



DIA TEACHER TRAINING 2019

The Importance of Training

At the heart of our school are our incredible teachers. They take great pride in caring for, educating and nurturing our students. Beyond being among the best and brightest educators in Charleston, our teachers are kind, loving, FUN, and extremely qualified.

DSS (Department of Social Services) requires 15 hours of training a year while NAEYC (National Association for the Education of Young Children) requires 20. DIA EXCEEDS this yearly, on average having our staff receive 28+ hours of training. These are ALL conducted in-house during normal work hours, so no one is having to pay for and go on their own time. Our teachers receive continued support throughout the school year from Teacher Work Days and weekly planning hours, allowing them the time they need to prepare their classrooms.

Our teachers are highly trained in:

- Safety/Security
- *Conscious Discipline*™
- *Play-based Creative Curriculum*™
- *Get Set for School*™





Teacher Work Week

Each year we hold a teacher work week at the end of July. This is a time that allows our teachers time to learn, team build, and prepare their classrooms for the new school year. This year DIA will be welcoming only 3 new members to the teaching staff! We're happy to have over 95% of our teachers returning for the 19-20 school year! We're excited to get this year started.

Some topics we will be focusing on this year are:

Generation Training: We challenge our teachers to think beyond "their way" of working in a changing early childhood landscape by helping them have a better understanding for their peers' different values based on their generations.

CPR/First Aid: ALL of our DIA staff are required to be CPR and blood-borne pathogen certified. This is something we train on twice a year! It's important our teacher are always up to date.

Gross Motor Skills: These movements related to their large muscles (like arms, legs and torso), help encourage independence and allow children to explore the world around them.

Power of Play: This workshop explores the importance of good communication in the workplace and how we can create a cohesive work team that is invested equally to the success of the school year.

Conscious Discipline: We learn the tools to consciously respond to daily conflict, transforming it into an opportunity to teach critical life skills to children and in turn creating an entire school culture of cooperation, constructive problem solving and academic success.

In addition to the 17 hours of training our teachers receive during Teacher Work Week 2019, They'll also have over 16 hours to work in their classrooms!



Kerry and Lindsay with Dr. Becky Bailey
at the NAEYC Professional Learning Institute

Always learning, always staying current.

DIA stays current with trends and best practices in Early Childhood Education by being an active member of NAEYC. Our Director, Kerry, is also a Board Member for SCAEYC (South Carolina Association for the Education of Young Children). Some teachers also have the opportunity to attend early childhood education conferences to further their education.

We encourage our staff to pursue their education dreams and support their efforts to obtain higher education degrees (and reward them with higher compensation for doing so)! DIA is proud to be apart of the SC TEACH scholarship program, allowing many of our staff to go back to school. We currently have 6 teachers working on their degree!

Resources:

<https://www.naeyc.org/our-work/families/high-quality-program-for-preschooler>

<http://scaeyc.org/>

<https://www.scchildcare.org>



About Lindsay

Lindsay Savel has been with DIA for 10 years and currently serves as our Curriculum Coordinator. She graduated from the University of Akron with her degree in Child and Family Development with a Minor in Child Life. She loves working at DIA because it is so rewarding to see the children grow and progress throughout the school year.