



## Turning Coaching Into Everyday Practice: Professional Development In Action



*Brittany from All Around Children engaging the children during storytime.*

Here at the Early Childhood Resource Center (ECRC), we know that professional development is most powerful when it moves beyond theory and becomes an integral part of everyday interactions with children. During a recent site visit at All Around Children - related to the ECRC's ongoing literacy work in Stark County, caregivers shared clear examples of how the coaching and training ECRC staff provides are directly shaping their classroom practices and significantly improving outcomes for young learners.

Brittany reflected on how coaching support from her dedicated ECRC early childhood specialist has helped her use daily routines to intentionally build the language skills of the toddlers in her class. After her coach modeled and recommended using simple, functional phrases with her students, Brittany began consistently teaching phrases like “*pass it*” and “*back up.*” These small but purposeful language choices have made a big difference. Her toddlers are now better able to communicate their needs, navigate peer interactions, and participate more confidently in group activities. This simple recommendation has turned what once was likely to result in moments of frustration into opportunities for connection and learning.

All Around Children's preschool teacher, Tina, shared how coaching from ECRC has shifted the approach she uses during classroom transitions—often one of the most challenging parts of the day. Following a recommendation from her ECRC specialist, Tina began intentionally making at least five positive comments to or about the children in her classroom during transitions. This practice has helped create a calmer, more encouraging environment, reinforcing positive behavior while

strengthening relationships with the children. As a result, transitions have become smoother, and children feel seen, supported, and motivated.

These reflections highlight the true impact of professional development. Caregivers are not only learning new strategies, they also are seeing firsthand how those strategies benefit the children for whom they care. With the help of ECRC’s ongoing coaching, caregivers gain practical tools they can immediately apply—tools that foster language development, emotional regulation, and positive classroom culture. The Early Childhood Resource Center’s literacy work is helping transform training into meaningful, everyday moments that support both caregivers and the children they serve.