



## Gee Whiz Education Training Session Outline

Purpose: The purpose of this outline is to help trainers plan, and implement, training on the Gee Whiz Curriculum. Please keep in mind that this outline is merely a starting point and other information could easily be added.

Time Frame: In general, allot approximately 2 hours for this training session...more if you plan on expanding the hands-on, small group activities.

### Goals for Providers:

- To become more familiar with the Gee Whiz curriculum
- To learn what the 10 developmental areas addressed by the Gee Whiz curriculum are and how they are addressed in the curriculum
- To help providers understand what learning indicators are and how they align with state standards
- To begin to understand the components and materials included in the Gee Whiz curriculum that are designed to help providers gather and reflect upon anecdotal notes as well as individualize the curriculum
- To help providers gain an understanding of the components included in the Gee Whiz curriculum that promote family involvement
- To help providers identify how the curriculum helps them better understand the “why” behind experiences
- To give providers the opportunity to practice adapting and modifying experiences for different developmental levels
- To help providers see how using the Gee Whiz curriculum can benefit their program (themselves, the children and parents/caregivers)

### Materials/Equipment Required:

In order to conduct this training, you will need to have internet access so you can log into the Gee Whiz website as well as a way to project the website for attendees to see.

- Free full access Gee Whiz account (so you can access the most current materials) – If you do not have one of these accounts set up, please email Sherry Mayberry at [smayberry@geewhizeducation.com](mailto:smayberry@geewhizeducation.com) and she will be more than happy to set one up for you.
- White paper, pencils, pens
- Printed copy of the sample Gee Whiz Teaching Guide for each participant OR the ability for participants to use tablets or laptops to access the free sample Teaching Guide on the Gee Whiz website. The link to this document can be found under this tab.
- Printed copy of the Monthly Provider Review Sheet for each participant. There is a link directly to this document under this tab.

OPTIONAL: Printed copy of the document, “End of the Month Provider Assessment” for each participant if you plan to utilize this tool. Link can be found under this tab.



Session Outline:

1) **Introduction** – This will vary based on your group and whether they are currently using the curriculum or are thinking about using it. Adjust accordingly. Also, cover some of the goals (on page 1 of this outline) that you hope to accomplish during the training.

**2) How is Gee Whiz different from other curriculum programs?**

- A) It is entirely online – materials can be printed from the website or viewed on screen
- B) It covers all ages – activities included for infants, toddlers, twos, threes, fours and even school-age children
- C) A subscription covers up to 12 children and 1 teacher. You do not pay per child.
- D) Quarterly webinar training is included as part of the curriculum at no additional charge
- E) Nothing is shipped. No S&H charges. Everything you need is on the website.
- F) The curriculum helps providers learn the “why” behind the experiences they do with children.

**3) The Gee Whiz website**

- A) To begin, go to the Gee Whiz website [www.geewhizeducation.com](http://www.geewhizeducation.com).
- B) Look around the site to show the participants how everything they need is there. Just take a few minutes to do this.
- C) If this session is for providers who are not familiar with the curriculum or Gee Whiz, you may want to spend a little more time looking around on the site.

**4) The Gee Whiz User’s Guide (training manual)**

- A) Go to the “Our Product” tab at the top of the Gee Whiz homepage.
- B) Hover over the tab and then go down to the “Gee Whiz Education User’s Guide” and click to access this page.
- C) Explain that the User’s Guide is the training manual. Based on your expectations, you may want to suggest that all providers print this guide out and put it in a binder or, at the very least, download and save to their computer.
- D) Scroll down to the picture of the User’s Guide and click to open it. Here is the direct link: <https://geewhizeducation.com/gee-whiz-curriculum-users-guide/>
- E) Go through Section 1 and then take questions.



- F) Section 2 covers Individualization, Anecdotal Notes and Reflections. This is a LOT of information and may be better covered in detail during a training session specifically on this topic. We would, however, recommend going through this section and pointing out the information that is included...especially the Individualization Web because they get a new one of those with each unit.
  
- G) Section 3 covers the 10 Developmental Areas covered in the Gee Whiz curriculum. Here is what we recommend for this section to make it more interactive.
  - a. Explain what is included in this section of the User's Guide.
  - b. Go through and talk about each of the 10 developmental areas, giving examples to help the providers understand each.
  - c. Conduct a hands-on activity in small groups. Divide the participants into groups of 3 or 4. Give each group a sample Teaching Guide or have them access online. Then, charge each group with finding 3 experiences that address a specific developmental area. For instance, one group might need to find 3 activities that address physical development. Another may need to find 3 activities that address math knowledge. Give the groups about 10 minutes to work and then have them share what they found.
  - d. Next, expand upon what they learned. Choose one experience from the guide and have all of the groups turn to that experience. Talk about how the experience addresses multiple developmental areas. Have the participants name the developmental areas addressed by identifying the picture codes directly beneath the title of the activity. Then, have the participants read the experience. Discuss together how the experience addresses each of the areas.
  - e. Now, have the small groups each pick an experience and repeat the process detailed in Step d. They can then share their experience and how it addresses each developmental area with the group.

BREAK – Now would be a great time for a break.

- H) Glance over Section 4 and tell the participants to review that on their own time.
  
- I) Go to Section 5 of the User's Guide (Implementing the Gee Whiz Curriculum) and explain that now they are going to learn what is include in the curriculum and how each component is meant to be used.
  
- J) Start with the Teaching Guide sample pages on 45-46. Point out and explain each red callout. Take time to talk about why the open-ended questions are so important and note that these are just examples of questions they might ask.
  
- K) Continue going through this section...describing each component. Be sure to have participants share why they think each one is important.
  
- L) After you finish reviewing the components, then move on to the remaining pages in the User's Guide.



- M) Finish by asking for questions/comments as they relate to any of the content in the User's Guide.

## 5) Hands-On Practice – More Small Group Work

Now it is time for the participants to put their knowledge to work! Make sure that each small group (or participant) has a copy of the sample Teaching Guide OR has access to it via a tablet or laptop. You may choose to have the participants do all of the following or just a few...based on the time allotted. The big take away is for them to apply their knowledge.

- A) Task 1: Find an experience that addresses more than 5 developmental areas. Name each area and describe how the activity addresses it.
- B) Groups share
- C) Task 2: Find an experience that is leveled (e.g., has suggested for different ages/developmental levels). Describe what the adaptations are and why they are important.
- D) Groups share.
- E) Task 3: Choose an Exploring Together experience. Read the open-ended questions provided and then come up with 3 more.
- F) Groups share.
- G) Task 4: Write an experience to compliment the unit. Details the developmental areas addressed AND write 3 open-ended questions to ask during the activity.

## 6) Accessing the Curriculum

Ahead of time, watch the video, "How to Access Files as a Gee Whiz Customer" in the Video Gallery on our homepage. Here is the link: <https://geewhizeducation.com/video-gallery-2-2/> This short video shows new customers how to find, and download, the files they need to use the curriculum. At this point, you have 2 options:

- 1) Show the video to the group and then demonstrate yourself using your free account OR
- 2) Log in using your full access account and walk them through the same steps you saw in the video

## 7) Conclusion/Q&A

Be sure to leave time to wrap up the session and allow for Q&A. Let providers know that if you do not know the answer to their question, you will email us and we can help.

Please give participants our email so they can also reach out to us directly:

[customerservice@geewhizeducation.com](mailto:customerservice@geewhizeducation.com)

