

Sharing A Vision: *Working Together for ALL Young Children*

Once again, we are delighted to invite you to join us and other members of the Illinois Division for Early Childhood (IDEC) from across Illinois, to the **Ninth Illinois Early Childhood Sharing A Vision Conference: *Working Together for ALL Young Children***. Through the collaborative efforts of early childhood supporters from across the state, this year's conference will be held at the Doubletree Hotel Chicago-Oak Brook (formerly Hyatt Regency Oak Brook) in Oak Brook, Illinois, from October 19-21, 2005. We urge individuals and teams to take advantage of this statewide opportunity to ***Working Together for ALL Young Children***. The committee has come together to plan and coordinate this statewide conference in order to address mutually shared issues and goals and to promote networking and collaboration among the various early childhood constituents, offering in-depth workshop sessions; networking and information sharing opportunities; and exhibits from local and national vendors.

This conference is for you whether you are an early childhood educator, early childhood special educator, early intervention specialist, therapist, other service provider, pre-

service and inservice educator, administrator, policy-maker or family member. Learn new skills from the experts and share your own experiences with colleagues.

Take time to be a part of the 2005 Sharing A Vision Conference beginning with a reception and keynote on October 19 through the final workshop on October 21. You will want to join in for networking, learning, sharing and fun. Register as soon as possible as space is limited. The conference theme, ***Working Together for ALL Young Children***, captures the goal of this exciting conference. The quality training offered at the Sharing A Vision Conference promotes the building of partnerships, implementation of recommended practices, and collaboration in systems change. Whether you're a family member, educator, support staff, local interagency council member, or administrator, plan to attend the 2005 Sharing A Vision Conference and join together with colleagues and families as we continue . . . ***Working Together for ALL Young Children***.

Amy Santos and Madelyn James,
Conference Co-Chairs

Nominations for the Jeanette A. McCollum Award

During the 2005 Sharing A Vision Conference the Illinois Division of Early Childhood of the Council for Exceptional Children will present the Jeanette A. McCollum Award to an early childhood professional, family member, student, or community member who meets the high standards of professional practice set by Dr. Jeanette A. McCollum, Professor Emeritus at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign. Nominations are being sought for the 2005 award. If you would like to nominate someone who has made a significant contribution on a state, regional, or local level to improving the lives of young children with special needs and/or their families, please send a letter of nomination to:

Beth Delaney, IDEC Past-President
Executive Director
Chicago Charter School Foundation
228 S. Wabash, Suite 600 • Chicago, IL 60604
(312) 455-7890 • Email: bdelaney@ccsfonline.org

Showcasing

Showcasing is an opportunity for participants to present unique features about their programs, innovative ideas or techniques, or share the results of research and evaluation efforts. Conference attendees will have an opportunity to visit the Showcasing area to learn about these new techniques, successful ideas for family involvement and innovative strategies and practices being used with young children. Showcasing sessions are scheduled for Thursday, October 20, in the morning and early afternoon, and Friday, October 21, in the afternoon. This event is a wonderful opportunity for networking and exchanging ideas!

In addition, one free registration will be offered for each Showcasing application selected. You are cordially invited to submit an application to present at a Showcasing session. Contact Brian Michalski for further information and/or an application.

Brian Michalski
The Center: Resources for Teaching and Learning
1855 Mt. Prospect Road • Des Plaines, IL 60016
(847) 803-4381 • E-mail: bmichalski@thecenterweb.org

Pre-Conference Sessions:

Wednesday, October 19, 2005

Get a jump-start on Sharing A Vision by attending one of the Pre-conference Sessions. Pre-conference meetings are a very important part of the program for Wednesday, October 19, 2005. From 8:00 am to 5:00 pm, various organizations will meet prior to the Sharing A Vision Conference. Specific session information will be distributed in mailings to invited participants. Should you have any questions about pre-conference sessions or should your organization be interested in holding a pre-conference session, please call Bernie Laumann at 217/333-0260. **Registration for Pre-conference workshops is separate from Sharing A Vision registration.** If you attend a pre-conference workshop and wish to attend the Sharing A Vision Conference, you must register and pay for Sharing A Vision separately.

The Leader Within: Adding Value for Today and Tomorrow

The expectations of a leader today include moral courage, risk taking, physical vigor, intellectual growth and the ability to take responsibility. As family members, community volunteers, educators and professionals those we collaborate with expect us to lead in an ethical and influential manner. This is no easy task. This pre-conference workshop will leave participants with a look at what leadership strategies and skills work and what do not work in today's community; an understanding of and evaluation of your "Level 5" leadership skills; tips and strategies to recognize others (including volunteers) on a shoestring (or no) budget; an understanding of what you bring to the table as "leaders"; a list of your leadership development needs and a list of needs from STARNET to enhance your effectiveness; and a renewed energy to your call to leadership. "The Leader Within: Adding Value for Today and Tomorrow" workshop is a collaborative effort between the STARNET Regions in Illinois.

Workshop Time: 8:30 am – 3:00 pm with sign in at 8:00 am
Center for Best Practices in Early Childhood Education —
Western Illinois University
Joan Leff (815) 623-9259 or email J-Leff@wiu.edu
Carol Weisheit (309)268-9157 or email cj-weisheit@wiu.edu

Family Centered — From Principles to Practice Family Centered Assessment — Beyond Age Levels and Test Scores Family Centered Intervention — Consultation, Coaching and Reflective Practice

The Illinois Early Intervention Training Program will be offering 3 sessions as a part of this year's Sharing A Vision Conference Pre-Conference Day. These three-hour workshops will be offered 9:00 am – 12:00 pm and then 1:00 pm – 3:00 pm so that attendees will have the opportunity to go to two out of the three sessions.

Workshop Time: 9:00 am – 3:00 pm with sign in at 8:30 am
For registration information contact the Illinois Early Intervention Training Program
Lucy Gimble (866)509-3867 or www.illinoiseittraining.org

Brains, Trains and Emotional Safety: Putting Them to Use in the Classroom

- Early Reading First and Emergent Literacy: Are They Compatible/What Are Programs Finding? Pat Steinhaus leads a discussion of Early Reading First Grant goals, their implementation and outcomes for children.
- Scribble Scrabble. Look through a different lens with Mary Wonderlick at play and toys that entice children to have improved prewriting opportunities.
- With Gail Conway and CIVITAS1 3Right on Course2 materials, learn to craft emotionally safe classroom environments where children behave appropriately and learn.

Workshop Time: 9:30 am – 3:30 pm with sign in at 9:00 am
Cost: \$85.00 (lunch included)
For registration and information: www.illinoisaeyc.org
or call 217/529-7732.
Sponsored by: Illinois Association for the Education of Young Children

Reflective Supervision: Ensuring Quality Supervision for Parent Educators and Home Visitors

*Presenter: Peggy North-Jones CFLE,
Parents as Teachers National Center, Inc.*

This pre-conference session sponsored by Academic Development Institute is for anyone who directly supervises home visitors. Focus is on reflective supervision and building successful supervisory relationships. Attention will center on the attributes supervisors bring to the relationship and the critical issues around regular, collaborative supervisory sessions. This participatory session includes role-playing and small group discussions to support supervisors in their own growth and professional development. The session counts as Advanced Supervision Training for Parents as Teachers supervisors.

Workshop Time: 8:30 am – 4:30 pm with sign in at 8:00 am
Cost: \$60.00 (Breakfast and lunch are included.)
For registration information contact:
Academic Development Institute
Maurine Brennan (217) 732-6462, ext 21
or email mbrennan@adi.org

General Information:

Conference Highlights

- Workshops featuring **internationally renowned presenters** on topics of interest to early childhood agencies, program staff and families. **Hot Topics**, discussion groups on the latest hot topics, will be offered Friday morning and Friday noon.
- Large **exhibitors'** hall featuring vendors locally and nationally.
- Networking with colleagues from around the state who will be sharing their exemplary practices and programs at the **Showcasing** sessions.
- Well-known speaker **Paula Kluth, PhD**, will present the **keynote address** at the opening session on Wednesday evening.
- "Ooey, Gooey Lady" **Lisa Murphy** will present a fun and informative general session on Friday morning.
- Internationally-known early childhood educator **Lilian Katz, PhD**, will present a half-day session on Thursday morning.
- Two evenings of fun and networking are planned for Wednesday and Thursday!

Registration Tips

Attendees are asked to indicate which workshop sessions they will attend so we may accommodate room size needs; however, you will not be held to your choice and choosing a specific session does not mean you will get in to that particular session. Some presentations will be limited in size and some session rooms may fill to capacity. If that is the case, a "Closed Session" sign will be posted at the door. Please have an alternative choice so that you can maximize your conference learning and enjoyment. To avoid being turned away from a session, arrive at the room early.

Participants need not register for the Hot Topics. We are pleased to offer a wide variety of presenters on popular early childhood topics. Complete the entire registration form and mail your registration and payment early. When registering groups of 10 or more, please send all forms together with payment.

