



Kohl Children's Museum of Greater Chicago

Early Childhood Connections: Child Care

Introduction to Project Approach- Building a Foundation

A Professional Development Opportunity for Child Care Providers

Fact Sheet: 2015

Kohl Children's Museum is seeking home and center based child care providers to learn about and implement the Project Approach in their programs utilizing Kohl Children's Museum as a resource and learning laboratory. The project includes a professional development component for providers, interactive learning experiences for the children both in the home or center and at Kohl Children's Museum, an on-site parent/child activity, a family event, and family passes to the museum. Programming content will address NAEYC and Illinois Early Learning and Development Standards. Participants will receive 17 Gateways contact hours for complete participation in the program.

Focus

To expand the use of the Project Approach into home and center based child care programs through professional development and field trip opportunities.

Audience

Family and Center based child care providers serving children receiving Illinois DHS Child Care Assistance that are in the process of participating in the Quality Rating System (QRS) or ExceleRate Illinois system.

Application Procedures

Each provider and childcare center teacher must submit an application to Kohl Children's Museum.

Activities

1. **Participate in Three Professional Development Workshops (Saturdays).** Participating providers must attend all three workshops **September 26 or October 3, November 14 or November 21, 2015, and February 20 or 27, 2016** (8:30-3:30) - A \$100 stipend and 17 Gateways Contact Hours will be provided at the end of the project. Training dates will be assigned at a later date.
2. **Participate in Evaluation and Assessment:** Museum Project Staff will **observe** participant's home or center prior to the project and after the projects' completion. In addition, participants will be required to complete project descriptions, staff development evaluations and pre and post project attitude surveys.
3. **Plan, design, conduct and document** a child-centered project between October 2015 through March 2016. Additional support for conducting a project in the classroom will be provided by Museum education staff, including visits to the classroom if necessary.

4. **Select and purchase project materials.** Each provider will receive \$250 worth of materials to support their projects. Materials are ordered through Kohl Children’s Museum and must support project work done in the classroom.
5. **Schedule and attend one Focused Field Trips** to Kohl Children’s Museum or at the home or center (October 2015 – February 2016). All field trip and bus fees will be paid for through the project.
6. **Schedule, coordinate and conduct one Parent/Child Activity** (Activity kit provided by the museum)
7. **Schedule and participate in one Project Celebration (Weekend) at Kohl Children’s Museum** (March 5, 19, or 26, 2016). Bus fees, if needed, will be paid for by the museum. (Providers are required to schedule the buses and to bring their project documentation to display at the Museum).
8. **Distribute Kohl Children’s Museum Passes** to families of children involved in the project.

Contact Sarah Salto at ssalto@kohlchildrensmuseum.org for more information!

Funding Overview

Project Pays For...
Field Trip Fees
Bus Fees
Parent/Child on-site Art Activity Kits
Stipend to providers for Professional Development (\$100)
Classroom Materials (\$250)
Family Celebration Facility Fees Refreshments and Bus Fees
Museum Family Passes