



## **Object Play: Enriching Early Learner Environments Early Learner Professional Development Workshop**

### **Object Play: Enriching Early Learner Environments**

Adult only program for early childhood teachers/providers of children ages 9-60 months

Object-rich environments provide meaningful, open-ended learning that is an effective way to help children develop their imagination, creativity, and to deepen critical thinking and problem solving skills. This workshop is designed to guide teachers' understanding and practice of providing natural and recycled materials in the classroom and how to support children's process of investigation and active exploration. Through this workshop, early childhood teachers and providers will

- Discover the Importance and benefits of object play in children's learning and development
- Identify strategies for supporting children's object play
- Make connections between themes and objects

### **This workshop addresses the following child development and early learning standards:**

- Key Content Area 1- Child Growth and Development: Understand how children acquire language and creative expression and develop physically, cognitively and socially.
- Key Content area 2- Learning Environment and Curriculum: Establish an environment that provides learning experiences that meet each child's needs, capabilities.
- CD1.1 Shows curiosity and willingness to try new things [Explorations & Investigation]
- CD2.2 Shows flexibility in adjusting thinking and behavior in different contexts
- MT2.1 Uses classification and patterning skills
- MT3.1 Participates in exploratory measurement activities and compares objects
- ST1.1 Engages in the scientific process to collect, analyze and communicate information
- ST3.2 Uses tools and engineering practices to explore and solve problems
- CA3.1 Explores feelings, relationships and concepts through imitation, pretend play, and sociodramatic play.