Workshops

Review materials carefully and pre-plan your workshops. Arrive early for general sessions and workshops to ensure a seat. The size of workshops will vary from 40 person capacity to 200 person capacity. REMEMBER: Sessions do fill up fast. Have alternative sessions planned in case your first choice is full. Included with the description of each workshop is the age range and level. We hope this will help with your decision to select each workshop.

Environments

This year the committee has determined environments (tracks) for all workshops:

Adapting Environments includes workshops on blending, inclusive environments, English as a second language, assistive technology, special needs, linking IEP/standards, speech/language disorders, projects for all children, visual/hearing issues.

Administration Environments includes workshops on outcomes, inclusive schools, law, advocacy, supporting staff, and adult learning theory.

Community Environments includes workshops on working with/supporting families, diversity, utilizing community resources, taking care of yourself, community collaboration, and early intervention systems.

Infant/Toddler Environments includes workshops geared toward working with infants and toddlers and may include any of the above topics plus brain development and mental health issues.

Learning Environments includes workshops on learning standards, Reggio, Project Approach, literacy, math, universal preschool, science, observation/assessment, work sampling, art, and music.

Peaceful Environments includes workshops on social/emotional development, behavior management, helping children control their behavior, and taking care of yourself.

Technology Environments includes workshops on utilizing technology in the classroom.

Fees and Options

Registration fees include official programmed events; Wednesday and Thursday evening receptions (cash bar), continental breakfast on Thursday and Friday mornings, conference materials and handouts. Box lunches are available but must be ordered and paid for in advance. All fees must accompany your registration. Registrations will not be processed without payment and complete information. (Purchase orders and credit cards are considered "payment." There is a \$10 surcharge when using purchase order and \$5 surcharge when using credit card payments.) To qualify for the early bird registration discount, your registration must be postmarked by July 30, 2005. Regular registration deadline is September 20, 2005. Make checks payable to IDEC and mail to:

Sharing A Vision Conference

3705 Lincoln Trail • Taylorville, IL 62568
Phone: 217/824-4776 • Fax: 217/824-6819

Registrations Fees

\$125.00	Early Bird Registration (postmark deadline July 30, 2005)
\$150.00	Regular Registration (postmark deadline September 20, 2005)
\$105.00	Family Member Registration (postmark deadline September 20, 2005)
\$125.00	Student Registration (postmark deadline September 20, 2005)
\$205.00	Onsite registration (if available)
\$18.00	Box Lunch each day

Cancellation and Refund Policy

Conference registration fees will be refunded with a written cancellation request postmarked by September 1, 2005. Refund requests post-marked September 2 through September 30 will be charged a \$50 processing fee. No refunds will be issued for cancellations made after September 30. If you are unable to attend and wish to send a substitute, you may do so at no charge. After September 15, substitutions will only be made at the On-Site Registration Area.

Conference Hotel

Doubletree Hotel Chicago Oak Brook
(formerly Hyatt Regency Oak Brook)
1909 Spring Road • Oak Brook, Illinois
Telephone (630) 472-6000
Doubletree Worldwide (800) 222-8733
The Doubletree Hotel Chicago Oak Brook (formerly Hyatt Regency Oak Brook) is located in the heart of the village of Oak Brook's shopping and business districts. In Chicago's western suburbs, the hotel is 18 miles from the Chicago Loop and situated on landscaped grounds with surrounding ponds, rock gardens, and lush foliage. Adjacent to the exclusive Oakbrook Shopping Center, the Doubletree Hotel

Chicago Oak Brook is ideally located among hotels in Oakbrook, Illinois.

Hotel reservations must be made by September 20, 2005. Please call the hotel directly to make reservations. Please mention Sharing A Vision Conference to get special rates. Rates are:
\$145.00 single/double occupancy or \$160.00 triple/quadruple occupancy plus applicable state and local taxes.

Room Guarantee/Deposits: Rooms must be guaranteed with a major credit card or by mailing a check directly to the hotel. Checks must be made payable to the hotel.

Housing Changes/Cancellations: All changes and cancellations must be made directly with the hotels.

Special Assistance: The Doubletree Hotel is a fully accessible site. Conference staff will be happy to assist you with any special needs (physical, dietary, etc) with a three-week advance notice. Please identify any special needs on your registration form or call 217/824-4776.

Welcome Families

Sharing A Vision invites families/guardians who have children ages birth to eight, including children with or at risk for disabilities to participate in this exciting conference. Families are recognized as an integral part of the educational team for ALL young children. With that in mind this conference will have a strong family component that is geared toward family issues in addition to the family perspective being represented in presentations. Child care is not available on site. Fellowships are available to eligible families to help defray the cost of child care, travel and conference expenses. For more information please contact Mary Smith at 217-742-5252 or email mks60@IRTC.net or Kathy Ellinor at 1-888-297-1041.

Workshop Facilitators

Facilitators will collect workshop evaluations and assist the presenter with room arrangements. This important role guarantees you a seat in a particular session. If you are interested in facilitating, contact Rebecca White at 815/288-5511, ext. 313 or email whiter@svcc.edu.. Be sure to do this early because there is only one facilitator per session.

Conference Store

The Sharing A Vision Conference Store will once again be raffling off exciting items! Visit the Conference Store during exhibit hours for your chance to win! A card will be included in your conference packet with instructions on how to enter to win. Drawings will be held frequently, so check back often to see if you are a winner. Good luck!!

Volunteers

Volunteers are needed to assist with many conference activities. In exchange for four hours of donated time, volunteers will receive a complimentary registration. If you are naturally helpful and interested in volunteering call Rebecca White at 815/288-5511, ext. 313 or email whiter@svcc.edu.

Opening Session Keynote

Wednesday, October 19, 2005, 6:00 – 7:30 pm

“You’re Going to Love This Kid:”

Educating Students with Disabilities

Paula Kluth, PhD



This informative and motivating keynote will share practical ways of supporting students with disabilities addressing ways to make the classroom comfortable for all learners, supporting behaviors and bodies of students with a range of needs and the importance of pushing beyond participation and inclusion to asking schools to understand every student as complex, as capable, and as a learner.

Dr. Kluth is an independent educational consultant and an adjunct instructor at National-Louis University, Chicago, Illinois. Her professional and research interests center on differentiating instruction and on supporting students with significant disabilities in inclusive classrooms.

General Session

Friday, October 21, 2005, 8:30 am – 10:00 am

“What If Today Was Their Only Day?”

Lisa Murphy



This inspiring general session will get participants excited and motivated and get them thinking. . . . How was it possible for one day to be this powerful? If one day can be so fulfilling, imagine what might happen if the years children spent with educators were filled with a collection of these magical and memorable days!

Some children come into our life for a brief amount of time, a week, a month, a day or two. . . . What memories will they take with them? If it was their only day, what will they remember?

Lisa Murphy, the “ooey, gooeey lady,” has been an early childhood educator for over fifteen years working with children in various environments including private preschools, state funded preschools, Head Start programs, kindergartens and family childcare homes.

Additional workshops to be presented by Lisa Murphy: “Fizzle Bubble Pop & WOW! Simple Science Experiments for Young Children!” and “Creative Art with Young Children.”

Highlighted Sessions

The Teacher’s Role In the Development of Social Competence

Lilian Katz, PhD



In *Fostering Children’s Social Competence: The Teacher’s Role*, Lilian Katz (1997) discusses nine principles of practice. One of these is “Optimum teacher intervention promotes social competence.” This means the teacher needs to be aware of what is happening. The teacher needs to be available when a child needs assistance. The teacher also needs to allow children to attempt to solve their own potential conflicts.

During this workshop, Lilian will share options for early childhood educators to consider as they make decisions concerning how best to foster the development of children’s social competence. Lilian maintains that social competence is most likely to be acquired and strengthened in an atmosphere of warmest acceptance, respect, and deep faith in the child’s capacity to grow and develop.

Lilian G. Katz has a PhD from Stanford University and is Professor Emeritus of Early Childhood Education at the University of Illinois. She is a world renown authority in Early Childhood Education and has published and lectured extensively on the subject.

Looking Through the Eyes of Boys & Girls

Dan Hodgins, PhD



This workshop will look at supporting how boys and girls learn differently in the classroom. Based on brain science research we will look at how boys and girls are different and how to create the ultimate classroom that supports the physical, social, emotional and cognitive development of boys and girls.

Dan Hodgins is an exceptional teacher and internationally known presenter.

His interactive style is both entertaining and informative. Dan Hodgins is the coordinator of early childhood education at Mott Community College in Flint, Michigan. Dan has a unique understanding of young children and their teachers gained by over thirty years in the field of early childhood education. Dan’s insightful presentations are filled with practical and effective strategies that educators can use the next day.

“Unlike the Super Bowl or the World Series which never live up to their hype, Sharing A Vision once again was the conference that every other conference will be measured against. You should all be very proud of what you’ve accomplished as a committee.”

Ted Burke, 2003 Conference Attendee

Workshops:

This year the committee has determined conference environments, defined age range for the presentation — 0-3, 0-5, 3-5, 3-8, 5-8, 0-8 and indicated the level of the presentation — **Introduction, Intermediate, Advanced**. We hope this will help you in selecting your workshops.



