# Nonprofit Staff & Volunteer Training

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## Nonprofit Staff & Volunteer Training

As a vital part of children's ecosystem, it is critical that every nonprofit volunteer and staff member have the knowledge, skills and agency they need across language acquisition and the construction of a deep reading brain. All courses and resources on Cox Campus are completely free.

## Working with Infants, Toddlers, Preschool & Pre-K Children Training Plan

The training plan outlined below is ideal for nonprofit staff and volunteers who are working with young children, ages 0-5. In an effort to provide meaningful training that is feasible for staff and volunteers to complete, our team of early learning experts have selected three recommended science-based courses, totaling 6 hours of training.

| Build My Brain | | 1.5 Hours |
|---|---|---|
| **Course Description**<br>A child's brain is born ready to learn and grow. We all have a role to play in making reading a reality for every child. See how you can make every moment an opportunity to build children's language and literacy skills. | **By the End of This Course You'll Be Able To**<br>• Describe how brain development unfolds and how early experiences affect this process<br>• Explain how interactions between adults and children form and strengthen neural connections<br>• Understand how toxic stress responses cam negatively impact a child's ability to learn | **Why It Matters**<br>• All of us play an important role in constructing children's brains or supporting those who do so directly<br>• The early years are critical years<br>• Supporting families, teachers, caregivers and all who work with young children is important for children's well-being and for the future of our communities. |

| Power of Language for Infants and Toddlers | | 2 Hours |
|---|---|---|
| **Course Description**<br>How much of a difference can you make in the life of a child just by talking? A lot! You can help children grow, learn and get ready to read by making the most of every day moments – all by embracing and nurturing the power of language. | **By the End of This Course You'll Be Able To**<br>• Explain the importance of and demonstrate how to build meaningful relationships with infants & toddles<br>• Identify the 5 elements of responsive interactions and explain how to apply them when engaging with children<br>• Identify ways to support a child's first language and engage families of dual language learners | **Why It Matters**<br>• Strong relationships are the foundation of language development<br>• Your responsive interactions with young children support the development of a solid foundation for reading and all learning. |

| Power of Language Preschool and Pre-K | 2.5 Hours |
|---|---|

**Course Description**
How does oral language impact a child's ability to read later on in life? A bunch! Give children a head start towards reading by introducing complex vocabulary and empowering them to use their own voices.

**By the End of This Course You'll Be Able To**
- Explain the importance of oral language for children's cognitive development.
- Demonstrate the ability to select, incorporate, and teach complex vocabulary throughout the day
- Develop a "No Shhh Zone"

**Why It Matters**
- Oral language is a vital element to children's brain development
- Oral language is the foundation for literacy and all learning

## Additional Coursework for anyone supporting dual language learners

| Supporting Dual Language Learners Right from the Start | 4 Hours |
|---|---|

**Course Description**

Hola! Bonjour! Nĭn hăo! Anyoung! These are just a few ways some of your learners may say "hello." You can support their home language and create positive learning experiences that respond to their needs and prepares them for kindergarten – and beyond.

**By the End of This Course You'll Be Able To**

- Describe dual language development, the benefits of bilingualism, and the role of first language in DLL's development.

- Identify and explain the six essential ecosystem elements that contribute to an ecosystem for dual language learners thrive.

- Design culturally and linguistically responsive learning environments for dual language learners.

- Learn and apply teaching practices that specifically support DLLs' development and build their foundation in language and literacy.

**Why It Matters**

- There is a lack of fit between what science tells us about how DLLs learn and how we teach them in the classroom.

- Young DLLs benefit greatly from a variety of supports and practices teachers can put in place to maximize their learning.

- DLLs' first language is a valuable asset that plays an important role in their learning and must be woven into the classroom experience.

## Additional Coursework for organizations with Spanish-speaking staff and/or volunteers

| Primeras conversaciones | 2.5  Horas |
|---|---|
| *Does your organization serve children birth - five years old and have Spanish-speaking staff or volunteers?* | |

**Descripción del curso**

¿Sabías que, al conversar con los niños, aún con los que no hablan todavía, les estás ayudando a desarrollar el lenguaje que les hará falta para expresarse, relacionarse con otros y llegar a ser lectores confiados y seguros? Aprende una forma de conversar con los niños en los primeros años para que su lenguaje florezca.

**By the End of This Course You'll Be Able To**

- Comprenderán la importancia de los primeros años y el rol crítico que los adultos juegan  en crear un ambiente centrado en el lenguaje, para apoyar el aprendizaje de los niños y el desarrollo de las bases de la lectura.

- Se familiarizarán con SIRA, una estrategia que guía y apoya conversaciones que los adultos tienen con los niños para promover el desarrollo del lenguaje.

- Definirán y explicarán los elementos de SIRA e identificarán las prácticas asociadas con cada uno de estos elementos.

**Why It Matters**

- Los primeros años son los más importantes en el desarrollo cerebral

- Las conversaciones ayudan a establecer relaciones con los niños y a impulsar el desarrollo del lenguaje

- Tus conversaciones con los niños les ayudan a desarrollar las bases para convertirse en lectores capaces y confiadose.

| Primeras lecturas | 2.5 Horas |
|---|---|
| *Does your organization serve children birth - five years old and have Spanish-speaking staff or volunteers?* | |

**Descripción del curso**

Leer libros en voz alta con bebés y niños es mucho más que leer el libro de portada a portada. Es una oportunidad para invitarles a conversar contigo apara ayudarles a desarrollar las destrezas que necesitan para convertirse en lectores capaces y confiados más adelante. Aprende una forma de leer libros interactivamente que convertirá cada una de tus lecturas en una SUPER lectura.

**By the End of This Course You'll Be Able To**

- Entenderás la importancia de leer libros con los niños de 0-3 años y conocerás una estrategia que guiará y apoyará tus lecturas.

- Podrás demostrar cómo leer libros interactivamente con los niños para desarrollar su lenguaje infantil y razonamiento.

- Identificarás prácticas a seguir antes, durante y después de la lectura en voz alta, para promover el desarrollo del lenguaje y el razonamiento.

**Why It Matters**

- Los primeros años son los más importantes en el desarrollo cerebral

- Las conversaciones ayudan a establecer relaciones con los niños y a impulsar el desarrollo del lenguaje

- Las lecturas interactivas ayudan a los niños a desarrollar las bases para convertirse en lectores capaces y confiados.

## FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

How do I submit my certificate of training to my organization?
1. Complete the recommended course/s on Cox Campus, including the end-of-course assessment.
2. Download the Nonprofit Staff & Volunteer Certificate of Training found here: https://coxcampus.org/nonprofit/
3. Using a PDF tool or by printing and writing, add the completed course names to the Certificate.
4. Download your Transcript from Cox Campus directly to support your Certificate.

   a. Go to My Learning (top left on the main Navigation Bar) when you are logged into Cox Campus.
   b. Select "Certificates" from the dropdown menu
   c. Click "Download transcript"