Supporting Excellence in Early Education

Infant and Toddler CLASS® (Classroom Assessment Scoring System) Overview

Eastern Infant Toddler Academy 2023

Infant CLASS®:

- Used in ages 0 – 18 months
- Focuses on interactions that promote infants' social, emotional, and cognitive development.
- Centers on Responsive Caregiving which refers to specific teaching behaviors that include participating in shared experiences and play, attending quickly to infants' cues and needs, following infants' leads and expanding on them.
- Infant educators are most effective when they pay careful attention to infants as individuals and respond in a way that will best meet each infant's particular needs.
- Responsive Caregiving builds a foundation of trust and security and supports infants as they learn about and explore the world around them

Toddler CLASS®:

- Used with ages 15 months – 36 months
- Great Start to Quality will use Toddler CLASS® in mixed aged settings
- Focuses on emotional and behavioral support and engaged support for learning
- Looks on the effectiveness of classroom interactions among teachers and children, because these daily interactions promote children's social, emotional, and cognitive development
- CLASS® data shows that children thrive when educators create nurturing, well-managed settings and provide frequent and engaging opportunities to learn

Resources:

- Great Start to Quality CLASS webpage – sign-up for Great Start to Quality Listserv and access all current updates and resources from GSQ
- Teachstone website – sign-up for Teachstone Listserv and purchase CLASS Dimension Guides ($19.95)
- Email Jennifer Rountree CLASS Trainer

Source: Infant and Toddler CLASS® Dimension Guides

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