THURSDAY • OCTOBER 20

HALF DAY SESSION • THURSDAY AM • 8:00 AM–11:45 AM

The Teacher's Role In the Development of Social Competence

Peaceful (3-8) Introduction

Lilian Katz, PhD

(See page 5)

Looking Through the Eyes of Boys & Girls

Learning (3-8) Introduction

Dan Hodgins, PhD, Coordinator Early Childhood Education, Mott Community College

(See page 5)

WORKSHOP SESSION I • THURSDAY AM • 8:00 AM–10:00 AM

Cultural Sensitivity: Celebrating the Similarities of our Differences

Learning (0-8) Introduction/Intermediate

Leslie Abrahamson, Community Outreach Coordinator

YWCA Child Care Resource & Referral

Each child is his or her own culture and part of a family culture that is part of several larger cultures. This workshop will focus on how to recognize and celebrate each child's unique "culture" and how to help children recognize the similarities and appreciate the differences of others. Observing holidays in a developmentally appropriate and culturally sensitive manner; ways to involve parents respectfully; how to set up the environment with culturally sensitive, diverse materials; and ways to use books to promote cultural sensitivity and self esteem will be shared.

Moving . . . Precious Cargo!

Adapting (3-5) Intermediate

Sharon Andersen, Early Childhood Teacher

Lisa Cipriano, Early Childhood Teacher

Dana Allen, Speech-Language Pathologist

Prairie Children's Preschool

"Moving . . . Precious Cargo" was a project developed by the pre-school classroom team to help transition students to a new environment. Through this project, the team was able to address Early Learning Standards and individualized education goals by incorporating hands-on activities and in-house field experiences. The community, families, and school district staff all joined together to enhance the learning dynamics of this project. During this workshop, participants will receive information about developing curriculum related to life changes in a preschooler's life (pregnancy, move, etc.), planning a unit of study related to a life change, and differentiating the curriculum to meet the needs of all students.

Using Program Evaluation Data to Support the Development of a Continuous Improvement Plan

Administration (0-5) Introduction

Patricia Chamberlain, Director of Early Childhood Initiatives

Julie Kallenbach, Transition Consultant

Elgin District U46

During this workshop, participants will learn about two different approaches to the program evaluation process. Examples from both Birth to Three-Parental Training and 3-5 Preschool models will be provided. The process of initiating a continuous improvement will be discussed as well as the elements of a quality plan. Sample evaluation questions, data collection tools/procedures, goals and reports will be shared.

Technology Tools: What Do I Need, How Do I Know I Need Them, and Where Do I Get Them?

Technology (3-8) Introduction

Letha Clark, Technology Integration Specialist

Carol Bell, Project Co-Director

Center for Best Practices in Early Childhood

The most valuable suggestions for acquiring the appropriate technology tools for an early childhood classroom should come from the classroom teacher. Information, discussion, and resources related to hardware, software, and assistive technology will arm attendees with background material they can use to influence the decision making process. Participation will be encouraged and opportunities to share incidents related to individual experiences will be provided.

Creating a Classroom Environment to Promote Early Literacy Learning

Learning (3-5) Introduction

Kathy Davis, Early Reading First Coordinator

Leanne Haage, Early Reading First Literacy Coach

Margaret Schnake, Early Reading First Literacy Coach

Jill Johannes, Early Reading First Literacy Coach

Springfield District 186 Early Start Prekindergarten

Research tells us that preschool classroom environments and the activities provided in that environment have a powerful impact on how the child develops emergent literacy skills. This session will outline the necessary components of the preschool classroom that will enhance literacy learning for the young child. Drawing on scientifically based reading research, the presenters will provide practical "ready-to-use" ideas that will encourage teachers to begin to provide meaningful literacy activities into the every day classroom routine.

Workshops continued . . .

Relationships, Environments and Teaching Strategies: Developing a Personal Action Plan to Support Positive Social and Emotional Classroom Climates

Peaceful (3-8) Introduction

Sharon Doubet, Doctoral Student and Research Assistant

*Amanda Quesenberry, Doctoral Student and Research Assistant
University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign*

As an educator, your goal is to support positive behavior by nurturing relationships, creating supportive environments and using social-emotional teaching strategies. In this session, we will review what a classroom that supports social-emotional growth looks like and help you develop a personal plan to improve the classroom climate. The steps will include: 1) Determine where you are now on the journey to develop a positive social emotional climate; 2) What changes do you need to make – personally, professionally, environmentally?; 3) What supports do you need to get there (materials, staff training, leadership)?

Storytelling . . . You Can Do It!

Learning (3-8) All levels

Linda Gorham, Storyteller

Storytelling is the art of verbally, physically and imaginatively revealing a story to an audience. Anyone can tell a story. To tell a story simply takes a little imagination, some knowledge of the basics, and a willingness to experiment. Come, listen, learn and give it a try!

Watching and Documenting Children's Development: Practicing and Refining Our Skills

Learning (0-5) Introduction/Intermediate

*Gaye Gronlund, Early Childhood Education Consultant,
ECE Consulting, Inc.*

Observation and documentation of children's growth are skills that we can all continually strengthen. Through watching video vignettes of children in action, participants will practice observing, learn a variety of recording methods and reflect on best curricular strategies to meet children's needs.

Meeting the Needs of Diverse Learners in Inclusive Environments

Adapting (3-8) Introduction

Ann Kremer, Educational Consultant

*Lynda Atherton, Educational Consultant
Project CHOICES*

Inclusive classrooms present challenges in meeting the diverse needs of the students. This interactive session will discuss some strategies for accommodating the environment, curriculum, and interactions in the early childhood and primary classroom for those diverse learners. The focus will be on ways to work together as a team to find the strengths and build on those to create a classroom where all students experience success.

Tiny Tunes - Active Music for Toddlers

Infant/Toddler (0-3) Introduction/Intermediate

Carole Peterson

Macaroni Soup!

Again pweese?!? That's what your 2's and 3's will say when you come back from Miss Carole's newest workshop, titled after her new CD, "Tiny Tunes!" Learn music and movement activities that are easy-to-do, developmentally appropriate, and FUN! e got'yer talk-in'bee, bathtub song, ducks, butterflies, dances and fingerplays . . . and a lotta laughs, too! Come prepared to jump, crawl and roll!

Block Play

Learning (3-5) Introduction/Intermediate

Terry Piper, Lakeshore Learning Materials

During this workshop, ideas and suggestions for block play to promote logical thinking skills, oral language development, sorting and matching skills, and sequencing skills will be presented. A demonstration of a variety of hands-on activities will be shared and ways of managing a block area will be discussed.

Instructional Strategies for Teaching Targeted Social and Communication Skills

Peaceful (3-5) Introduction

*Amy Santos, Assistant Professor, Department of Special Education
University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign*

In this session, participants will learn specific strategies to support preschoolers' social and communication skills. Strategies to be addressed included behavioral momentum, peer mediated interventions, and naturalistic interventions. Monitoring children's progress and developing new skills will also be discussed.

Laugh, Lighten Up & Live

Community (0-8) Introduction

*Vivian VanDonk, Professor of Communication,
Speech Department, Joliet Junior College*

This presentation will be a reminder of how important humor can be in our lives. Focus will be on laughter, lightening our load, and living life to the fullest. Participants will reacquaint themselves with their inner child and learn a few new techniques to cope with the pressure and stress of being an early childhood educator or parent.

WORKSHOP SESSION II • THURSDAY AM • 10:15 AM–11:45 AM

Interactive Software Encourages Emergent Literacy

Technology (3-8) Introduction

Carol Bell, Project Co-Director

*Letha Clark, Technology
Integration Specialist
Center for Best Practices
in Early Childhood*

This presentation will concentrate on the use of technology with young children. Open-ended software programs that promote early literacy skills will be demonstrated and the rationale surrounding the selections will be discussed. Activities derived from those programs will be introduced and additional related techniques will be described and displayed.



Workshops continued . . .



Sustaining Relationships Between Parents and Schools

Community (0-8) Intermediate

Jennifer Bollero, Attorney at Law

Sraga, Engler & Boyle, LLC

This workshop will enable participants to obtain practical skills in IEP negotiations and will allow participants to assess and/or improve their professional relationships with the IEP Team.

Sensory Integration in Natural Environments

Adapting (0-8) Intermediate

*Kim Bryze, Director and Associate Professor of Occupational Therapy
Midwestern University*

This presentation will provide parents, teachers, and professionals with an overview of sensory integration (e.g., sensory processing). Application will be made to the challenges children with sensory integration disorders experience in their daily lives, whether at home or in schools and community settings.

Developing Literacy Skills in Developmentally Appropriate Ways: Lessons from Early Reading First Grants

Learning (3-5) Introduction

*Patricia Chamberlain, Director of Early Childhood Initiatives,
Elgin District U46*

*Barb Becker-Hall, Project Manager,
Uptown Head Start/Even Start, Chicago*

*Kathy Davis, Coordinator, Early Reading First Coordinator,
Springfield District 186*

Peggy Ondera, Early Reading First Coach, Elgin District U46

Early Reading First grantees will highlight best practices in literacy instruction that are being implemented in a variety of preschool settings. Suggestions for applying scientifically based reading research in the classroom, linking assessment with instruction and supporting teacher change will be provided. Adaptations for special education and English language learners will also be shared.

