have been provided by the Indiana Department of Education.



What is ISTAR-KR?

ISTAR-KR stands for Indiana Standards Tool for Assessment Reporting – Kindergarten Readiness. It is a web-based tool that has been aligned to the Foundations to the Indiana Academic Standards and is used in early childhood programs throughout Indiana. Teachers and caregivers use the ISTAR-KR rating system to indicate the skills that best represent the performance level of the child in each of 30 performance threads. The software can display reports of the child's progress over time.

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Is ISTAR-KR a test for preschoolers?

No! ISTAR-KR is an observation based assessment which utilizes authentic assessment techniques to track a child's development over time. The assessment of young children is best done in their natural environment by more than one rater observing children in a variety of typical learning experiences, daily routines, interactions and play.

What are the core areas that the ISTAR-KR tool assesses?

ISTAR-KR has 5 developmental domains: English/Language Arts, Mathematics, Physical Skills, Personal Care, and Social Emotional Skills.

Can the ISTAR-KR assessment tool be used for all of the students in my childcare program?

Yes! ISTAR-KR measures skills from infancy to kindergarten. The assessment identifies present and emerging skills while monitoring a child's progress over time.

Is assessment really all that important for young children?

Assessment data can help teachers and caregivers plan developmentally appropriate, targeted learning experiences and can guide meaningful instructional planning in every type of early childhood settings. Tracking a child's development can also lead to the identification of developmental delays that should be addressed before a child enters a formal learning environment such as kindergarten.

How much does the ISTAR-KR assessment cost my school each year?

The ISTAR-KR assessment tool is provided by the Indiana Department of Education at no cost!

Where can I learn more about ISTAR-KR?

Visit <http://www.doe.in.gov/assessment/istar-kr> for additional resources. You can also email Erin Kissling at ekissling@doe.in.gov for assistance. *Child Care Solutions also has a training available to help you learn more about ISTAR-KR.

Want more information and training hours? Read this article on The 30 Million Word Gap by Age 3 at <http://www.aft.org/sites/default/files/periodicals/TheEarlyCatastrophe.pdf> and then answer questions through Survey Monkey at <https://www.surveymonkey.com/s/TheEarlyCatastrophe> for 1.0 training hours. The survey will be open until August 28, 2015. All certificates will be mailed after the survey closes.

Making a Difference: Changes to Provider Eligibility Standards for Child Care Development Fund

Starting July 1, 2015, important new child care laws are going into effect. All unlicensed child care programs receiving CCDF funding will be impacted by the new laws. This includes registered ministries and legally licensed exempt programs (LLEP), both home and center-based that choose to accept CCDF vouchers.

Remember - you must meet these additional standards effective July 1, 2015 in order to continue to receive CCDF funding. These changes do not affect programs who are licensed. Child Care Solutions is working to provide everyone with professional development opportunities to maintain compliance. We are offering specific sessions for information on the changes.

Day	Date	Time	Title	County
Thursday	July 23	6-8 pm	Making a Difference: Changes to Provider Eligibility Standards for CCDF	Grant Co.
Monday	August 24	6-8 pm	Making a Difference: Changes to Provider Eligibility Standards for CCDF	Huntington Co.
Wednesday	September 23	6:30-8:30 pm	Making a Difference: Changes to Provider Eligibility Standards for CCDF	Howard Co.

In addition to these face-to-face sessions, you can find webinar dates and times at www.iaccrr.org on the Training Central webpage. You can find other topics regarding the changes throughout our training calendar and at Training Central.

Do you have questions regarding how you will implement the changes? Child Care Solutions is able to meet with you individually to make sure that you have a plan and resources necessary to maintain compliance. To schedule an appointment, ask questions or register for trainings, contact Kari or Allison at 765-452-8870 or 800-493-3231.

Webinar



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

Topics 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 before the webinar with the link to log in to the session.

Questions? Contact Allison at Child Care Solutions at 800-493-3231 or ahillis@bonavista.org.

Bona Vista Child Care Solutions Annual Early Childhood Conference

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 or call 765-236-4070 .**

*Another service offered by **Bona Vista Programs**.*

Creative Corner Shorts

Are you looking for ways to make new items for your classroom? This new column will share ideas, basic information and places you can find detailed information for the project. We will provide a contact at Child Care Solutions for support in completing the project for your program.



