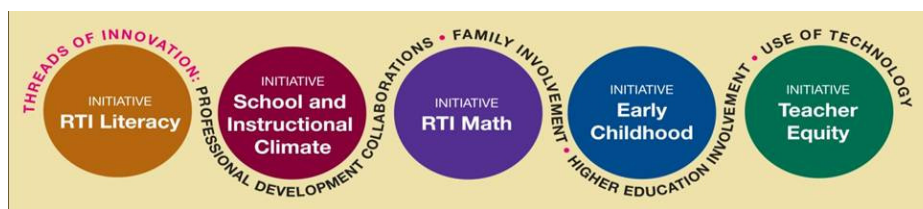


SPDG Family Providers Fact Sheet

In-service Training and Workshops for Families and Teachers



The State Personnel Development Grant (SPDG) Family Involvement Professional Development Team offers a full menu of workshops and in-service trainings specifically designed to provide skills to teachers, families, and service providers to close the achievement gap for *all* students.

Please contact a member of the SPDG Family Involvement Team for more information:

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Available Trainings/Topics:

Literacy without the Books: Ways to include literacy in the daily routine when there isn't time to sit down and read a book, and activity stations for the families and teachers to work together to try out activities that could be used with preschoolers.

Early Writing Experiences: This training includes information about the stages of writing development for birth to five-year-olds, as well as activity ideas for supporting early writing experiences at home.

Family Reading: This training covers the benefits of reading aloud in the home, do's and don'ts of selecting books for reading aloud, and tips for teaching book-handling skills.

Literacy in the Lives of Infants and Toddlers: Information on defining literacy for our youngest children, how to choose books according to milestone development, and tips for reading with children from birth to three years of age.

Tennessee Early Learning Developmental Standards: What do the Tennessee Early Learning Standards mean for our young children, and how can we help parents and day care staff understand and use them? This training will provide teachers with two resources they can use at a simple workshop/presentation for families - Helping Your Child Grow (birth to 3) and (3-5). Presenters will demonstrate how to get parents and para-professionals to use the booklets (created through funding by the State Personnel Development Grant, SPDG) to find ways to encourage and activate learning and development in children, helping them to be ready for the more formal learning that will take place when they enter school.

Ramps and Pathways: A physical science curriculum for young children that involves moving objects on inclined planes; trainings provide opportunities to explore the materials and learn tips for implementing in the classroom and/or use at home.

Research Based Reading Interventions: Questions to ask about reading levels and matching appropriate interventions.

RTI: Math and Reading: Overview of Response to Intervention - What families and teachers need to know about the use of RTI as an evaluation tool, fidelity of implementation, reporting requirements, and more.

Literacy for ALL: Including literacy in IEP for students with significant disabilities can be challenging. This training will look at what literacy goals look like for students of all ability levels. Parents and teachers will use tools to determine what “meaningful literacy skills” are appropriate for individual students and how to incorporate those into the IEP.

Talking Builds the Foundation for Learning: Research has shown the importance of talk and conversation in the home to build vocabulary, listening and thinking skills, and background knowledge that will help all children be more successful in school. But many parents don't understand the importance of talking to their children, or know how much children learn through conversation. This training will help teachers to provide a simple, easy way to get parents thinking about where, when, and what to talk to their children about, and the benefits that talking to children provides.

Common Core Standards Resources: In this training we explore a website and booklets created by and for the State of Tennessee that help teachers, families, and children understand the common core standards in Math and English/Language Arts. The site contains videos, lesson plans, articles, websites, and other help for families and teachers of children in preschool to elementary school.

Building Parent/Professional Relationships Using the TN Parental Involvement Standards: When parents and teachers work together, students are more successful in school. But what does parent/teacher collaboration look like, and how can we be sure that we are working together? Tennessee has recently signed a parent involvement bill into law, and has issued standards to ensure teachers are involving parents in their children's education. This training will inform teachers and administrators about the standards and illustrate ways for school staff to apply the standards in their own schools and classrooms.

Helping Families Understand Today's Math: This training will demonstrate methods teachers can use to help families better understand current math instruction in schools. By helping families understand that math instruction may differ from what they learned when they went to school, we can help them see that today's math focuses on understanding rather than just memorization. This training will address basic math for all students/parents, but will also include best practices and assistive technology for introducing math concepts to students with various disabilities.