Discovering the Treasures: Generations Within the Early Childhood Education System

Learning (Adult)

Laura Cornille-Cannady, Training Consultant

Learning Alliances Company

This workshop will investigate the mysteries and treasures of the generations within our workplaces, homes, and learning environments. Participants will leave this workshop with: Generation specific traits and talents for all 4 generations in the workplace, tips on learning strategies that are most effective for each generation, understanding of ways to enhance your communication with each generation, myths dispelled about each generation and replaced with understanding of values and needs, and confidence in working across generations. There will be small group work in order to identify and understand the needs and traits of each treasured generation.

Collaborative Therapy Services: Addressing Student Needs

Adapting (0-8) Introduction

Nancy Daly, Occupational Therapist

This workshop will focus on collaboration and the integration of therapy services in a variety of educational settings. Strategies to facilitate a smooth transition between early intervention and school-based services will be presented. The purpose of school-based intervention as guided by IDEA and a variety of decision-making models will be explored.

Social Emotional Development in Young Children

Infant Toddler (0-5) Introduction

Molly Dunn-Steinke, Early Childhood Mental Health Consultant

Margarita Paredes, Early Childhood Mental Health Consultant

Community Care Options-Fillmore Center

Participants will increase their knowledge of social emotional development and become aware of the importance of social emotional development and what they can do to enhance the social emotional development in the children they care for. Activities, books, songs and rituals to increase social emotional development in children will be shared.

IEP Basics: The Process, Content & How to Use It

Community (3-8) Introduction

Lisa Fisher, Project Director, STARNET Region II

This presentation reviews the process of developing an Individual Education Program and the components required under the Individual with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA). Become more familiar with the IEP for children receiving special education. This session provides an overview of evaluation, eligibility, LRE, FAPE, family participation, and the purpose of goals and objectives.

What Is This Child Trying to Tell Me? Understanding the Messages Behind Children's Inappropriate Behaviors

Peaceful (3-8) Introduction/Intermediate

Elizabeth Frisbie, Child Behavior Specialist

During this workshop, participants will learn to examine children's behavior as a form of communication and to identify the child's underlying need, goal and message. Developmentally appropriate interventions will be presented for each behavioral message so that participants' behavior management style becomes pro-active and positive.

Workshops continued . . .

Whipping Around & Popping Corn: Differentiating Instruction Through Active Learning

Learning (0-8) Introduction

Paula Kluth, PhD, Independent Educational Consultant and Adjunct Instructor at National-Louis University in Chicago, Illinois

The presentation focuses on how teachers can differentiate instruction and curriculum by simply using a broader range of structures and formats (e.g., games, experiential learning, project based instruction, physical response exercises). Participants will “try out” many of these structures and brainstorm how to use them in their courses. All active learning structures are appropriate for all grade levels and subject areas.

A Scribble a Day Brings a Writer Your Way

Infant Toddler (0-3) Introduction/Intermediate

Jennifer Rosinia, Occupational Therapist and Child Development Specialist, KidLinks Unlimited, Inc.

Simply stated, literacy can be defined as the ability to read, write, speak, and listen with emphasis on reading and writing well. In this workshop, we will examine the role of fine motor development as it lays the foundation for the writing component of literacy development. Emphasis will be placed on the development of the upper extremities. We'll conclude with a fun group think of the many ways “scribble packs” can be developed and used.

Come and Make a Circle

Learning (0-5) Intermediate

Susan Salidor, Singer/Songwriter/Music Specialist/Teacher

Come join in on this fun music workshop for early childhood educators and providers. No previous experience is necessary for this fun, highly-interactive workshop and participants will learn new songs and fingerplays plus strategies for successful circle time.

Managing Differences Between Families and Educators

Community (0-8) Intermediate/Advanced

*Al Smith, Special Education Consultant
Project CHOICES*

During this session, participants should be able to identify skills and strategies for resolving conflicts between schools and parents.

HALF DAY SESSION • THURSDAY PM • 1:00 PM–4:45 PM

Creating a Shared Learning Environment

Learning (0-8) Intermediate

*Michelle Graves, Education Director
Allen Creek School*

This workshop will focus on key principles needed to create a collaborative curriculum where ideas of teachers, parents, and children are heard and included in the learning environment and daily routine. It is open to all who believe that children are competent, committed to relationships, and enjoy investigating and critiquing the world around them. Participants can expect to learn a style of planning around these qualities that they can apply to their own settings.

WORKSHOP SESSION III • THURSDAY PM • 1:00 PM–3:00 PM

Messy Mixtures: Beyond Playdough

Learning (3-8) Introduction

*Beverly Cavanaugh, Coordinator, Early Childhood Center
Joliet Junior College*

Come discover the connection between messy mixtures and scientific principles in this hands-on two part presentation. Participants will begin with a discussion on the value and importance of working with a variety of mixtures in the early childhood setting and the relationship to social, emotional, and cognitive growth. In the second portion, participants will have an opportunity to create several mixtures as they continue to explore and discuss opportunities for language, math concepts and early literacy knowledge. Tips and suggestions will be offered on how to modify and expand old favorites as well as how to adapt these Messy Mixtures to safely include all ages and abilities.

Assistive Technology in Your Classroom . . . Don't Be Afraid!

Technology (3-8) Introduction

*Marlene Christ, Project Director
STARNET Region VI*

Assistive technology allows students with disabilities to perform tasks that would be impossible for them without some kind of equipment. Simple low-tech devices that are easy to use will be displayed and demonstrated. A tool for assessing the needs of students will also be discussed.

Taming Tempers

Peaceful (3-8) Introduction/Intermediate

Elizabeth Frisbie, Child Behavior Specialist

After discussing the cycle of anger, participants will learn specific, developmentally appropriate interventions for each stage of an angry outburst or temper tantrum. Information about teaching young children to appropriately express anger and related children's literature will also be provided.

Different Children, Different Needs

Adapting (0-8) Intermediate

*Barbara Hocking, Birth to 5 Specialist
Niles Township District for Special Education #807*

All children have special needs. We read children's signals to gain an understanding of the uniqueness of each child. We maximize opportunities for learning and interaction based on differences in the areas of communication, behavior, and learning styles. Participants will explore how these three components affect learning and how teachers can incorporate modifications into their classrooms.



Workshops continued . . .



Writing Meaningful IEPs

Learning (3-8)

Intermediate

Patricia Larkin, Speech-Language Pathologist

Leroy Elementary School

Educators and therapists will learn to use Early Learning

Standards with functional outcomes to develop student IEPs.

Participants will learn to differentiate

between skill-based objectives and functional outcomes, and relate functional outcomes to appropriate learning standards.

Appreciating Diversity

Learning (Adult) Introduction/Intermediate

Jennifer Lee, Lee & Associates

This interactive workshop focuses on identifying and understanding workplace diversity. Additionally, we will explore how distrust and stereotyping can be impediments to success and undermine efficiency. Information will be presented to raise awareness of other cultures. This workshop is not about guilt or blame, respect for differences is the goal of this workshop. Participants will walk away with their own confidential action plan, aiming them toward personal and professional success.

Using a Clinical Supervision Model to Support Self-Reflection

Administration (0-8) Intermediate

Michaelene Ostrosky, Associate Professor

Mary-Alayne Hughes, Clinical Assistant Professor

Department of Special Education

University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign

In this session, administrators and others in leadership positions will learn about clinical supervision and the importance of assuming a developmental perspective when supervising others. This model is helpful in pinpointing how to provide supervision that encourages supervisees to take ownership in the supervision process and to become self-reflective.

H.U.M. II - More Highly Usable Music

Learning (3-5) Introduction/Intermediate

Carole Peterson, Macaroni Soup!

Miss Carole returns with more songs, fingerplays and movement activities: HUMor and HUMdingers – developmentally appropriate for preschoolers, easy to remember and easy to use for teachers of all musical abilities. Fire-up your neural pathways with new material, learn classroom management techniques, and have a good laugh with Carole's "Tales from the Front." We retain 50% more when we move, so come ready to join in! HUMongous FUN!

These Kids Don't Speak English! Bilingualism in the Early Years

Adapting (3-5) Introduction

Cristina Sanchez-Lopez, Education Consultant

Illinois Resource Center

In this session, participants will receive an overview of some of the key issues related to serving young bilingual children in Pre-K programs. Educators will participate in activities related to second language acquisition, cultural concerns, early biliteracy development, parent involvement and instructional strategies to gain a better understanding of how to best support the bilingual and multilingual children and families they serve.

Pieces of the Puzzle: Sensory Challenges and the Child with ASD

Adapting (3-5) Introduction

Amanda Segroves, Consultant

Project CHOICES

Sensory issues are at the heart of many of the challenges that children with autism will face, and can present many difficulties both in school and at home. By providing sensory diets and environments, which allow children to begin to monitor and shape their own behavior, we can give our children and students the best possible chance to succeed, both in school and in the community. This workshop will provide some insight into decoding behaviors and providing sensory supports to reduce or replace behaviors that limit interaction and participation in school and home activities.

S.O.S. Support Our Siblings!