Pam created Sensory Rings this past month. She made them six inches in diameter, so they are easy to hold. Pam recommends doing this with two people as it can be messy.

Materials include baby oil, glitter, plastic tubing and a funnel. As always, supervise the children while they play with these items.

You can find more information here <http://babbledabledo.com/science-and-fashion-for-kids-totally-tubular-glitter-bracelets/> or follow the link on our Facebook page!

CHILD CARE SOLUTIONS' TRAINING CALENDAR

Day	Date	Time	Title	County
Wednesday	July 1	6:30-7:30 pm	What do I do with the babies? (Infant/Toddler Activity Planning)	Howard Co.
Tuesday	July 7	1:30-2:30 pm	Management Webinar: Supporting Staff in Child Observations	Online
Tuesday	July 8	12:30-1:30 pm	What happens next? (Infant/Toddler Schedules and Routines)	Jay Co.
Thursday	July 9	6-8 pm	Introduction to the FOUNDATIONS	Miami Co.
Saturday	July 11	10 am – 4 pm	Watching and Waiting*	Howard Co.
Tuesday	July 14	8-9 pm	WEBINAR: Transitions	Online
Wednesday	July 15	6-8 pm	ISTAR-KR: A Rating Instrument to Assess Early Childhood Development	Huntington Co.
Thursday	July 16	4-6 pm 6-7 pm	Orientation I - An overview of starting a child care business Child Abuse Neglect Detection and Prevention	Tipton Co.
Thursday	July 16	6-8 pm	Ages and Stages Questionnaires: Social Emotional Edition	Adams Co.
Monday	July 20	1-2 pm	WEBINAR: What do I feed them? (Nutrition)	Online
Monday	July 20	6-8:30 pm	Safe Sleeping Practices	Tipton Co.
Monday	July 20	6-8 pm	Hot Buttons	Tipton Co.
Wednesday	July 29	10 am-1:30 pm	Orientation II - A pre-licensing requirement for starting a family child care home	Tipton
Thursday	July 30	12-2 pm	School Age: Challenging Behaviors	Howard Co.

Day	Date	Time	Title	County
Saturday	August 1	10 am – 4 pm	Environments: Enhancing, Enriching, Effective, Efficient, Evolving*	Howard Co.
Tuesday	August 4	1:30-2:30 pm	Management Webinar: "Are you kidding me?!?" Policies and Why They Are Important	Online
Thursday	August 6	6-8 pm	Introduction to the Foundations	Fulton Co.
Monday	August 10	6-8 pm	Ages and Stages Questionnaires™ and Developmental Screenings*	Grant Co.
	August 17	6-8 pm	Everybody Plays! Adapting and Modifying Toys*	
Tuesday	August 11	8-9 pm	WEBINAR: What do a 6 month, 3 year and 6 year old have in common? Planning for multiple ages	Online
Thursday	August 13	6-7 pm	What do I do with the babies? (Infant/Toddler Activity Planning)	Adams Co.
Thursday	August 13	12-2 pm	Orientation I - An overview of starting a child care business	Jay Co.
	August 13	2-3 pm	Child Abuse Neglect Detection and Prevention	
Monday	August 17	1-2 pm	WEBINAR: Creating Schedules and Planning Activities	Online
Monday	August 17	6-8:30 pm	Safe Sleeping Practices	Jay Co.
Mondays	August 17	6:15-8:15 pm	Kids Gone Wild! Promoting Social Emotional Competence in Preschoolers: Part 1*	Miami Co.
	August 24	6:15-8:15 pm	Kids Gone Wild! Promoting Social Emotional Competence in Preschoolers: Part 2*	
Wednesday	August 19	6-7 pm	What happens next? (Infant Toddler Schedules and Routines)	Wabash Co.
Thursdays	August 20	6:30-8:30 pm	School Readiness: Emotionally Ready*	Howard Co.
	August 27	6:30-8:30 pm	School Readiness: Academically Ready*	
Tuesday	August 25	8-9 pm	WEBINAR: When the plans don't go as planned: Making Modifications	Online
Thursday	August 27	4:30-7:30 pm	Orientation II - A pre-licensing requirement for starting a family child care home	Jay Co.

