

Program Description

Fall 2022

Baby College 101: Courses for Ałchíní Yázhí is a comprehensive, community-based and sustainable program that aims to promote young children's early literacy in four southern Navajo Nation Chapters (Nahata'Dziil Commission Governance, Wide Ruins, Houck, and Pine Springs). We use research-based components to help parents, grandparents and other caregivers expand their use of five early literacy practices (reading, talking, writing, singing, and playing) with the o-6-year-old children they care for. We have developed coordinated program components that address the multiple contexts where young children develop. The program content and evaluation plan have been developed in partnership with an advisory board of local stakeholders and community members. This program builds on the strengths and relationships of local Cooperative Extension and Federally Recognized Tribal Extension Programs.

Visit our program website: https://extension.arizona.edu/navajobabycollege

News

Native Book Sharing Workshop

During this workshop participants learned about using oral storytelling and children's books that celebrate native people and cultures to promote early literacy. Daniel Vandever (Diné) a children's book author and Ken Duncan (San Carlos Apache) a cultural teacher and storyteller provided engaging presentations and then workshop participants shared books written by native authors and/or that celebrate native people and cultures. The workshop was well-received by participants. All of the participants said that the information they learned from the workshop would be useful in their work sometimes or often and 53% said that it would be hard or very hard to learn about the topics covered during the workshop from another source.



Watch a recording of the workshop:

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=4R7uBTcQfAg



View the booklist created by participants:

https://tinyurl.com/booklistJan28

Recent Presentations

Our team was honored to be selected to present at the virtual First Things First Early Childhood Summit & Tribal Connections Event in August.

We also presented at the annual University of Arizona Cooperative Extension conference in Tucson.



New Workshop for Early Childhood Professionals!

Creating Engaging Videos for Early Literacy Programs Using a Smartphone

When: October 12, 2022; 10-2pm Navajo Nation

Time (MDT)

Where: New Lands Office, Sanders, AZ Register here: https://bit.ly/3C4YmVY

Short videos are a great way to engage families with young children and promote early literacy. During this workshop participants will receive hands-on instruction on how to capture high-quality audio and video using a smartphone, edit videos, find free graphics and music, and navigate copyright issues. Visit our website to learn more or register: https://bit.ly/3UYADiQ

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