

[Abilities Network] Project ACT - All Children Together  
410-828-7700 ext. 1274  
(Call to schedule training)  
[www.abilitiesnetwork.org](http://www.abilitiesnetwork.org)

## **PROJECT ACT TRAINING DESCRIPTIONS**

### **\*2 HOUR TRAININGS\***

All Project ACT 2 Hour trainings are created with the intent to deliver content that is relevant and meaningful to each participant. While Project ACT remains committed to creating trainings that are hands-on and interactive, our 2 Hour trainings may have a smaller number of opportunities for group interactions due to time constraints.

**\*\*Please note that all of Project ACT's trainings were developed with a focus on early childhood and are therefore primarily intended for a birth through 5 years population. Some of Project ACT's trainings are appropriate for a before and after school-age population and are indicated using (SA).\*\***

#### **BASIC I: Before and After School Inclusion Curriculum (SA)**

This training helps participants to gain the skills necessary to successfully include children with various disabilities in before- and after-school settings. Participants examine topics such as: A.D.A., special education, challenges associated with teaching children of varying abilities, community resources and specific strategies and adaptations to assist all children. **Core of Knowledge Area: Curriculum (1 hour) & Special Needs (1 hour); Level: Beginner**

#### **Best Practices for Teaching English Language Learners**

This training explores best practices for working with children who are English Language Learners to help them be successful participants in their preschool setting, while supporting their ability to learn English. Participants will learn the stages of second language acquisition and ways to help support children as they move through each phase. Participants will also learn a variety of strategies for supporting children in the classroom and working with families to create a successful learning environment.

**Core of Knowledge Area: Special Needs (1 hour) & Child Development (1 hour); Level: Beginner to Advanced**

### **Building Early Literacy Through Expressive Arts**

This training builds participants' knowledge and understanding of the ways in which the expressive arts can enhance children's literacy. Participants learn specific and practical strategies for promoting literacy skills through movement, play, music and visual arts. These strategies will assist teachers in creating learning environments which promote knowledge acquisition, creativity and positive self-esteem for all children, including those with special needs. **Core of Knowledge Area: Curriculum (1 hour) & Special Needs (1 hour); Level: Beginner to Intermediate**

### **Community Connections: Bridging the Gap between Families, Child Care and Community Resources**

Community Connections provides participants with statewide and local resources that can be utilized by caregivers and families. The training prepares participants to identify family needs and match them to the appropriate agencies and services, and highlights strategies for maintaining communication in the child care environment. **Core of Knowledge Area: Community (2 hours); Level: Beginner to Intermediate**

### **Coping with Bullying Behaviors (SA)**

In this training, participants will learn to identify the causes and signs of bullying behavior in children as well as understand the reasons why some children have bullying behaviors. Through movie clips and group participation, participants will receive working strategies for handling both bullies and their victims in order to provide a safe learning environment for all children. **Core of Knowledge Area: Health, Safety and Nutrition (1 hour) & Child Development (1 hour); Level: Beginner to Intermediate**

### **Fun with Feelings: Activities that Promote Emotional Intelligence**

During this training, participants will learn strategies and "fun" activities to assist preschool and school aged children in exploring their feelings for the purpose of promoting Emotional Intelligence. Participants will learn about the connection between Multiple Intelligences and Emotional Intelligence. Participants will explore sample "feeling stations," and learn about potential "red flag" behaviors in children that may need to be addressed by a mental health professional. **Core of Knowledge Area: Special Needs (1 hour) & Development (1 hour); Level: Beginner to Intermediate**

**The Good Mentor: Strategies for Coaching Teachers on Effective Language and Literacy Practices (*appropriate for a Head Start audience*) (SA)**

This training provides an understanding of the mentoring process as it relates to early childhood teachers learning effective language and literacy practices. The roles of a mentor are clarified and examples are provided that clearly define the differences between “job supervision” and “job mentoring.” Supervisory Mentoring, Situational Mentoring, Formal Mentoring and Informal Mentoring are examined in detail for a greater understanding of expectations when forming a mentoring partnership. Strategies are provided that focus on promoting better listening skills and ways to effectively transfer experience, knowledge and wisdom throughout the process of mentoring. **Core of Knowledge Areas: Professionalism (2 hours); Level: Beginner to Advanced**