Day	Date	Time	Title	County
Tuesday	September 1	1:30-2:30 pm	Management Webinar: Hiring Practices	Online
Thursday	September 3	6-8 pm	Environments that Nurture Early Language and Literacy (Cradling Literacy)*	Wabash Co.
	September 10	6-8 pm	Using Language and Literacy in Guiding Children's Behavior (Cradling Literacy)*	
Tuesday	September 8	8-9 pm	WEBINAR: What do I feed them? (Nutrition)	Online
Wednesday	September 9	6:30-8:30 pm	I am Moving I am Learning: Making the Most of Your Music	Howard Co.
Saturday	September 12	10 am-4 pm	Professionalism and Administration: What does it all mean?*	Howard
Monday	September 14	6-7pm	What do I do with the babies? (Infant/Toddler Activity Planning)	Blackford Co.
Tuesday	September 15	4-6 6-7pm	Orientation I - An overview of starting a child care business Child Abuse Neglect Detection and Prevention	Miami Co.
Thursday	September 17	6-7 pm 7-9 pm	Introduction to the Foundations* Building on the Foundations*	Grant Co.
Monday	September 21	1-2 pm	WEBINAR: What's D.A.P.?	Online
Monday	September 21	6-8:30 pm	Safe Sleep Practices	Huntington Co.
Tuesday	September 22	8-9 pm	WEBINAR: Knowing how children grow	Online
Thursday	September 24	6-7 pm	What happens next? (Infant Toddler Schedules and Routines)	Fulton Co.
Saturday	September 26	9:30 am-12 pm	Safe Sleep Practices	Miami Co.
		12:30-3:30 pm	Orientation II - A pre-licensing requirement for starting a family child care home	
Tuesday	September 29	6-8 pm	Visual Schedules	Huntington Co.