Community (0-8) Introduction

Rose Slaght, Family Resource Specialist

STARNET Regions I & III

This session will address the needs and strengths that siblings of children with special needs have. Ideas, information and "how to" support these children will be shared. Some strategies can be adapted to work in classrooms and community settings.

Raising Jack: A Journey About Living with Autism

Learning (0-8) Introduction

Sandy Valentine, Director of Family Support Services

Illinois Autism/PDD Training & Technical Assistance Project

Sandy Valentine offers ways to help you survive the early years of living with and working with the child in the autistic spectrum. With little money, lots of knocking on doors and pooling resources from all over, Sandy made her home, school and community a better place to support Jack. Creating and sustaining friendships, finding recreational opportunities and creating materials for Jack to use at home will be some of the ideas Sandy will share. This is a workshop for practical, usable resources you can take back home or to your classroom.

Workshops continued . . .

Blended Early Childhood Classrooms —

Meeting the Needs of All Learners

Adapting (3-5) Introduction

Maureen Whalen, Early Childhood Administrator

Woodford County Special Education Association

Participants will review a framework for blending early childhood special education students and general education students in a classroom setting. Guidelines for beginning the process, communicating with parents, accommodating students, and avoiding potential pitfalls will be shared. There will be plenty of time for questions and answers and a list of resources will be provided.

If You're Happy and You Know It!: Supporting Social Emotional Development in Young Children

Peaceful (3-5) Introduction/Intermediate

Tweety Yates, Co-Project Coordinator

Social Emotional Foundations for Early Learning

University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign

We all want children to be successful and this often requires a “secret ingredient” – the development of social emotional skills. Teaching strategies, fun ideas and resources will be shared that can be used to support children’s social and emotional development.

WORKSHOP SESSION IV • THURSDAY PM • 3:15 PM–4:45 PM

Children of Prisoners: How Can We Help?

Community (0-8) Introduction

Joanne Archibald, Advocacy Director

Chicago Legal Advocacy for Incarcerated Mothers

The increasing use of incarceration as a response to social problems such as addiction, poverty, and lack of education has affected millions of children in the United States. This workshop will provide information about the effects of parental incarceration on young children and discuss strategies for helping children whose lives are disrupted by the arrest or incarceration of a parent.

Challenging Behavior and Positive Intervention Strategies

Peaceful (3-8) Introduction

Lynette Chandler, Professor, Department of Teaching & Learning

Northern Illinois University

Before we develop strategies to address challenging behavior we should figure out why challenging behavior is occurring. This assures that our intervention plans address the events that trigger and support challenging behavior and increase and support appropriate behavior to replace challenging behavior. This session will discuss strategies to identify the triggers, supports, and function of challenging behavior and discuss specific intervention strategies within three categories of functions that will address challenging behavior and increase and support appropriate behavior.

An Introduction to Work Sampling Illinois

Learning (3-5) Introduction

Kathy Davis, Early Reading First Coordinator

Jill Johannes, Early Reading First Literacy Coach

Sandra Danner, Teacher Assistant

Springfield District 186 Early Start Prekindergarten

This session will introduce the Work Sampling System Illinois and its use in the prekindergarten classroom. Attendees will learn the history of the Illinois Early Learning Standards and how those standards align with the Work Sampling System Illinois. Participants will learn practical methods of assessing young children’s learning in an authentic manner through the use of observation, checklists, and analyzing of work samples.

Seizure Disorders and Children: Diagnosis, New Treatments and the Family Perspective

Learning (0-8) Introduction/Intermediate

Philip Gattone, President, Epilepsy Foundation of Greater Chicago

This workshop is designed to assist educators, administrators, parents, therapists, and others involved in the lives of children with seizure disorders. Participants will gain a greater understanding of various seizure types, proper first aid for seizures, the latest medical treatment options for families, strategies for helping children succeed in the classroom, and a perspective on epilepsy from the viewpoint of parents, children, and caregivers.

Transition: Now That I’m Three, Where Will I Be?

Infant Toddler (0-5) Introduction

Sandy Ginther, Family and Early Childhood Resource Specialist

STARNET Regions I & III

Focusing on the transition content of the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act, this session’s objective is to examine how the law guides the process. The law’s commitment to a ‘smooth and effective transition’ from birth to three and three to five services, calls for local entities and families to plan and work together. The who, what, when and where questions are not just for young children developing language.



Workshops continued . . .

Addressing the Needs of Children with Ongoing Problem Behavior: A Team Based Approach

Peaceful (3-5) Advanced

*Mary Louise Hemmeter, Associate Professor
Vanderbilt University*

The purpose of this session is to describe a team based approach for developing a plan to address the needs of children with ongoing problem behavior. This presentation is designed for teachers, administrators, mental health providers and families. An overview of the process as well as a case study example will be presented. Opportunities for discussion will be provided.

Move It or Lose It/Storytelling, Movement, and Humor for the Classroom

Learning (0-8) Intermediate

*Dot Kane, Storyteller
Stories by Dot*

Dot is the funniest storyteller you'll ever see. With a background in dance, theater, and early childhood education, she provides tried and true techniques to liven up your teaching style. Dot's energetic and madcap presentation has delighted thousands of children and adults all over the Midwest.

From Screening to Referral: An Introduction to the Ages & Stages Questionnaires and the ASQ: Social-Emotional Infant Toddler (0-5) Introduction

Pat Kluzik-Stauch, Resource Specialist, STARNET Region II

This session will give Early Intervention and Early Childhood Special Education professionals an introduction to the Ages and Stages Questionnaires (ASQ) and the ASQ: Social-Emotional. An emphasis will be placed on why, how and when to use this screening tool with young children and their families. Using the screening results to make decisions with families regarding next steps, referral for evaluation, and follow-up activities will be highlighted.

Peek Inside: Creative Environments

Learning (3-5) Introduction

*Joan Leff, Project Coordinator
Connie Shugart, Assistant Project Coordinator and Early Childhood Resource Specialist
STARNET Regions I & III*

The early childhood classroom must be safe, attractive, and inviting to young children. The atmosphere should promote creativity in the daily routine of their lives and allow ample opportunities for them to discover and experience new things. Often assessment

or curriculum is the primary focus, while the physical environment receives minimum consideration. Through hands-on activities, this workshop will center on the forethought and planning necessary for a facilitator of learning to design a classroom that best engages children in their learning process.

Teaching ESL Students in an All English Classroom

Community (3-5) Introduction

*Vicki Osborne, Early Childhood Educator
Lanette Thimsen, Early Childhood Educator
Early Childhood, Alton Community School District #11*

In cities and communities where the population is comprised of primarily two ethnic groups (one minority) there may be a lack of support and/or training and education for regular classroom teachers who find themselves faced with the prospect of teaching one, two, or three children who speak a language other than English. Where does the teacher begin? How does he/she make inroads to the new family? What are the teacher's responsibilities and the student's rights? What are the myths and truths about second language acquisition? During this workshop, you will find there is help to support teachers who find themselves for the first time teaching ESL students.

El Desarrollo Socio Emocional de los Niños—Spanish Workshop Infant Toddler (0-5) Introduction

*Margarita Paredes, Clinical Psychologist
Community Care Options-Fillmore Center*

During this workshop, participants will increase their knowledge of social emotional development. They will become aware of the importance of social emotional development and what they can do to enhance social emotional development in the children they care for. Activities, books, songs and rituals to increase social emotional development in children will be shared.

Gayby Boom—Beyond Stereotypes, Talk Shows and Parades . . . The Truth About Gay and Lesbian Parents

Community (0-8) Introduction

Jennifer Rosinia, Occupational Therapist and Child Development Specialist, KidLinks Unlimited, Inc.

There has been an increase in the number of young children being raised by gay and lesbian parents. And, like families headed by heterosexual parents, gay and lesbian parents represent a diverse group. However, gay and lesbian families are frequently the subjects of prejudice because of the sexual orientation of the parents. As with all socially stigmatized groups, general societal beliefs are typically culturally transmitted rather than based on personal experience or empirical data. The purpose of this workshop is to present a summary of the research findings on gay and lesbian parents and their children in order to assist child development professionals in understanding and working with this growing segment of the parenting population.

Technology and Early Learning

Technology (3-5) Introduction

Pam Ross, Director of Training and Education, UCP/Infinites
This user-friendly presentation offers participants an alternative vehicle for stimulating play and learning for young children through technology. Participants will explore a variety of educational software, hardware, and other appropriate tech tools available for early learning. Internet resources for early learning will also be shared.



Workshops continued . . .

Using the Project Approach in Your Classroom:

Internet Resources That Can Help

Learning (3-8) Introduction

Diane Rothenberg, Director

Peggy Patten, Information Specialist

Illinois Early Learning Project,

University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign

Staff from the Illinois Early Learning (IEL) Project will demonstrate specific websites and resources that early care professionals can access for information on how to use the Project Approach in their early childhood setting.

FRIDAY • OCTOBER 21

WORKSHOP SESSION V • FRIDAY AM • 10:15 AM–11:45 PM

Bring Your Science Area to Life!

