



# Early Learning for Lifelong Success

## Host Instructions

Thank you for hosting this conversation!

Here is an outline of what to expect and how to follow this host guide.

## Overview

1. Welcome guests when they arrive
2. Introduce the topic by reading the Summary
3. Read What to Expect
4. Read the Ground Rules
5. Introductions (5–10 mins)
6. Question 1 (10–20 mins)
7. Question 2 (10–20 mins)
8. Question 3 (10–20 mins)
9. Wrap up & next steps

**Total time needed:**  
1–1.5 hours

Timing varies based on the number of participants.

Break into small groups of 4–8 people if you have a large group.

## Have any questions?

In our online knowledge base you'll find:

- Host FAQs
- Facilitation tips
- Online hosting tips
- In-person hosting tips

See these and more at:  
[about.inclusivv.co/host](https://about.inclusivv.co/host)

## Welcome

A conversation about how child care and early learning strengthen child well-being and brighten Georgia's future.

## Summary

Frederick Douglass once said, "It is easier to build strong children than to repair broken men." These words reflect how essential the early years are for raising healthy, thriving children into stable, successful adults. The period between birth and age five is not only critical for brain development, but it's also a tender time when young families need access to quality child care. This isn't just a concern for families and caregivers — when children thrive, the whole community benefits. This conversation explores how we can set our children up for success and brighten Georgia's future by supporting child care and early learning.

## What to Expect

Together we'll explore three big questions that take us on a journey of shared learning. No one is expected to be an expert, but everyone is invited to participate by sharing their experience and ideas. With each round of questions, we'll all have the opportunity to share. My role as host is to help ensure everyone's voice is heard and that we end on time. Before we begin, let's review and agree on the ground rules.

## Ground Rules

Our ground rules help create a brave space where we honor what is shared and learned in this conversation. By joining this conversation you agree to:

- Listen With Curiosity
- Engage With Empathy
- Appreciate Authenticity
- Respect Those With Lived Experience
- Enjoy Yourself!



## Host Tips

### Start With Introductions

*“Let’s get started with the introduction question.”*

Read the question and copy and paste it into the chat (if hosting online).

Feel free to go first and kick things off!

### Moving to the Next Question

Once everyone who wants to has shared, transition to the next question:

*“Now that we all know each other a little better, we’ll move on to Question 1.”*

Read the question and copy and paste it into the chat starting from Question 1 through the bolded question.

Repeat this process until each question has been addressed.

### Wrapping Up

After everyone has shared on the final question (or if you are out of time) read the text under “What’s Next” and add any other specifics you are aware of related to your group.

Ask to take a screenshot or a photo of the group to capture the moment and encourage people to share the impact of this conversation with friends, peers and colleagues.

## Introductions (1-2 minutes per person)

Share your name, where you’re from, and give a toast to someone who helped care for your child, or someone who cared for you in your early years.

### Question 1: (2–3 minutes per person)

Children need a lot of stimulation right from birth. Exposure to colors, shapes, words, books, play and social time. While most people are in favor of Pre-K for ages four and five, fewer realize the impact of early learning from birth through age three.

**Have you witnessed the impact of early learning for a child in your life? What are some benefits you have noticed about early learning on a child’s development?**

### Question 2: (3–4 minutes per person)

Here’s what we know about early learning. Research shows that:

- Increasing public child care slots by just 1% can cause child abuse and neglect cases to drop by nearly double that amount.<sup>1</sup>
- Every \$1 invested in quality early childhood programs can yield a return of up to \$9.<sup>2</sup>
- Early education improves high school graduation rates and future workplace success.
- Parents who receive funding for early learning programs earn more and stay employed longer.<sup>3-4</sup>

**What’s at stake when families don’t have access to quality early education? And what barriers do families face to enrolling their children in these programs?**

### Question 3: (3–4 minutes per person)

The good news is, there’s already a plan in place. Multiple partners across Georgia are working together to increase access to child care and early learning. Solutions include:

- Expanding eligibility to childcare enrollment services
- Better parental leave policies
- Promoting early brain and language development
- Incentives for child care providers in underserved communities

**Imagine if all of Georgia’s children could get a great start through high-quality child care and early learning. What needs to happen to make this a reality, and how do you want to contribute?**

### What’s Next?

Thank you for sharing your stories, values and vision. Next, you will receive an email with next steps and an opportunity to share feedback. This conversation is just one of many in the Georgia Family and Child Well-Being Series. We encourage you to host or attend another topic and invite others as well.