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

Training Titles	Training Descriptions
Environments that Nurture Early Language and Literacy (Cradling Literacy)	Learn how to create environments which invites and prompts early language and literacy in a nurturing setting. Paths to QUALITY™ Level 3
Using Language and Literacy in Guiding Children's Behavior (Cradling Literacy)	In this session, Using Language and Literacy in Guiding Children's Behavior, teachers will reflect on their attitudes and feelings about challenging behaviors. Participants will discuss and explore strategies for using language and literacy to guide children's behavior. Paths to QUALITY™ Level 3
WEBINAR: What do I feed them?	Nutrition is a key component to happy, healthy children. This webinar will look at menu planning and what children need to grow and develop. Pre-Paths to QUALITY™ Level 1/PES
IMIL: Making the Most of Your Music	In this <i>I am Moving, I am Learning</i> session, participant's will explore the academic benefits for the children of how they incorporate music into activities. Paths to QUALITY™ Level 2
What do I do with the babies? Infant/Toddler Activity Planning	Babies. They eat, they sleep and they...what else do they do? Join us for this one hour session to learn more about planning activities for infants and how to extend those same activities for toddlers. Paths to QUALITY™ Level 2
What happens next? Infant/Toddler Schedules and Routines.	Do infants even follow a schedule? Maybe not our schedule, but we can plan appropriately to support their needs and development. Participants will be able to leave this session with information Paths to QUALITY™ Level 1
Management Webinar: Hiring Practices	A webinar designed for the unique needs of a director. Hiring is a task that all directors face. This webinar will address some of the legalities in hiring personnel. Paths to QUALITY™ Level 2
Management Webinar: "Are you kidding me?!?" Policies and Why They are Important	A webinar designed for the unique needs of a director. Does your staff question certain policies? Do they bring the staff handbook to you saying, "Are you kidding me?" This webinar will address some of those policies and why they are important. Paths to QUALITY™ Level 3
Management Webinar: Supporting Staff in Completing Child Observations	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. Paths to QUALITY™ Level 3
ISTAR-KR: A Rating Instrument to Assess Early Childhood Development	ISTAR-KR is a derivative of the Foundations to the Indiana Academic Standards and is aligned to the Indiana Core Standards for Kindergarten in the areas of mathematics, English/language arts and three functional areas, including: physical skills, personal care skills and social-emotional skills. This instrument is comprised of 30 performance threads of progressive skills. Paths to QUALITY™ Level 2
WEBINAR: Creating Schedules and Planning Activities	Having a daily schedule supports you and the children in knowing what comes next. By planning activities that are developmentally appropriate, you are able to reduce challenging behaviors and promote the academic development of the children. Join us to learn strategies to help you create a schedule and plan activities. Pre-Paths to QUALITY™ Level 2/PES
School Readiness: Emotionally Ready Academically Ready	Come to this four hour, two-part training to find out what kids really need to be successful at school - intellectually supportive and emotionally supportive caregivers. Learn what this looks like and what children will be learning from you. Paths to QUALITY™ Level 2
Kids Gone Wild! Promoting Social Emotional Competence in Preschoolers	Positive relationships are critical for learning to happen. These two sessions will look at how adults impact the children with whom we work. Participants will consider and practice relationship building strategies with each other and with the children. We will also discuss the importance of those positive relationships and how they impact children's behaviors. Paths to QUALITY™ Level 2
What do I do with the babies? Infant/Toddler Activity Planning	Do you work with infants or toddlers in your program? Knowing what activities are appropriate or engaging for the age group can be difficult. Join us for this session to support your planning for infants and toddlers. Paths to QUALITY™ Level 1
Watching and Waiting	Observations and assessment are parts of teaching that are discussed regularly. Join us for this full day session as we explore how you complete the tasks and use the information in meaningful ways. Paths to QUALITY™ Level 3
Environments: Enhancing, Enriching, Effective, Efficient, Evolving	The environment that you prepare for the children in your care can make or break your days. During this full day session, we will discuss the physical environment, academic environment and social environment. Paths to QUALITY™ Level 2
Professionalism and Administration: What does it all mean?	This full day session will provide participants the opportunity the business management components of early childhood classrooms and programs. Paths to QUALITY™ Level 1
School Age: Challenging Behaviors	Participants will learn developmental milestones for school-age children. Participants will learn how to positively handle and use a variety of techniques that are appropriate for this age. Some of those include effective listening, problem solving and using a "peace table" to resolve issues. Paths to QUALITY™ Level 3
Introduction to the FOUNDATIONS	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. Paths to QUALITY™ Level 1
Building on the FOUNDATIONS	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) Paths to QUALITY™ Level 2
Child Abuse and Neglect Detection and Prevention	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. 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.
Safe Sleep: Safe Sleeping Practices and Reducing the Risk of SIDS in Child Care	Requirement of PL162-2005 for all licensed family child care homes. 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.

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 by 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. 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.



Congratulations!!

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

- God's Minnie Tots and Owl Lil Angels, Owner, Dawnetta Sparks in Howard Co.
- Little Wonderland Daycare, Owner, Amanda Shephard in Howard Co.
- Small Town Daycare, Owner, Vonda Carter in Howard Co.

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

- Sunshine Child Care LLC, Owner, Linda Leist in Huntington Co., Level 2
- Dream Makers Learning Ministry, Director, Dawn Washington in Howard Co., Level 2
- Kids At The Top, Owners, Terence and Tonka Watters in Howard Co., Level 2
- St. Joan of Arc and Patrick School, Principal, Nick Kanable in Howard Co., Level 2



Sunshine Child Care LLC



Dream Makers Learning Ministry



Kids At The Top



St. Joan of Arc and Patrick Schools

Recalls



Police Press and Go Toy Vehicles
Hazard:
The hat can detach from the policeman's head and pose a choking hazard to young children.

SULTAN and VYSSA
crib mattress
Hazard:

The crib mattresses could create a gap between the mattress and crib ends larger than allowed by federal regulations, posing an entrapment hazard to infants.



Nest Booster Seat
Hazard:
The stitching on the restraint straps can loosen which allows the straps to separate from the seat, posing a fall hazard to children.



PATRULL KLÄMMA and PATRULL SMIDIG
Safety Gates
Hazard:



The friction between the wall and the pressure-mounted safety gate is insufficient to hold the gate in its intended position, posing a fall hazard. In addition, the lower metal bar can be a tripping hazard.