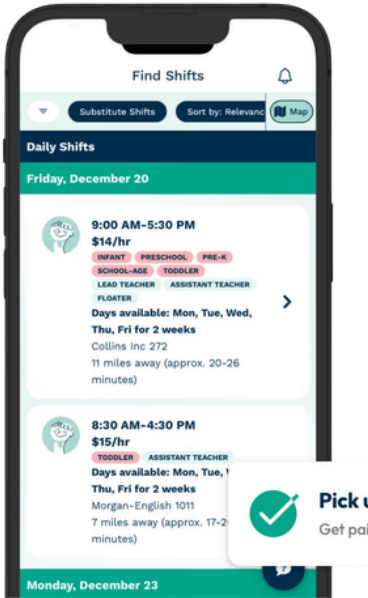


Resource for CHILDCARE PROVIDERS Childcare Staffing Platform



Click [HERE](#) to
sign up and
create a profile



ELC Orange's Substitute Pool
Powered by  tandem

1,098 shifts and counting. Will October's include yours?

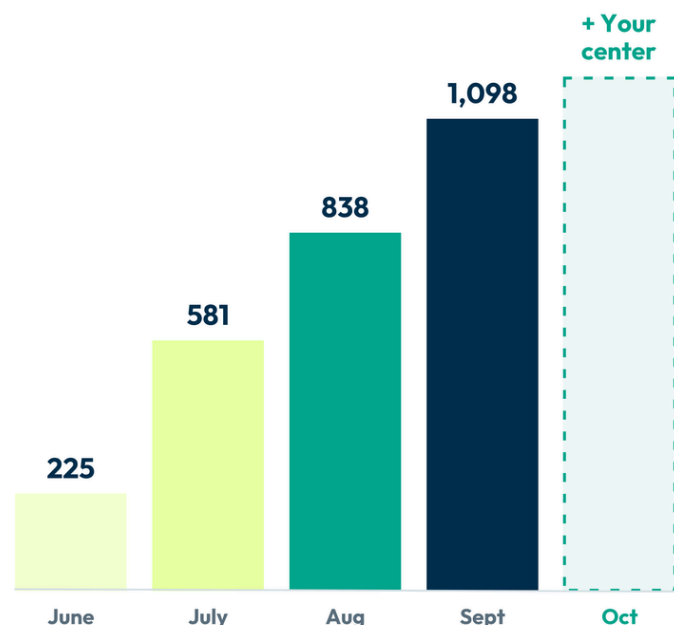
Orange County centers are using the sub pool every week to cover call-offs, PTO, and breaks, with vetted, state-compliant substitutes.



Create your free profile

ELC Orange covers Tandem's fee. You pay only the sub's hourly rate.

Total substitute shifts completed in Orange County
Since the sub pool launched June 1, 2026



Running total since June 1, 2026. Includes shifts through Sept 28.

BUSINESS ESSENTIALS FOR CHILD CARE LEADERS:

Your Center, Your Business, Your Success.

Helping Educate Child Care Center Owners & Directors

COMPLETED

SEPTEMBER

12

Build Your Sales Funnel with AI

Use AI to strengthen marketing, enrollment, and revenue.

OCTOBER

17

HR 101: Lead with Confidence

Practical strategies for managing, supporting, and retaining your team.

NOVEMBER

14

Make Excel & Google Sheets Work for You

Use your financial data to make smarter business decisions.

DECEMBER

5

Walk Out With Your 2027 Plan

Develop your strategic plan and budget for the year ahead.



TRAINING TIME:

9:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.



TRAINING LOCATION:

UCF Downtown Campus
500 W. Livingston Street
Orlando, FL 32801

- Register for **ONE** or **MULTIPLE** sessions
- Each training is a stand-alone session

Click HERE to reserve your spot!

- Space is limited and available on a first-come, first-served basis
- In-Service hours will be provided
- Training details will be emailed to registered participants



Developed by
EARLY LEARNING COALITION
OF ORANGE COUNTY

Presented in
partnership with
SCORE
FOR THE LIFE OF YOUR BUSINESS

Funded by
FAIRWINDS
FOUNDATION

Gentle Reminder: Keep Your Contact Information Up to Date

Please make sure your phone number and email address are current in your provider profile.

This ensures you continue receiving important updates, announcements, and communications from the Coalition.

If your contact information changes, remember to update your profile promptly so you don't miss any important information.

Thank you for helping us stay connected!



Pop-In Visits: SEPTEMBER GENTLE REMINDER

Coalition staff may visit programs during normal business hours as part of our monitoring and support efforts.

Providers are expected to allow staff access to the program and applicable areas upon arrival.

Maintaining timely access is an important part of remaining in good standing with program requirements.

