



Family Guidance Center of Alabama  
545 West Main Street, Suite 311  
Dothan, Alabama 36301

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

Non-Profit Org.  
U.S. Postage  
PAID  
Permit #409  
Montgomery, AL

[www.familyguidancecenter.org](http://www.familyguidancecenter.org)

## January, February, March Newsletter/Calendar 2018

### Day for Directors

On Saturday, January 20, 2018, Family Guidance Center's Child Care Education and Training Program in Montgomery will be hosting a Director's Conference. Our guest speaker will be Dr. Jackie Alexander DiPofi of Auburn, AL. Jackie will be discussing marketing in the child care industry.



Dr. Alexander is the author of the book, *Marketing in 1 word: RAMPS, Help for Small Business Owners*. Her presentation will focus on the effective RAMPS model of marketing that highlights research, advertising, merchandising, promotions, and sales.

The conference is for Directors, Assistant Directors, and /or Owners of center-based child care.

Remember you must register to attend.  
Please call the Montgomery Child Care Education and Training Program at 334-270-4100 ext 235 to register.

We look forward to seeing you there!

### Sensational Saturday 2018

The Child Care Education and Training Programs in Dothan and Montgomery are excited to announce that children's musician Carole Peterson Stephens, will be the special speaker for our Sensational Saturday Child Care Conference 2018.

Carole Stephens, of Park Ridge, IL, is a children's musician dubbed "the Pied Piper of children's music." Carole is a nationally renowned music specialist whose cross-curricular music and guidance techniques instantly invite all audiences from the youngest child to the oldest adult to join in the singing, dancing and rhythmic movement.

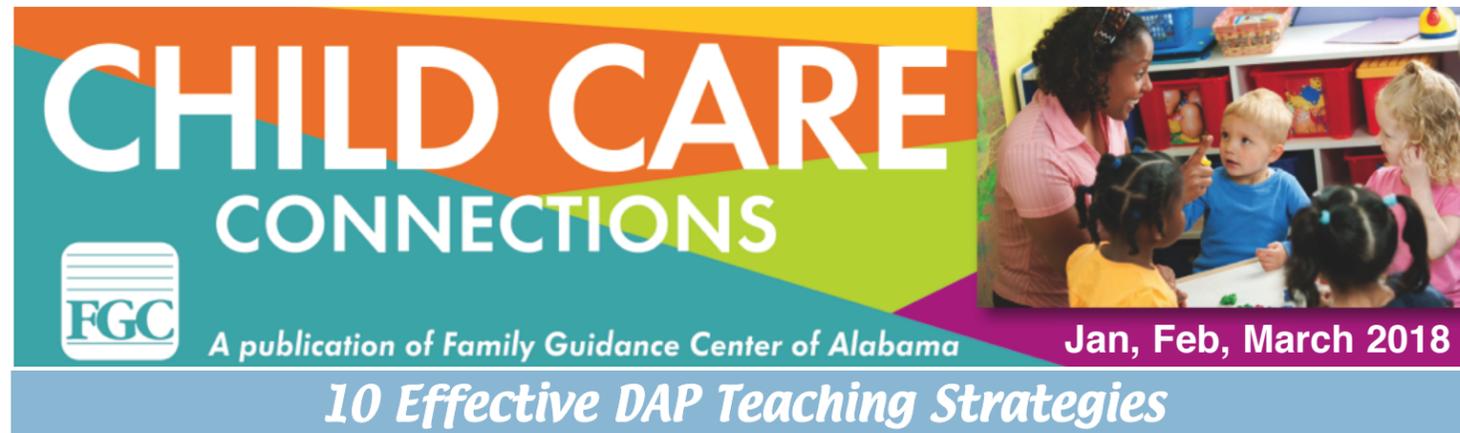


Carole's CD's are available for checkout in the Resource Library in both Dothan and Montgomery.