**Healthy Social and Emotional Development in Children Ages Birth to 3**

This training will increase participants’ knowledge of healthy social and emotional development in young children ages, birth through three years old. Participants will be able to define social development, emotional development and attachment. Beginning in 3 month blocks, participants will learn the different developmental expectations of infants and toddlers as well as activities targeted to increase their social and emotional development. Through activities and case scenarios, participants will gain insight in the best uses of positive discipline, communicating with families and creating an infant/toddler classroom environment. **Core of Knowledge Area: Development (1 hour) & Curriculum (1 hour); Level: Intermediate**

**Healthy Social and Emotional Development in Children Ages 3-5**

This training will increase participants’ knowledge of healthy social and emotional development in early childhood. Through research highlighting the importance of social emotional development for children’s academic success, participants will gain an overview of healthy development, ways to recognize major milestones, “red flags” which may indicate possible delays, and strategies to use to promote social and emotional competencies in children ages three to five. **Core of Knowledge Area: Development (1 hour) & Special Needs (1 hour); Level: Beginner to Intermediate**

**Multiple Intelligences: Discovering Gifts & Empowering Children (SA)**

This training introduces participants to the theory of Multiple Intelligences and innovative teaching ideas which will assist in making their classroom an enhanced learning environment for children of all abilities. Participants will learn to identify the unique learning strengths of children and how to apply practical strategies to promote inclusive and empowering learning opportunities for all.

**Core of Knowledge Area: Curriculum (1 hour) & Special Needs (1 hour);  
Level: Beginner to Intermediate**

**The Preschool Child:**

**Exploring the Myths, Challenges, and Gifts of AD/HD**

In this training, participants will learn about Attention-Deficit/Hyperactivity Disorder (AD/HD) and review the three sub-types. Participants will be able to define behavioral characteristics of each sub-type as well as identify early signs of AD/HD in behaviors displayed by preschool-age children. Participants will have an opportunity to discuss in a large group setting relevant research indicating the utility of early intervention techniques to decrease challenging behaviors often displayed in children diagnosed with AD/HD. Specific behavior modification techniques will be explored such as utilizing a marble jar, behavior charts and implementing sensory activities.

**Core of Knowledge Area: Special Needs (1 hour) & Child Development (1 hour); Level: Intermediate to Advanced**

**Promoting Resiliency in Early Childhood**

From this training, participants gain an understanding of resiliency, and the important role attachment plays in helping children. Participants will learn factors that contribute to the formation of attachment relationships and discover intervention strategies that can be used to promote resiliency in children. **Core of Knowledge Area: Development (1 hour) and Special Needs (1 hour); Level: Beginner**

**Sensory Sensitivity (SA)**

This training provides participants with an understanding of sensory integration, sensory integration dysfunction, and how sensory issues can impact children with autism spectrum disorders. It discusses ways to include 'sensory diets' and sensory activities that assist children with Autism Spectrum Disorders (ASD) to be successful in their learning environments. Participants interested in this training should take Autism Spectrum Disorders: Learning the Basics or have prior knowledge of ASD. **Core of Knowledge Area: Special Needs (1 hour) & Curriculum (1 hour); Level: Beginner to Intermediate**

**Time In: Understanding and Preventing Behavior Issues**

During this training, participants explore reasons for behavior and possible motivators of behaviors. Participants will utilize tools to help in identifying the reason for the behavior and ways to prevent future issues, so that they can provide a nurturing learning environment for all children. Participants will explore preventive strategies to implement in their classrooms and how these affect children's behavior. **Core of Knowledge Area: Special Needs (2 hours); Level: Beginner**

### **Understanding Learning Disabilities (SA)**

During this training, participants will gain knowledge of different types of learning disabilities. Through simulations and video clips, participants will explore the challenges of having a learning disability and how frustrating it can be for a child. This presentation will highlight some of the red flags in young children that might lead to a later diagnosis of a learning disability; and highlight teaching strategies and specific accommodations that meet the needs of all children, especially those children with learning disabilities. **Core of Knowledge Area: Special Needs (2 hours); Level: Beginner to Intermediate**