You can **enhance the Social-Emotional Learning (SEL)** at your childcare center by using the **Highlights Early Learning KINDNESS CONNECTIONS** bundle in your lesson plans!



The **PURPLE** Preschool Enrichment Box contains **10 different lesson plans**.

KINDNESS CONNECTIONS: Resources to support your lessons



1. Preschool Enrichment Box with detailed lesson plans
2. Teacher Portfolio
3. Student Journals
4. Several Books

Highlights

Early Learning



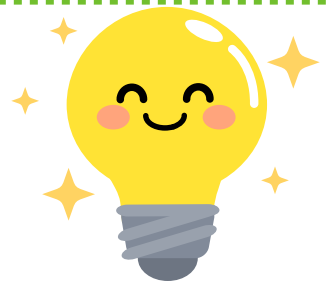


Kindness Connections: Purple Preschool Enrichment Box Ideas!

Each month, we will explore 1 lesson plan to showcase how your teachers can help students develop **kindness, empathy, and strong social skills** at your childcare center.

October Deep Dive: Steps for Success CARING FOR ANIMALS AND PETS

1. Open the **PURPLE Preschool Enrichment Box** and pull the **CARING FOR ANIMALS AND PETS** file.



2. Open the **COLLECTION GUIDE** booklet and read about engagement learning ideas!



PLAY WITH A PURPOSE

Celebration Station

Pet Show and Tell

Have the children bring pictures or drawings of their pets and share stories about how they care for them. If a child doesn't have pets, they can bring a stuffed animal that represents a pet they'd like to have.

Buddy Zone

Animal Care Puzzle

Provide a puzzle of an animal or group of animals. As the children work together to complete it, discuss the different ways they could care for that animal.

Mindful Minute

Gentle Touch Practice

Have the children close their eyes and imagine petting a soft, friendly animal. Encourage them to focus on how it feels to be kind and gentle.

Childcare Provider Spotlight



of Landstar

We're excited to feature
Kids 'R' Kids Learning Academy of Landstar
led by **Director Jeamy Quiles**
at 540 Pinnacle Cove Blvd. Orlando



Fast Facts:

110 Children Enrolled
15 Staff Members



Facebook
Instagram



**Caring for children takes energy.
What SELF-CARE practices help you
and your teachers stay at your best?**

In a preschool, the energy of the teachers directly impacts the children, so **when our staff feels supported, rested, and appreciated, they are better able to provide the patience, care, and positive energy our children need each day.** I encourage my teachers to take their breaks, communicate when they need support, and work together rather than feeling like they have to handle everything alone.

For myself, I make sure to take time to reset, stay organized, and prioritize what truly needs my attention. I also believe in maintaining a positive attitude, celebrating small successes, and not being afraid to ask for help when needed.

What are your FAVORITE WAYS to keep children engaged, focused, and excited about learning each day?

I like to incorporate **games, stories, songs, sensory activities, and real-life experiences** that connect to what children are learning.

I also believe children stay engaged when they feel encouraged and successful.

I use positive reinforcement, ask questions that encourage them to think, and provide opportunities for them to make choices and participate actively.



Childcare Provider Spotlight

Answers provided by
Director Jeamy Quiles



Can you share a **SUCCESS STORY** where a creative activity helped children learn a new skill?

I created a fun **“Letter Hunt”** where children **searched the classroom for letters hidden around the room**. Once they found a letter, they had to identify it, say its sound, and find an object or picture that started with that sound. We turned it into a game and celebrated each child's progress. **The children became much more excited about practicing because it didn't feel like traditional schoolwork**. I noticed that children who were initially hesitant began participating more confidently, and over time, they were able to recognize more letters and connect them to their sounds.

That experience reminded me that when learning is creative, active, and connected to play, children are often more motivated and willing to take risks while learning new skills.





Learning Takeaway mentioned in Parents' Pages

Safe Sleep Awareness Month: Remember the ABCs of Sleep



- A=** Alone: Babies should always sleep alone in their own crib, bassinet, or play yard.
- B=** Back: Always place your baby on their back for every sleep until they can roll over independently.
- C=** Crib: Use a safety-approved crib, bassinet, or play pen with a firm mattress and fitted sheet.



Click [HERE](#) to read the entire
Parents' Pages for OCTOBER

NOMINATIONS NEEDED for Teacher of the Month!

Click [HERE](#) to nominate the
BEST teachers at your
child care center!



**Teachers will receive a personalized certificate and
a special, partner-donated gift during a surprise visit in 2026-
2027.**

Every Teacher of the Month winner is eligible for the
Early Learning Coalition of Orange County
2027 Teacher of the Year Award, presented in June 2027!

Nominate a teacher who deserves to be celebrated!