

might work in a child care center, family child care home, Head Start/Early Head Start program, prekindergarten classroom, public school, youth club, summer camp or other settings.

The Core Competencies documents are important for classroom or home care staff, educators, designers of college courses, conference sponsors and others.

However, perhaps the person this document will benefit the most is **you, the director** of an early care and education or out-of-school-time program.

The quality of your program rests squarely on your staff's understanding of and ability to meet the needs of children. Their skill at understanding children's cues, responding consistently and respectfully, and forming warm, caring relationships makes a big difference in how well the children in your program thrive and develop.

