



## 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 serves 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.

#### All Great Seminars will be in available in 2 locations:

- CENTRAL Maricopa: Rio Conference Center, 2323 W. 14<sup>th</sup> Street, Tempe, AZ
- NORTHWEST Maricopa: Dysart Support Services, 13825 W. Desert Cove Rd., Surprise, AZ

**9 am – 12 NOON**

**REGISTRATION available online at [www.tinyurl.com/apex2011](http://www.tinyurl.com/apex2011)**

#### ***April 30, 2011 • Sesame Street: Food for Thought - Eating Well on a Budget... Things Every Play Kitchen Should Cook Up!***

Participants will learn how to provide vocabulary for children to talk about food in a healthy way and helping their parents make affordable nutritious choices at the grocery store. Childcare personnel will discuss strategies for dramatic play and family evening activities, along with other ideas to grow early math and literacy skills. Learn "Family Food Talk," "Healthy Foods on a Budget," "Healthy Choices Any Time" and "Dance the Mango Tango!" Receive a toolkit including recipes, a DVD and a book to take back to your children and incorporate into your teaching right away.

*\*ECERS-R dramatic play, personal care routine, meals/snacks, and math are addressed in this workshop content*

#### ***May 21, 2011 – PBS KIDS Super WHY! Learning Adventure Tool Kit - Turn Up the Heat and Get Ready for Summer!***

Participants will each receive the SUPER WHY! Learning Adventures Toolkit and explore how to make use to this critically acclaimed curriculum within their own center or home based care setting. Review each of the critical reading skills identified by the National Reading Panel, including alphabet knowledge, phonological awareness, phonemic awareness, and reading comprehension. Through the games and classic storytelling, participants will enjoy adventures and skill building first hand they can then try with their children!

*\*ECERS-R dramatic play, language, books, tv/video, and interaction are addressed in this workshop content*

All participants who attend will receive a certificate for CEUs (Continuing Education Units).



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Central Maricopa Regional Partnership Council



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FIRST THINGS FIRST

Northwest Maricopa Regional Partnership Council

*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](http://www.azftf.gov)*

*Partnering Organizations*



Rio Salado College

*Education Your Way*



*Rio Salado College is a Maricopa Community College*