**Sensational Saturday Child Care Conference - Dothan**  
Saturday, January 27, 2018

**Sensational Saturday Child Care Conference - Montgomery**  
Saturday, February 24, 2018

Hope to see you at Sensational Saturday 2018!



## 10 Effective DAP Teaching Strategies

### 10 Effective DAP (Developmentally Appropriate Practice) Teaching Strategies (NAEYC)

Teaching strategies refer to the structure, system, methods, techniques, procedures and processes that a teacher uses during instruction. These are the strategies the teacher employs to assist student learning. An effective teacher or family child care provider chooses a strategy to fit a particular situation. It's important to consider what the children already know and can do and the learning goals for the specific situation. By remaining flexible and observant, we can determine which strategy may be most effective. Often, if one strategy doesn't work, another will.

**Acknowledge** what children do or say. Let children know that we have noticed by giving positive attention, sometimes through comments, sometimes through just sitting nearby and observing. ("Thanks for your help, Kavi." "You found another way to show 5.")

**Encourage** persistence and effort rather than just praising and evaluating what the child has done. ("You're thinking of lots of words to describe the dog in the story. Let's keep going!")

**Give specific feedback** rather than general comments. ("The beanbag didn't get all the way to the hoop, James, so you might try throwing it harder.")

**Model** attitudes, ways of approaching problems, and behavior toward others, showing children rather than just telling them ("Hmm, that didn't work and I need to think about why." "I'm sorry, Ben, I missed part of what you said. Please tell me again.")

**Demonstrate** the correct way to do something. This usually involves a procedure that needs to be done in a certain way (such as using a wire whisk or writing the letter P).

**Create or add challenge** so that a task goes a bit beyond what the children can already do. For example, you lay out a collection of chips, count them together and then ask a small group of children to tell you how many are left after they

see you removing some of the chips. The children count the remaining chips to help come up with the answer. To add a challenge, you could hide the chips after you remove some, and the children will have to use a strategy other than counting the remaining chips to come up with the answer. To **reduce challenge**, you could simplify the task by guiding the children to touch each chip once as they count the remaining chips.

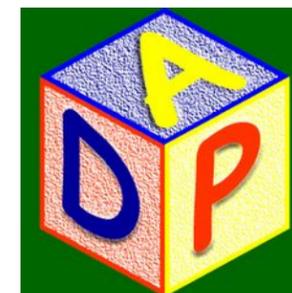
**Ask questions** that provoke children's thinking. ("If you couldn't talk to your partner, how else could you let him know what to do?")

**Give assistance** (such as a cue or hint) to help children work on the edge of their current competence ("Can you think of a word that rhymes with your name, Matt? How about bat . . . Matt/bat? What else rhymes with Matt and bat?")

**Provide information**, directly giving children facts, verbal labels, and other information. ("This one that looks like a big mouse with a short tail is called a vole.")

**Give directions** for children's action or behavior. ("Touch each block only once as you count them.")

Incorporating these strategies into the classroom teachers meet young children where they are (by stage of development), both as individuals and as part of a group and help each child meet challenging and achievable learning goals.



## CCDF Online Training Opportunities



All child care providers (excluding relative care providers) providing care for children under the subsidy program, are required to receive training in the CCDF Health and Safety Areas. Included in your newsletter are two flyers (e-Training and e-learning) with information about on-line training opportunities. Also, continue to check the training calendar for additional face-to-face training opportunities in the CCDF Areas.

## APT Online Courses

### ALABAMA EARLY LEARNING GUIDELINES



The Alabama Early Learning Guidelines professional development course, through a partnership between the Alabama Department of Human Resources, Alabama Public Television, the Alabama State Department of Education, and Family Guidance Center of Alabama, will be offered online again this quarter.

