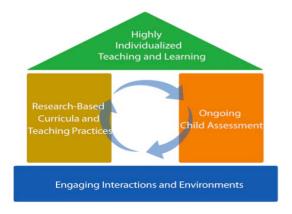




National Center on Quality Teaching and Learning

The National Center on Quality Teaching and Learning (NCQTL) is one of the five national Head Start Centers funded by the Office of Head Start. NCQTL is focused on high quality teaching and learning practices to support school readiness for all children.



One important ingredient for quality teaching and learning is professional development. Coaching is an evidence-based professional development strategy to ensure quality teaching and learning practices are implemented as intended and result in positive outcomes for children and families. In partnership with the University of Washington and working in collaboration with Vanderbilt University and the University of South Florida, the Center for Excellence in Early Childhood Studies at the University of Florida has developed a coaching framework called *Practice-Based Coaching* to support implementation of high quality teaching and learning practices.

Practice-Based Coaching includes three components: shared goals and action planning; focused observation; and reflection and feedback. Practice-based coaching has both a research base and an experience base and is associated with positive changes in teacher practices and child outcomes.



The Anita Zucker Center for Excellence in Early Childhood Studies NCQTL project staff include Dr. Patricia Snyder, Dr. Maureen Conroy, Dr. Mary McLean, Project Coordinator Dr. Tara McLaughlin, and several graduate assistants (Crystal Bishop, Emily Luo, Cinda Clark, and Serife Rakap) from the School of Special Education, School Psychology and Early Childhood Studies.

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