



**early  
childhood  
council**  
of BOULDER COUNTY

# NEWS!

From the Quality Support Program

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## COLORADO SHINES SUCSESSES

Montessori Academy in Lafayette has completed their first rating. Congratulations on your Level 3!

## JOIN US IN A COMMUNITY OF SUPPORT, CURIOSITY AND LEARNING

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### Boulder County Director's Group

*New dates coming soon!*

Contact Jessica,

[jknight@eccbouldercounty.org](mailto:jknight@eccbouldercounty.org)

for more information.

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### Boulder County Family Child Care Association

*New dates coming soon!*

Visit [bcfcc.org](http://bcfcc.org) for more information.

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## A Message from your Support Team

Did you know that each member of your Quality Support Team has classroom experience? We know that having visitors can be difficult and wanted to let you know that we see you as the early childhood professional you are and value your knowledge and efforts. When we visit with you, we are looking to you as the expert of your program, your classroom/home, and your professional growth.

Early Childhood educators are not only responsible for watching children to keep them safe and healthy, but also for nurturing their development and growth in all learning domains. As teachers, you are constantly looking for signs of development and growth in each child in your care, so you can offer individualized opportunities to expand upon their learning. You also partner with each child's family to know best how to support their child in the learning environment. All of this work is your profession.

At the Council, our work is to nurture you in your professional growth and reflection. All eyes are on early childhood right now and recognition that teacher-child interactions are central to children's successful learning and development continues to grow. You are vital to each child in your care, and we are excited to partner with you in your professional journey.

~ Your Boulder County Support Team

## Quality Opportunities

*\*Receive professional development clock hours towards your Professional Credential 2.0.*

### Explore the Colorado Shines [PDIS Course Catalog!](#)

The Professional Development Information System (PDIS) offers a variety of training options in their Course Catalog. You can click on the titles of the trainings for more information on each training, including if it is available online or in-person and if there are any fees. All courses completed on PDIS are automatically counted towards your EC. Professional Credential 2.0 - no uploading needed. The catalog features a drop bar to view courses by category, including:

- **Pre-Service and/or Required Trainings** - online options and information on training courses required by the state childcare licensing department. Not all requirements available online.
- **Colorado Shines Level 2 Courses** - To help demonstrate that our field is a Profession, everyone needs to have the same base training information so Colorado Shines has designed a variety of free online courses! To achieve this, one of our goals is for all providers to take at least 10 of the Level 2 (L2) Courses.



## Materials Corner: Using Language

### Preschool 3+ years

**Material:** Shape Sequence Sorting Set

**ECERS-R:** 17. Using language to develop reasoning skills—5.2 Children encouraged to talk through or explain their reasoning when solving problems.

**ELDG:** English Language Development—1. Receptive English language skills: the ability to comprehend or understand the English language.



### Toddler 18 mos-3 years

**Material:** Routine Story Books

**ITERS-R:** 12. Helping Children understand language. 5.1 Staff talk to the children frequently through the day during both routines and play.

**ELDG:** Language & Literacy Development—3. Communication Skills and Knowledge: The developing ability to communicate nonverbally and verbally.



**FCCERS-R:** 14. Helping Children use language—5.3 Provider encourages children to communicate with other children.

## Food for Thought

### I'm a Teacher, not a Babysitter!: Professionalism in Early Childhood

Excerpts from an edited transcript of the webinar by the same name, presented by Natasha Crosby Kile, MS, available on [ContinuEd.com](http://ContinuEd.com). [Click here](#) for the full, printable transcript.

In the field of early childhood education, the topic of professionalism is of great importance. As ECE professionals, we need to make sure that we're recognized for the valuable work that we do. Working with young children and their families is one of the hardest jobs that there is. It's emotionally exhausting, and more often than not, challenging. It is extremely difficult to convey this importance to anyone who does not do what we do for a living. As early childhood professionals, we must hold ourselves to a high standard if we want to change the way that we are seen by society.

#### Who is An Early Childhood Professional?

- First of all, an early childhood professional is someone who has the personal characteristics, knowledge and skills necessary to provide programs that facilitate children's learning.
- Next, an early childhood professional is someone who has the ability to inform the public about child and family issues.
- An early childhood professional is someone who promotes high standards for themselves. We make sure that we're doing absolutely the best that we can for young children.
- An early childhood professional is also someone who is continuously improving. We're always trying to expand our knowledge base, and to hone our skills and our abilities.

## The Quality Support Team

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