Learning (3-8) Intermediate

Sallee Beneke, Resource Specialist

STARNET Regions I & III

Attend this workshop and see what materials and supplies are included in the science area of the ISBE Model Classroom. Learn how the Illinois Early Learning Standards for Science can be met by a rich classroom science area; look at examples from a real classroom; discover how to set up your science area for success and get ideas for science experiences with young children.

Building Caring Classrooms That Welcome All Students

Community (0-8) Intermediate

Nancy Brown, Consultant

Project CHOICES

Creating a caring classroom that welcomes all children is a goal of many educators and families. This workshop will show participants new ways to provide opportunities that will encourage children to be respectful of others and welcome people of all abilities. Participants will learn new models of support that are designed to encourage and enhance social relationships with everyone, increasing the understanding of the different levels of support children need.

All Children Are STARS: Inclusive Early Childhood Programs and Young Children With Disabilities

Adapting (3-5) Intermediate

Deborah Bruns, Assistant Professor

Cathy Mogharreban, Associate Professor

Dept. of Educational Psychology & Special Education

Southern Illinois University at Carbondale

This session will provide perspectives and data related to including young children with disabilities in early childhood settings including Pre-K, Head Start, and University/College affiliated programs. Participants will gain an understanding of attitudes and training needs.



Fussy Babies: An Approach to Supporting Families Around Issues of Crying, Sleeping and Feeding

Infant Toddler (0-3) Intermediate

Linda Gilkerson, Director and Professor

Irving B. Harris Infant Studies Program

Susan Connor, Nancy Mork, Karen Benson, Marsha Baker and Michelle Lee, Student Advisors, Erikson Institute

For families, struggles related to crying, sleeping, and feeding in the first year of life can be extremely trying and difficult. This workshop will focus on how these issues can affect a family and how you can support families in our role with them. Participants will gain a better understanding of typical crying, sleeping and feeding patterns, infant regulation as well as strategies to support families during this time. This workshop is appropriate for participants working with families and with children birth – 3 in home or center environments.

Deepening Project Work: How to Keep Project Work Thought Provoking, Intellectually Challenging and Child Sensitive

Learning (0-8) Intermediate/Advanced

Judy Harris Helm, Consultant, Best Practices, Inc.

This workshop shares strategies for increasing the depth and value of project work for greater growth of children's knowledge, skills, and dispositions. It is designed for teachers or directors who have previous training in the project approach or who are already doing project work in their classrooms. Topics include helping children narrow their focus for project investigations, facilitating higher level questioning, encouraging more child-to-child discussions, stimulating provocations, and increasing involvement of children in planning culminating experiences.

Representation: The Art of Critical Thinking

Learning (3-8) Intermediate

Nancy Hertzog, Associate Professor, Department of Special Education
University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign

This is a hands-on problem-solving workshop! The presenter will share many examples of young students (ages 3-7) engaged in problem solving while creating representations. Participants will have the opportunity to work with boxes and junk to make representations of artifacts in their environment.

Workshops continued . . .



Paper-Free Standards and Assessment

Learning (0-8)

Introduction

Shelby King, Early Childhood

Illinois State Board of Education

The Paper-Free Standards and

Assessment project is a

pilot project of the Illinois State Board of

Education's Division of Early Childhood. Using

the latest technology, participants will learn

about techniques and methods that make

standards and assessment quick, easy and

paper free. Participants will have access to a

PDA and be encouraged to use the device

to record assessment information.

SUPPORTS That WORK for Students with ASD

Learning (0-8) Introduction/Intermediate

Margaret Mazeika, Educational/Behavioral Consultant

Attendees will understand the importance of and how to use visual supports to help students with ASD process information more clearly. This presentation will expose attendees to the use of transition objects, visual picture schedules, first/then cards, task strips and the importance of visually structuring activities to help students with ASD better understand our expectations and to help support their deficits in the areas of communication, sequential planning and prediction. Photo examples and hands-on materials will be used to demonstrate use of these supports.

Making Math Meaningful for Young Children

Learning (3-5) Introduction

*Sherial McKinney, Early Childhood Resource Specialist
STARNET Region I & III*

During this informative workshop, there will be a discussion on ideas for incorporating geometry, numbers, measurement and other mathematical thinking with young children and HAVE FUN TOO! Hands-on activities and ideas based on the Illinois Early Learning Standards and current research will be presented. There will also be information about mathematics and literacy. The focus will be on ideas that will make mathematics fun and meaningful for children.

Creative Art with YOUNG Children. It's the PROCESS! Not the PRODUCT!

Learning (0-8) Intermediate

Lisa Murphy, The Learning Through Adventure Company

This workshop is a creative experience for all participants!! After talking about what is meant by "process not product", participants have time to use paint, paper and other creative media in order to reinforce the information presented during the workshop. This hands-in, hands-on time reminds participants of the importance of offering daily creative process oriented art experiences for young children.

Understanding Siblings of Children with Special Needs

Community (3-8) Intermediate

*Richard Ney, Clinical Psychologist
Midwestern University*

Studies of families with children with special needs have indicated that these families experience considerable levels of stress. This presentation will look at the positive and negative impact on siblings of children with a variety of developmental, physical and psychological problems. A particular emphasis will be the creation of a positive, prosocial environment for the developing siblings.

Recommended Practices in Screening Preschoolers:

The Nuts and Bolts of Selecting a Tool

Infant Toddler (3-5) Intermediate

*Michaelene Ostrosky, Associate Professor
Department of Special Education*

*Greg Cheatham, Doctoral Student/Graduate Research Assistant
University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign*

This session will focus on recommended practice in screening preschoolers. Topics to be addressed include: selecting a screening tool, advantages and disadvantages of various instruments, decision-making within your district or program around screening procedures currently in place, and considering how the results of screenings impact programs/families/staff. Participants will have an opportunity to become familiar with several popular early childhood screening tools.

Don't Get Drawn In! How to Stay Out of Power Struggles With Children

Peaceful (0-8) Intermediate

*John Roope, Director of Prevention and Intervention Services
Chaddock Child & Family Center*

This workshop will provide practical strategies and language for diffusing and preventing power struggles while building relationships with children and will help children become partners in the process of learning to control their own behavior. This program is ideal for teachers and other professionals who work with children, and when shared with both teachers and parents provides an excellent framework for consistency and support between home and classroom or other setting.

Campbell's Soup and Cantaloupe

Technology (0-5) Introduction

*Cilla Sluga, Training Director
Illinois Assistive Technology Program*

All children play. But to play, they must have toys that "fit." This interactive session focuses on expanding and exploring a child's work. Parents and teachers will leave with ideas that encourage, engage, enlighten, enchant, entice, elate, and entertain children, especially children with disabilities. Attend and learn the secret of Campbell's Soup and Cantaloupe.

Workshops continued . . .

Neurobehavioral Observations: Connecting the Brain and Nervous System to Responsive Care and Education

Infant Toddler (0-5) Introduction/Intermediate

Sharon Syc, Assistant Clinical Professor

Erikson Institute

Early childhood professionals are good observers of young children's behavior. As a natural extension of that skill, this workshop will explore our observations of infant, toddler, and preschool behavior in terms of nervous system functioning. The brain and nervous system are central to moving, communicating, feeling, learning and thinking, thus neurobehavioral observation helps us think about individual differences between children and about how we as caregivers can help them learn and develop.

WORKSHOP SESSION VI • FRIDAY PM • 1:00 PM–3:00 PM

Introduction to Project Work

Learning (3-5) Introduction

Scott Brouette, Head Teacher

Illinois State University Child Care Center

Participants will gain a beginning knowledge of project work through discussion and project examples. This workshop is designed for participants with little or no knowledge of project work and they will discover the 3 phases of work and how to apply them to their classrooms.

Cortical . . . Visual . . . What?

Adapting (0-8) Introduction

Mindy Ely, Vision Specialist

Hearing & Vision Connections

Some children with multiple impairments use their vision in ways we don't understand. Solve the mystery by learning the basics of visual functioning including those common to children with cortical visual impairment. Then explore practical ideas and strategies for use when working with children whose visual loss is coupled with delays in cognition, communication, and/or motor control.

Putting the POSITIVE in Discipline!: 8 Questions to Ask Before You REACT!

Peaceful (0-8) Introduction

Dina Emser, Certified Professional Coach and Educational Consultant

How many times do you wish you could take back your words or actions and act more positively when children misbehave? In this session, you will learn why it is essential that you be positive when you discipline! Dina will examine 8 questions that you can ask yourself that will encourage you to take time to think – before you do or say something rash!

Illinois Early Learning Standards Five-2-Six

Learning (3-8) Introduction

Shelby King, Early Childhood

Illinois State Board of Education

Join us for an introduction to the draft edition of the Illinois Early Learning Standards for Five Year Olds (IELS-5). This document builds upon the Illinois Early Learning Standards for 3 and 4 year olds, expanding to include children who are 5 years of age. The session will offer an overview of standards development, as well as an opportunity for teachers to become part of an exciting project piloting the standards and benchmarks in their classrooms.

Understanding the Facts of Life in Adoption:

What Do You Need to Know?

