The APEX Project: Arizona Providers Engaging in Excellence (APEX)

Rio Salado College, in collaboration with KAET/ASSET (Arizona State University), is initiating a coaching model for early childhood professional development. Named Arizona’s Providers Engaging in Excellence: The APEX Project has as its primary goal to advance the quality of care and education for Arizona’s children by developing and sponsoring educational opportunities for childcare personnel to improve their knowledge and skills when working in any settings (e.g., family day care homes, centers, schools). The proposed design for APEX will serve childcare personnel in the Northwest Maricopa and Central Maricopa Regions.

Great Seminars

Eight Educational Outreach-ASSET in collaboration with Rio Salado College is offering Great Seminars as part of the APEX Project. See descriptions for each Great Seminar below.

June 5, 2010 - A Place of Our Own & Sid the Science Kid Imagination Expert: Educational Media Programming, Research & Caregiver Resources – Nine-Noon

Moises Roman serves as the "Imagination Expert" on Los Ninos en Su Casa and is a lead curriculum expert behind Sid and APLO/LNESC. Participants will explore the content available to them on a variety of topics from both websites and daily broadcasts, as well as hear about the research conducted on the show and how Moises brought practical teaching experience of his own to both projects. Participants will be inspired to conduct similar projects with their own children and put all these multimedia resources to use for their own professional development as well as daily curriculum activities.

**Presenter:** Moises Roman, Director, Early Care & Education, UCLA  
**Location:** Rio Salado Conference Center, 2323 W. 14th Street, Tempe, AZ 85281. This seminar will also be video cast live to the Communiversity @ Surprise, 15950 N. Civic Center Drive, Surprise, AZ 85374

[Click Here to Register](#)

June 12, 2010 - Enhancing Language and Literacy in the Early Childhood Setting – 9-3

Participants will learn how to create a supportive learning environment, get the most out of a shared book reading, increase circle time creativity, enhance language, model standard English, and how to provide intentional vocabulary teaching.

**Presenters:** Cathi Otto and Karen Burstein, Southwest Institute for Families and Children  
**Location:** Communiversity @ Surprise, 15950 N. Civic Center Drive, Surprise, AZ 85374

[Click Here to Register](#)

June 26, 2010 - Enhancing Language and Literacy in the Early Childhood Setting – 9-3

Participants will learn how to create a supportive learning environment, get the most out of a shared book reading, increase circle time creativity, enhance language, model standard English, and how to provide intentional vocabulary teaching.

**Presenters:** Cathi Otto and Karen Burstein, Southwest Institute for Families and Children  
**Location:** Rio Salado Conference Center, 2323 W. 14th Street, Tempe, AZ 85281

[Click Here to Register](#)
First Things First (FTF), approved by Arizona voters, works to ensure that our youngest children have access to quality early childhood experiences so they will start school healthy and ready to succeed.

Across the state, FTF regional partnership councils – in collaboration with local leaders – identify the educational and health needs of children from birth through age 5 in their communities and fund strategies to address those needs. For more information about First Things First: www.azftf.gov

Partnering Organizations

Rio Salado College is a Maricopa Community College