

# Childcare 101:

## Understanding North Carolina's Early Childhood Network

Webinar for Early Childcare Families



NC DEPARTMENT OF  
**HEALTH AND  
HUMAN SERVICES**  
Division of Child Development  
and Early Education



**Angela Wilson** (*presenter*)

Education Outreach Trainer, PBS NC  
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PBS Digital Innovator  
Education Outreach Trainer, PBS NC  
PBS NC Children's Media & Education Services  
Certified Spanish Teacher (K-12)

# Webinar Overview

- Understanding high-quality early childhood education
- North Carolina's early childhood system
- Network of funding, partners, and governance structures
- Practical strategies and resources for families
- PBS Kids resources

## Objectives:

- Equip families with knowledge to support early education
- Explain the early childhood system in North Carolina
- Provide practical strategies and resources
- Showcase PBS Kids resources for at-home learning



# Network of Funding, Partners & Governance Structures

## Funding Sources:

- State and federal grants
- Private foundations and community organizations

## Key Partners:

- NC Department of Health and Human Services
- Local Smart Start partnerships
- Nonprofits like Child Care Services Association

## Governance Structures:

- Role of licensing and regulatory bodies
- Importance of compliance and quality assurance

## The Early Childhood Environmental Rating System (ECERS):

Assesses overall learning environment quality

### Components:

- Space and Furnishings
- Personal Care Routines
- Language and Literacy
- Learning Activities
- Interaction
- Program Structure

# Directory of Family-Friendly Facilities Financial Assistance Programs

[Watch the video](#)

# Elements of High-Quality Early Education

**Safe and Nurturing  
Environment**

**Well-Trained and  
Caring Educators**

**Great Educators That Cares  
for the Whole Child**

**Resources and  
Activities Required**

**Culturally-sensitive Curricula  
and Activities**

**Examples of Developmentally  
appropriate practices**

# Quality Rating & Improvement System (QRIS) Overview

Assesses, improves, and communicates quality in early and school-age care.

## Key Indicators of Quality:

- Language-Rich Environment
- Age-Appropriate Curricula
- Safe, Stimulating Setting
- Warm, Responsive Staff-Child Interactions

Learn about the Lucy Brock Child Development Laboratory Program at Appalachian State University, which uses a whole child approach to foster children's development. [Watch the video.](#)

## Recent Enhancements:

- Positive impact and benefits for early childhood professionals

# NC Foundations for Early Learning and Development

Describes widely held expectations for the knowledge and skills that most children exhibit in high-quality preschool settings.

[Link to PDF](#)





## Special Guest

### Angie Roberson

Education Quality Improvement & Professional Development (EQuIPD), Project Director (Video)

[Click Here!](#)

# North Carolina's Early Childhood System

- Public and private childcare centers
- Pre-kindergarten programs
- Home-based childcare

## Importance:

- Ensuring quality education
- Shaping early development

## Key Components:

- **Childcare Centers:** Diverse learning opportunities
- **Pre-K Programs:** School readiness
- **Home-Based Care:** Regulated for safety and standards

## For Families:

- Understand NC Child Care Law
- Access resources and support networks

[Guide to Choosing  
a Preschool or  
Childcare Center on  
PBS for Parents](#)

# Navigating North Carolina's Early Education System

## Quality Care for Children: Components of a 5-Star Childcare Center

- Highlight the high standards of quality in child care.
- Emphasize the importance of building strong relationships and developing 21st-century skills.

## Licensing Requirements: Home-Based vs. Center-Based Care

- Compare and contrast the licensing requirements for home-based and center-based child care.
- Discuss the necessary standards and thresholds for compliance.

## Religious Education Program:

- Explore how religious programs and similar programs support community building and moral education.

# PBS Kids and Toolkit for Families

A comprehensive resource for families in North Carolina's early childhood education system, providing guidance, resources, and activities to support high-quality education and foster optimal learning environments. [Link to the Toolkit.](#)

## Benefits for Families:

- Ready-to-Use Lesson Plans and Activities
- Support for Social-Emotional Learning and Academic Skills

## Examples of Resources:

- **PBS LearningMedia:** Interactive games, videos, and teaching tools.
- **Daniel Tiger's Neighborhood:** Lessons on regulating emotions and social skills.
- **Sesame Street:** Educational content focusing on literacy, numeracy, and essential life skills.
- **Curious George:** Resources that inspire curiosity and problem-solving through exploration and play.

# Conclusion

## Summary of Key Points for Families Navigating the North Carolina Early Education System

- Importance of High-Quality Early Childhood Education
- Recent Enhancements to QRIS (Quality Rating Improvement System)
- Structure and Support within North Carolina's Early Childhood System
- Available Funding and Resources for Families
- PBS Kids Resources as Valuable Tools

## Review the toolkit

- Explore the resources available in the toolkit



**Thank you!**  
**Let's keep in touch.**

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