- It is a **FREE 7 week online course that begins on January 22, 2018**
- **You must complete entire course in order to get your credential at the end.**
- **You MUST have a working e-mail address and access to the internet to be able to take this course. If you are taking this course with a co-worker you will each need to have separate email addresses.**

The Alabama Early Learning Guidelines were developed by DHR to promote continuity of high quality care and learning for young children ages 0-5. The AELG online course will consist of training sessions with readings, activities, & online discussions that will be a guide for understanding child development & learning, and for implementing best practices in order to prepare children for success in school and in life. Participants who complete the course will receive 18 workshop training hours and a Training Award Credential issued by the Alabama Department of Human Resources.

To register for the online course please contact Lisa Nunn at [lnunn@aptv.org](mailto:lnunn@aptv.org). Space is limited in this class. (The AELG class can only be taken once, so if you have taken the AELG as a face-to-face class or online you are not eligible to take this course)

APT's CDA Credential Course: An Introduction - This course is designed for any professional early child care educator considering applying for the CDA Credential. This 6 week course will answer the most frequently asked questions about the credentialing process, and address eligibility requirements and concerns for applying, demonstrating and earning the CDA Credential. (15 hour training).

**January 8, 2018 - February 19, 2018**

For more information about dates for this course contact  
Lisa Nunn at [lnunn@aptv.org](mailto:lnunn@aptv.org).

## Dothan Update

### We're on the move again!

We are excited to announce that our Resource Room is relocating back into our main office, Suite 311, 545 West Main Street. By relocating, this will make visiting our Resource Room more convenient and time manageable for our child care providers.

Besides a change in location, there will be new hours, new opportunities and a few more surprises! Our new location will be ready January, 2018. We are looking forward to having the ease of everything in one location and hope that you will stop by the Resource Room to see what we have to offer.

## Paper Plate Activities

### Infants: Peeking

**Materials:** Paper plate, scissors

Cut a hole approximately 2 or 3 inches in diameter in the center of a paper plate. Look through the hole and call the baby's name. When the baby sees you peeking through the hole, say, "I see you!" Offer the plate to the baby to explore. Watch to see if baby imitates your actions.

### Toddlers: Paper Plate Gluing

**Materials:** Paper plates, variety of kinds of colored paper scraps, glue  
Put a thin coat of washable glue on a paper plate. Provide a variety of paper (colored tissue, wallpaper samples, magazine pictures, construction paper pieces, gift wrap) for toddlers to stick on the plate. Hang completed plates for all to see.

### Preschoolers: Clear Wrap Painting

**Materials:** Paper plates, clear wrap, paint, tape  
Offer a paper plate to a child. He/she can put puddles of several different colors of fingerpaint on the plate. Cover the paper plate with a sheet of clear plastic wrap. The child pats the wrap onto the paint puddles to adhere the wrap to the paper. Encourage him/her to pat and rub the colorful paint spots to mix colors. Tape the edges of the wrap to the back of the paper plate to seal the paint inside.

### Schoolagers: Group Collage Project

**Materials:** Paper plates, construction paper scraps, felt scraps, craft foam scraps, fabric scraps, glue, paint brushes  
Cut construction paper, felt, craft foam, and fabric into pieces for schoolagers to use for a collage. Children paint thin glue onto a paper plate. Encourage him or her to select materials to place on top of the glue. Children can group the completed plates to make a large collage. Display the collage for all to see.



## Infant Quality Tip

### Babies Are Children Too

Infancy is a unique and wondrous time of life. The first 3 years of a child's life are the most critical time of growth and development and high-quality care is extremely important during this time. During these first 3 years of life, the infant's brain, mind and personality take shape that are influenced by everyday experiences of learning and nurturing provided by parents and caregivers. This development is dramatic, rapid and important. It lays the foundation for later cognitive accomplishments, social skills, self-esteem, respect for others and more. Parents and caregivers offer the critical inputs for infant development. You can build on the quality of the relationship between you and the babies in your care by talking to them, reading books, singing songs, listening to their cries and being responsive to their every need.