Community (0-8) Introduction

Pat Kluzik-Stauch, Resource Specialist, STARNET Region II

Judy Stigger, Community Adoption Counselor, The Cradle

This session will give professionals in Early Intervention and Early Childhood Education a clearer understanding of how early environments can have a lasting impact on the development of young children that join their families through adoption. The presenters will discuss the developmental impact of domestic and international adoption, orphanage care, and foster care on young children. Contributing factors that may lead to developmental delays or place the child at risk for development delays will be highlighted. Strategies and resources for teachers and parents will be shared.

Illinois Birth to Three Standards

Infant Toddler (0-3) Introduction

Alice Kusmierek, Supervisor Family Enrichment Program

ECHO Joint Agreement

Participants will learn about the Illinois Birth to Three Standards and see how the standards are implemented in the Family Enrichment Program via a PowerPoint presentation. Participants will get ideas to implement the Illinois Birth to Three Standards in their own programs.

Quality Children's Literature for Children Birth Through Five

Learning (0-5) Introduction

Brian Michalski, Early Childhood Professional Development

Coordinator

Illinois Resource Center

Come and explore the "qualities" of good, developmentally appropriate books. Participants will have an opportunity to see some of the best new books from 2004 as well as compare "good" and "not so good" books for children ages birth to five.



Workshops continued . . .

Fizzle Bubble Pop & WOW!

Simple Science Experiments for Young Children

Learning (0-8) Intermediate

Lisa Murphy, The Learning Through Adventure Company

Take an exciting science ride with the Ooey, Gooey team. This workshop demonstrates over twenty simple science experiments you can do with young children (and beyond). This workshop not only shows you experiments you can do in your classroom immediately, but also discusses the importance of making science exciting as early as possible. You will explode soda right out of the bottle, blow up balloons without air, defy gravity, and much, much more.

Autism: Positive Supports for Children with Autism

Adapting (3-8) Intermediate

Wendy Partridge, Autism Consultant

Illinois Autism Training and Technical Assistance Project

Participants who attend this workshop will gain a deeper understanding of positive supports for the child with autism. Areas discussed will include visual supports for communication; social interactions and routines; fun literacy ideas; and other successful programming useful across the child's day.

Partnering with Parents: Planning and Conducting Family Meetings that Involve Parents in the Early Learning Process

Community (3-5) Intermediate

Robert Rockwell, Professor Emeritus and former Director of Early Childhood Education, Southern Illinois University Edwardsville

Janet Kniepkamp, Teacher, Columbia School District

Providing an effective strategy to establish a connection between home and school allows families to have a valued interaction and meaningful presence in early childhood programs. During this workshop, participants will develop an understanding of this strategy and will be informed of obstacles that can hinder parent attendance at school meetings and learn strategies to avoid these obstacles. A hands-on workshop model will be shared with audience participation.

Communication Options for the Child Who is Deaf or Hard of Hearing

Adapting (0-5) Introduction

Nancy Scott, Hearing Specialist

Hearing and Vision Connections

Communication is an essential component in our daily lives. A child who is deaf or hard of hearing needs communication too. Many of us are aware of sign language; but this is not the only communication option available for families. Participants will learn about communication options such as Cued Speech, ASL, SEE, Oral, Aural-oral and Total Communication. Families need information in order to make informed decisions for their family. As therapists, we need to become aware of the options and where to refer families for help in making these decisions.

Become a Brain! Linking Neuroscience Research to Practical Classroom Strategies

Learning (0-8) Intermediate

Angela Searcy, Child Development Specialist and Educational Consultant

This workshop is designed to provide educators with practical applications in the classroom that are grounded in scientifically based research. Discussion will include teaching strategies, room arrangement, learning and memory strategies, lesson planning, and assessment. Neuroscientists study how people learn, but educators develop learning. Become a Brain! Because it is not a scientist but educators who will consider the implications of relevant research and carry it out in the classroom.

Embracing Diversity for Infants, Toddlers and Their Families: Create a Culturally Relevant Environment for Programs to Include Children of Different Needs & Speeds

Infant Toddler (0-3) Intermediate

*Marsha Shigeyo Hawley, Associate Professor
Kendall College*

Preparing for different abilities and different cultures is critical for successful inclusion practices, as well as supporting the family. How you create an environment is more than just having a few pictures around to represent cultures. Making the environment culturally sensitive and comfortable for people of all abilities takes thought, planning and evaluation. This workshop, primarily about infant toddler child care, will expose participants to a process of an environmental scan and reflective practice to create appropriate settings for children and families with multiple needs.

Art Education for Young Learners

Learning (3-8) Introduction/Intermediate

Diane Sutliff, Director

Go Get Your Smock!

This presentation will explore the many different ways educators can bring age-appropriate, open-ended, experiential art experiences to young children. We look for ways to provide sensory experiences, skill building opportunities, chances to learn real art words and concepts and creative freedom, where adults are NOT responsible for the creative decisions. This workshop will provide an overview of creative development in children. Time will be devoted to focus on materials preparation, method presentation, and "merchandising," so that children can be independent artists. Ways to modify and adapt tools and materials so that work is accessible to children with different skill sets will also be discussed.

Computer Fun for Everyone

Technology (0-8) Introduction

Becky Virgin, Early Childhood Educator

Four Rivers Early Childhood Center

This session will provide proven activities and ideas on how ALL children can use a computer in the classroom. We will explore software, peripherals, digital cameras, individual and group activities and how to integrate them in all areas of your curriculum. You'll come away with lots of activities based on meeting Illinois Early Learning Standards, IEP objectives, and having FUN!

CONTINUING EDUCATION CREDITS

A variety of sessions will qualify for the following:

Continuing Professional Development Units (CPDUs) for teacher recertification through the Illinois State Board of Education; Continuing Education (CE) for Speech-Language Pathologists, Social Workers, Occupational Therapists, and Physical Therapists license renewal through the Illinois Department of Financial and Professional Regulation; and Early Intervention Credentialing hours. This conference could also serve as a possible professional development activity for the continuing professional development hours required for administrator certificate renewal.

It is your responsibility to access and complete the appropriate forms and secure the appropriate documentation for your attendance.



Creative Expressions Art Gallery

The 2005 Sharing A Vision Conference will feature the "exhibition and silent auction" of young children's artwork gathered from around the State of Illinois.



Where: Doubletree Hotel, Chicago-Oak Brook
When: October 19, 20 and 21, 2005

In order to make this a successful event, we are requesting donations from students who are enrolled in early childhood programs. Items will be collected through August 1, 2005.



PLEASE NOTE:

- Select items that show creativity and originality.
- No items will be returned.
- Conference participants will have the opportunity to bid on exhibited items.
- All funds collected from the sale of items and silent auction will be used to support the Sharing A Vision Conference.
- A signed "Parental Consent Form" must accompany each item. Your Art Committee Representative will provide you with a permission slip.
- We would like to display pictures of children engaged in "creating". Please take digital or regular snapshots and attach to the exhibit item.



CRITERIA:

- 3-Dimensional objects can not exceed: 8-1/2" x 11" base and 24" high.
- Media: Clay, paper, wood, metal, plastic, etc.
- Paintings, drawings and collages can not exceed: 16" x 20".
- No fragile items (items must be transportable).

Contact one of your local art committee representatives to make arrangements for the delivery of quality art gallery items.

Nataki Edmond
773/535-0113
nnedmond@cps.k12.il.us

Maria Hadley
309/663-1240
ml-hadley@wiu.edu

Gary Dozier
618/632-3935
garydozier1@aol.com

Jodi Knapp
309/432-2047
j-knapp@wiu.edu

Jennifer Weidner
217/923-5141
jennifer@erbainc.org

Hot Topics

Hot Topics will give attendees the opportunity to discuss “hot” topics and will be featured Friday during breakfast and lunch. Pick up your meal and attend the informative and interesting Hot Topics. Look in your Conference Guide for topics and presenters.

Professional Development for Career Advancement

Are You Looking for a New Job or Looking to Fill a Vacancy?

The Sharing A Vision Career Corner is back. It's simple. If you are seeking a potential employee, bring along a current vacancy listing as of October 15, 2005 or colorful flyer to pin up on the Career Corner bulletin board. For a speedy response bring plenty of copies but don't forget to include an agency contact name. If you're looking for a job . . . check the bulletin board, daily, during the conference and be sure to inform the potential employer how you found out about the vacancy. Be sure to bring copies of your resume.

For more information or inquires contact:

Mary Kay Hawley, Career Corner Chair
(618) 635-3498
email: khawley@yahoo.com

Join Illinois DEC Today!

The Illinois Subdivision of the Division for Early Childhood (DEC) of the Council for Exceptional Children (CEC) is a nonprofit organization advocating for individuals who work with or on behalf of children with special needs, birth through age eight, and their families. Founded in 1973, the Division is dedicated to promoting policies and practices that support families and enhance the optimal development of children. Children with special needs include those who have disabilities, developmental delays, are gifted or talented or are at risk of future developmental problems.

Share in the richness of the IDEC experience. Get the training, resources, and peer-to-peer support you need to meet today's new challenges in special education with confidence and greater competence, and make a difference for young children and their families.

