

Professional Development Activities

Mentoring

- Model your accomplished infant-toddler caregiving-teaching skills for beginning teachers, families, and others.
- Model the use of professional terms to describe infant-toddler development and teaching interactions.
- Explain infant-toddler development and model developmentally appropriate practices.
- Plan and give a workshop or presentation focused on infants and toddlers for other teachers and families.
- Write and submit an article to a local, state, or national newsletter, newspaper, or journal.
- Submit a presentation proposal to a local, state, or national conference.
- Design a display or bulletin board on a specific infant-toddler topic to help others learn more about babies.
- Be available to talk with other teachers and families and to answer their questions.
- Help other teachers and families locate and use information on child development, parenting, teaching, learning, community resources, and cultural events.
- Invite other teachers and families to observe your classroom.
- Provide printed information on infant-toddler development and learning topics to other teachers and families.
- Create a resource area that includes books, videos, and other materials to share with other teachers and families.
- Share your cultural heritage with others and ask them to share theirs with you.
- Start conversations about diversity and building cultural understandings.

Learning and Advancing Knowledge and Skills

- Attend a local, state, or national conference presentation on the knowledge and skills you want to learn.
- Read an article from a professional journal.
- Observe a teacher who has in-depth knowledge and accomplished skills.
- Join a professional organization.
- Check out books and videos from public libraries.
- Access online information from professional organizations, government agencies, and university-sponsored websites.
- Take a community college or university infant-toddler development or infant-toddler programming class.
- Check out language tapes or CDs, videos, and music from the local library.
- Keep a teaching self-reflection journal.
- Visualize and think about new ways of doing things and then practice doing them.
- Schedule one-on-one meetings and discussions with mentors, colleagues, families, community services providers, and consultants.
- Start a group with other teachers to design joint learning opportunities and to discuss topics.
- Attend community events and learn about other countries, languages, cultures, and customs.
- Participate in a web-based learning event or opportunity on the Zero to Three, Early Head Start, or other professional website.
- Visit a local historical society, an art museum, or other special exhibits to learn more about your community, its cultures, and its people.
- Invite guests to speak or share their cultural heritage at meetings and events.
- Invite families to share their skills and talents with you and other teachers.