

ECE Training

Winter/Spring 2009

Why Play-Based Curriculum?

“Why is my child always playing?”
“Where are the desks?”
“How will my child ever be ready for school, if all he does is build with blocks?”

Have you ever heard questions like these? Perhaps you have struggled with how to answer parents when they ask questions or criticize your play-based curriculum model.

Young children learn so many different things about the world around them through child-directed play. Specifically, child learn social skills, develop language skills, physical skills, and cognitive skills. And we haven't even moved out of the dramatic play area yet! Seem crazy? Not at all. Let's use a scenario as an example.

Two young children are playing the block area. As they both reach for the same piece, they negotiate a deal to build a structure together instead of individually. They notice a picture of a sky scraper on the wall their teacher has put up and decide to model their structure after the one in the picture. As they talk about the shapes they see in the photo, they attempt to recreate the same angles and in the end, there is a close resemblance and they are very satisfied with the accomplishment!

What might seem like a simple activity, or simply, “building with blocks,” is really much more. If we aren't watching, and listening, we might miss it! Children are constantly learning and play is a gateway to adventure!

Spring Ahead With Your Training!

Don't wait until the last minute! A well thought-out, thorough training plan can really help you provide outstanding care and education to the children in your program.

If you are unsure of which type of trainings you want to invest your time in, take a few moments and think through your day. When do you most frequently feel frustrated, or wish you had more information? Answering these questions will help you select trainings that are meaningful and beneficial for you.

ECE Training offers correspondence and onsite training on a variety of topics. Take a few moments to look through our courses!

<http://www.ecetraining.net>



“Infants and young children are not just sitting twiddling their thumbs, waiting for their parents to teach them to read and do math. They are expending a vast amount of time and effort in exploring and understanding their immediate world. Healthy education supports and encourages this spontaneous learning.”
— David Elkind