## AELG Face-to-Face - Montgomery

Montgomery's Child Care Education and Training Program will be offering the Alabama Early Learning Guidelines Course in March. The Alabama Early Learning Guidelines Course is written to promote continuity of high quality care and learning for children from birth through five years of age.

This course consists of nine training sessions that are a guide for understanding child development and learning, and for implementing best practices in order to prepare children for success in school and in life.

The Alabama Early Learning Guidelines Credential is an important milestone on the Career Lattice of Alabama Child Care and Education Professional Development System - Pathways to Quality Care and Education.

Please see the Montgomery calendar for the dates and times of the course.

The Dothan Child Care Education and Training Program will be offering the AELG Course in the Spring quarter. Please continue to check their calendar for the dates and times of the course.

## Toddler Quality Tip

### Blowing Bubbles

A fun activity for toddlers during the winter months is to bundle them up and head outdoors with the bubbles.

If it's cold enough, the bubbles will freeze, making "ice bubbles." This activity will get the toddlers moving and squealing with delight!



## Update for Directors

This quarter, both Dothan and Montgomery locations will be offering special trainings for directors. These trainings are the **Especially for Directors** series and are held for Owners, Directors and Assistant Directors of day care centers.

### Director's Conference - Montgomery

*Marketing for Child Care Centers* - January 20, 2018

### Especially for Directors - Dothan

*Quality Child Care: How Do Parents See Your Center* - February 21, 2018

### Especially for Directors Teleconference

*Your Traits As An Effective Leader* - February 7, 2018

**Please check your local training calendars for the dates, times and locations of these upcoming directors trainings.**

## DATES OUR OFFICES WILL BE CLOSED

January 1, 2018 – New Year's Day

January 15, 2018 – Martin Luther King, Jr./Robert E. Lee Day

February 20, 2018 – Presidents' Day

## CDA Update

Important news for CDA candidates: there will be a fee increase for initial CDA paper applications. After December 29, 2017, the paper application assessment fee will increase to \$500.00. You can save \$75.00 by applying online. Applying online allows for faster processing on complete applications. Candidates can upload both the initial application and the renewal application. To upload your documents you will need to create an online YourCDA account. Tutorials will guide you through the process.

If you need to convert training into clock hours, please use the following formulas: 1 CEU = 10 clock hours 1 Semester Credit = 15 clock hours 1 Quarter Credit = 10 clock hours. To be eligible for your first CDA you need 12 CEUs = 120 clock hours 8 Semester Credits = 120 clock hours 12 Quarter Credits = 120 clock hours.

For all you do for young children, thank you and Happy New Year!

## Online Training Opportunities

Family Guidance Center has once again partnered with ProSolutions Training. Through this partnership you are able to earn a portion of your training hours to meet the DHR requirements through their online courses.



### Three easy steps to enroll:

1. **Call and talk to the FGC online training specialist and complete enrollment form**
2. **Verify that you have worked a full year in child care**
3. **Verify that you have taken at least half of your yearly required training hours as face to face classes at FGC**

If you are interested in this training opportunity, please call the Training Department for additional information. For the Dothan area, please call 334-712-7777, ext. 227. For the Montgomery area, please call 334-270-4100 ext. 235. Please ask to speak to the Online Training Specialist, or, if necessary, please leave your name, phone number and a brief message and your call will be returned.

## Save the Date



The Week of the Young Child is an annual celebration hosted by the National Association for the Education of Young Children (NAEYC) celebrating early learning, young children, their teachers and families. NAEYC first established the Week of the Young Child in 1971, recognizing that the early childhood years (birth through age 8) lay the foundation for children's success in school and later life. The Week of the Young Child is a time to plan how we - as citizens of a community, of a state, and of a nation - will better meet the needs of all young children and their families. ([www.naeyc.org](http://www.naeyc.org))

**Week of the Young Child Celebrations - Dothan and Montgomery**  
To Be Held in April 2018