

# Foundational Practices in Early Care and Education



The Foundational Practices in Early Care and Education module series will deepen your understanding of effective practices for working with young children and families. These modules offer exploration into using reflective practice, intentional planning, developmentally appropriate practice (DAP), and the importance of play in early care and education.

## Consider this module series if you relate to the following:

- You are curious about reflective practice in early care and education.
- You want to learn more about intentional teaching.
- You support, mentor, or coach early care and education professionals.
- You advocate for high-quality early care and education.

## Why This Module Series Is Unique

- Supports early care and education professionals to make informed decisions when planning learning environments, learning experiences, and interactions.
- Offers processes and frameworks to enhance reflective and intentional practices.
- Identifies specific practices to support children's development and learning.
- Allows learners to select topics that are most relevant to them.

The four modules in this series cover a broad range of information. Here is a sample of what you will find in these modules:

**Module 1: Reflective Practice Supports Working With Young Children** (1 hour)

Provides a process and a variety of practices to examine the ways your life experiences, beliefs, and biases affect the way you interact and work with children and families.

**Module 2: The Intentional Early Care and Education Provider** (1 hour)

Offers strategies for purposeful planning of learning environments, learning experiences, and interactions that respond to individual children's interests, development and learning, languages, and cultures.

**Module 3: Understanding Developmentally Appropriate Practice (DAP)** (2 hours)

Defines DAP and describes the core considerations to inform decision-making. Offers an overview of the guidelines for DAP in action from the National Association for the Education of Young Children.

**Module 4: The Essential Role of Play in Children's Development and Learning** (2 hours)

Explores the critical role of child-initiated play, the adult's role in supporting play-based learning, and how to plan to support play-based learning.



This module series is available at no cost. To enroll, create a free account on [California Early Childhood Online](#).