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## The Learning Basket® Approach

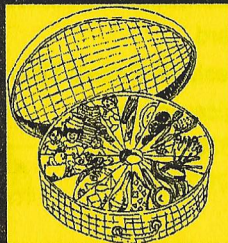
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The Learning Basket® Approach is based on four main concepts:

- Parents and Caregivers are a baby's first teachers
- Children learn through play
- The first 3 years are extremely important in a child's brain development
- Anything can be a teaching and learning tool

Learning Basket materials include a Learning Basket® containing 18 learning objects and a *Play to Learn* activity book. The book contains age appropriate activities for each basket item that focus on and are designed to nurture different areas of growth and learning in infants and toddlers.

The Learning Basket® Curriculum has been used in parent programs, home visitation programs, and in child-care centers and infant-toddler classrooms.



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### The Learning Basket® Project

4750 N. Sheridan Rd.  
Chicago, IL 60640  
(773) 769-6363 ext. 291/293

## Learning Basket® Training Opportunities



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### *The Practitioners' Course*

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*Nurturing Learning and Literacy with  
Parents, Caregivers, and Children  
from Birth through Three*

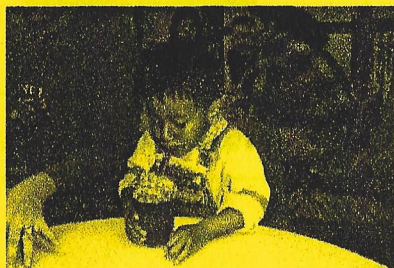


## Practitioners' Course

Take the first step in using the Learning Basket Approach as a resource for your program with infants and toddlers, caregivers, home visitors, and parents...

After taking the Learning Basket® Practitioners' Course, participants will:

- Understand the importance of play in the development of infants and toddlers



\* Be able to use the Learning Basket in encouraging parents to engage in play with their young children

\* Be able to use the *Parents are Teachers* literacy manual to nurture parents' self expression

\* Be ready to initiate and implement a Learning Basket® Parents' Program, and/or utilize Learning Basket® materials and methods with children in a classroom setting

## The Curriculum

The Learning Basket Practitioners' Course is a three-day course consisting of 6 different modules. Their descriptions follow:

### An Infant's Way of Learning

*Provides a means for communicating complex information about brain development and learning to parents and caregivers*

### Expanding Parents' Awareness of Child Development

*Provides participants with a practical method for guiding interactive conversations and nurturing literacy in parents*

### Parents and Teachers Together

*Introduces participants to the Learning Basket and the Play to Learn activity book, and demonstrates how they can be utilized in parent sessions and classroom settings*

### Designing Creative Lesson Plans \*

*Introduces a framework for interactive Parent session lesson plans that take a variety of learning styles into account*

### Designing Effective Learning Plans \*

*Introduces participants to a system for assessing children's strengths and challenges, and designing learning plans according to individual children's needs*

### Reflective Evaluation

*Demonstrates the Learning Basket evaluation system and how to use Reflective Moments journals in parent sessions*

### Putting it all Together

*Provides participants a first-hand experience of a sample Learning Basket session and supports participants' developing action plans for program implementation*

\* Each Practitioners' Course offers one or the other of these two modules. "Creative Lesson Plans" focuses on leading Parent sessions, while "Effective Learning Plans" focuses on implementing the Learning Basket Approach with children in a classroom setting



## Registration

### Cost

\$630 per person for the three-day course (includes materials fee)

\$600 if associated with a current Learning Basket Project

### Location/Dates

Courses are held throughout the year at the ICA office in Chicago. Call (773) 769-6363 ext. 291 for upcoming course dates.

On-site courses can also be arranged if an organization outside of Chicago is interested in launching a Learning Basket Program. An agency can sponsor a course with a minimum of 6 participants.

## Questions?

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