For more information and a membership application to join IDEC, visit our Website at <http://idec.crc.uiuc.edu> or contact:

Tweety Yates, Membership Chair
University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign
61 Children's Research Center
51 Gerty Drive
Champaign, IL 61820
217/333-4123
Email: t-felner@uiuc.edu

Sharing A Vision: Working Together for ALL Young Children

October 19-21, 2005 • Doubletree Hotel Chicago Oak Brook

C O N F E R E N C E R E G I S T R A T I O N

Registration/Badge Information:

First Name: _____

Last Name: _____

Nickname for badge: _____

School/Agency: _____

Mailing Address: _____

City: _____

State: _____

Zip: _____

Work Phone: _____

Home Phone: _____

Fax: _____

Email Address: _____

Position: Parent _____ Staff _____ Administrator _____

Other _____

Program (in which you are employed or your child currently attends):

_____ Birth – 3 Early Intervention

_____ Birth – 3 Prevention Initiative

_____ Child Care

_____ Prekindergarten at Risk

_____ Community Preschool

_____ Even Start

_____ Head Start

_____ Early Childhood Special Education

_____ Elementary: Kindergarten-3rd Grade

Other: _____

First Time Conference Attendee _____ Yes _____ No _____

Number of Years Attending Sharing A Vision Conference _____

Registration:

Registration Fees are the same whether attending one day or two days. On-site registration will only be accepted if space allows.

_____ \$125.00 Early Bird Registration

(postmark deadline July 30, 2005)

_____ \$150.00 Regular Registration

(postmark deadline September 20, 2005)

_____ \$125.00 Parent Registration

(postmark deadline September 20, 2005)

_____ \$125.00 Student Registration

(postmark deadline September 20, 2005)

_____ \$205.00 Onsite registration (if available)

Lunch:

_____ \$18.00 Thursday (On-Site) Box Lunch

Please indicate choice:

☐ Turkey/Swiss on Whole Wheat ☐ Fruit Salad Plate

_____ \$18.00 Friday (On-Site) Box Lunch

Please indicate choice:

☐ Veggie Wrap ☐ Italian Hoagie

Method of Payment:

Payment is due with registration form.

Total Amount Due \$ _____

Please check one:

☐ Enclosed is check payable to IDEC

☐ Enclosed is purchase order

☐ Charge to the following card: ☐ MC ☐ Visa

Please note: There is a \$10 surcharge when using purchase orders and \$5 surcharge when using credit card for payment.

Card

Number _____ Expiration Date _____

Signature (Credit card registration only)

Please print cardholder's name _____

For Office Use Only:

Date In: _____

Check # _____ Amount: _____

Method of Payment: ☐ Check ☐ Purchase Order ☐ Charge

Please mail completed registration form and payment to:

Sharing A Vision Conference

3705 Lincoln Trail • Taylorville, IL 62568

Workshop Selection

In order to help us assign room space for each workshop, participants are asked to indicate their preference of workshops for each time period. Participants will not be held to the choices made here, and indicating a preference does not guarantee participants a slot for a particular workshop. This information is only used to assign presenters to rooms. A description of each workshop appears in the program portion of this brochure on pages 6-16.

THURSDAY MORNING HALF DAY SESSION — 8:00 AM–11:45 AM

- ☐ Teacher's Role in the Development of Social Competence Katz
- ☐ Looking Through the Eyes of Boys & Girls. Hodgins

THURSDAY SESSION I — 8:00 AM–10:00 AM

- ☐ Cultural Sensitivity Abrahamson
- ☐ Moving . . . Precious Cargo! Andersen/Cipriano/Allen
- ☐ Using Program Evaluation Data Chamberlain/Kallenbach
- ☐ Technology Tools Clark/Bell
- ☐ Creating a Classroom Environment . . . Davis/Haage/Schnake/Johannes
- ☐ Relationships, Environments & Teaching Strategies . . Doubet/Quesenberry
- ☐ Storytelling Gorham
- ☐ Watching & Documenting Children's Development Gronlund
- ☐ Meeting the Needs of Diverse Learners Kremer/Atherton
- ☐ Tiny Tunes Peterson
- ☐ Block Play Piper
- ☐ Instructional Strategies for Teaching Santos
- ☐ Laugh, Lighten Up & Live Van Donk

THURSDAY SESSION II — 10:15 AM–11:45 AM

- ☐ Interactive Software Bell/Clark
- ☐ Sustaining Relationships Bollero
- ☐ Sensory Integration Bryze
- ☐ Developing Literacy Skills Chamberlain/Becker-Hall/Davis/Ondera
- ☐ Discovering the Treasures Cornille-Cannady
- ☐ Collaborative Therapy Services Daly
- ☐ Social Emotional Development Dunn-Steinke/Paredes
- ☐ IEP Basics Fisher
- ☐ What Is This Child Trying to Tell Me? Frisbie
- ☐ Whipping Around & Popping Corn Kluth
- ☐ A Scribble A Day Brings A Writer Your Way Rosinia
- ☐ Come and Make a Circle Salidor
- ☐ Managing Differences Between Families & Educators Smith

THURSDAY AFTERNOON HALF DAY SESSION — 1:00 PM–4:45 PM

- ☐ Creating a Shared Learning Environment Graves

THURSDAY SESSION III — 1:00 PM–3:00 PM

- ☐ Messy Mixtures Cavanaugh
- ☐ Assistive Technology Christ
- ☐ Taming Tempers Frisbie
- ☐ Different Children, Different Needs Hocking
- ☐ Writing Meaningful IEPs Larkin
- ☐ Appreciating Diversity Lee
- ☐ Using a Clinical Supervision Model to Support Self-Reflection Ostrosky/Hughes
- ☐ H.U.M. II Peterson
- ☐ These Kids Don't Speak English! Sanchez-Lopez
- ☐ Pieces of the Puzzle: Sensory Challenges Segroves
- ☐ S.O.S. Support Our Siblings! Slaght
- ☐ Raising Jack: A Journey About Living with Autism Valentine
- ☐ Blended Early Childhood Classrooms Whalen
- ☐ If You're Happy and You Know It! Yates

THURSDAY SESSION IV — 3:15 PM–4:45 PM

- ☐ Children of Prisoners: How Can We Help? Archibald
- ☐ Challenging Behavior & Positive Intervention Strategies Chandler
- ☐ An Introduction to Work Sampling Illinois Davis/Johannes/Danner
- ☐ Seizure Disorders & Children Gattone
- ☐ Transition: Now That I'm Three, Where Will I Be? Ginther
- ☐ Addressing the Needs of Children Hemmeter
- ☐ Move It Or Lose It/Storytelling Kane
- ☐ From Screening to Referral Kluzik-Stauch
- ☐ Peek Inside: Creative Environments Leff/Shugart
- ☐ Teaching ESL Students Osborne/Thimsen
- ☐ El desarrollo Socio Emocional de los Niños Paredes
- ☐ Gayby Boom – Beyond Stereotypes Rosinia
- ☐ Technology and Early Learning Ross
- ☐ Using the Project Approach Rothenberg/Patten

FRIDAY SESSION V — 10:15 AM–11:45 PM

- ☐ Bring Your Science Area to Life! Beneke
- ☐ Building Caring Classrooms Brown
- ☐ All Children Are STARS Bruns/Mogharreban
- ☐ Fussy Babies Gilkerson/Connor/Mork/Benson/Baker/Lee
- ☐ Deepening Project Work Harris Helm
- ☐ Representation: The Art of Critical Thinking Hertzog
- ☐ Paper-Free Standards and Assessment King
- ☐ SUPPORTS That WORK for Students with ASD Mazeika
- ☐ Making Math Meaningful for Young Children McKinney
- ☐ Creative Art with YOUNG Children Murphy
- ☐ Understanding Siblings of Children with Special Needs Ney
- ☐ Recommended Practices in Screening Preschoolers Ostrosky/Cheatham
- ☐ Don't Get Drawn In! Roope
- ☐ Campbell's Soup and Cantaloupe Sluga
- ☐ Neurobehavioral Observations Syc

FRIDAY SESSION VI — 1:00 PM–3:00 PM

- ☐ Introduction to Project Work Brouette
- ☐ Cortical . . . Visual . . . What? Ely
- ☐ Putting the POSITIVE in Discipline! Emser
- ☐ Illinois Early Learning Standards Five-2-Six King
- ☐ Understanding the Facts of Life in Adoption Kluzik-Stauch/Stigger
- ☐ Illinois Birth to Three Standards Kusmierek
- ☐ Quality Children's Literature Michalski
- ☐ Fizzle Bubble Pop & WOW! Murphy
- ☐ Autism: Positive Supports for Children with Autism Partridge
- ☐ Partnering with Parents Rockwell/Kniepkamp
- ☐ Communication Options for the Child Who is Deaf Scott
- ☐ Become a Brain! Searcy
- ☐ Embracing Diversity for Infants, Toddlers & Their Families Hawley
- ☐ Art Education for Young Learners Sutliff
- ☐ Computer Fun for Everyone Virgin

SHARING A VISION: Working Together for ALL Young Children

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Questions regarding registration or the conference?

Contact Susan Ferry 217/824-4776 or email sharingavision@aol.com