




2011 Sharing A Vision Keynotes and Workshops


Below are all of the presenters in chronological order by day and alphabetical order by the primary speaker. If you click on a class below, you will be directed to the speaker page that will outline the class description, time and location as well as the biography of all of the speakers involved in the presentation.


If the speaker is planning on providing handout and have chosen to allow us to post them on the website, then there will be a link to the handouts for you to download and bring with you to the class.


(Note: if the speaker has provided handouts to post on the website, then they are not planning on handing out anything during their presentation. If you plan on taking their class, you will need to print out the handouts yourself.)


Any workshops and Hot Topics that have been approved for Early Intervention credit have been noted at the end of each line with the credit hours that they are approved for under the column marked with 


TUESDAY, SEPT 27 – (8:00 AM – 10:00 AM) WORKSHOP SESSIONS I		ROOM	CAPACITY	
Bauer, Debelak	It's Contagious: 5 Easy Strategies to Change Your Child's Behavior	Plaza F	150	2.0
Benelli	Transforming Teaching through Observational Assessment	Plaza C	50	
Chambers	Leading with Heart in Times of Cardiac Arrest	Capital I	35	
Curtis	Wild, Wacky and Wonderful Art Experiences	Art Gallery Plaza E	60	2.0
Danner, Hughes	Using a Montessori Approach in Inclusive Preschool Classrooms	Capital IV	35	
Emser	The Art of Giving Meaningful Feedback	Illinois	60	
Frisbie	Taming Temper Tantrums	Plaza B	50	
Helmke, Garcia-Rodriguez, Bayro, Schwartz	CRACKERBARREL: Issues Related to Collaborating with Other EI Providers	Capital VI	35	2.0
Henry	Creating Classrooms for All Through Co-Teaching	Governors	60	
Hocking	Intentional Teaching with Mother Nature	Plaza A	50	2.0
Rambach	Music Therapy Techniques for School, Home and Play	Ruby Ballroom	120	2.0
Sullivan	Adaptations and Strategies for Working with Young Children with Visual Impairments	Capital V	35	2.0
Walti, Brainin, Jansen, Clark, Quoss	Curricular Adaptations for Diverse Learners	Plaza D	50	


TUESDAY, SEPT 27 – (10:15 AM – 11:45 AM) KEYNOTE		ROOM	CAPACITY	
Horne	Beyond Classification	Sapphire/Diamond/Emerald/Ruby Ballrooms on 2nd Floor	820	1.5


TUESDAY, SEPT 27 – (1:30 PM – 3:00 PM) WORKSHOP SESSIONS II		ROOM	CAPACITY	
Barrett-Zitkus	Outcomes in Action	Capital VI	35	1.5
Brown, Brown	Designing Inclusive Lives with Families	Capital II	35	1.5
Davis, McDowell	Assess and Align: PreK to Kindergarten	Illinois	60	
Hughes, Hile, Czopek	Home Visiting Challenges and Dilemmas	Plaza F	150	1.5
Kind	Outcomes: Gathering and Using Quality Data in Your Early Childhood Program	Capital V	35	
Moore, Friye	Teaching Them All --- Success in the Blended Classroom	Plaza B	50	
Oldham	It's All Geek To Me: Using the iPod/iPad for Teaching Our Children	Plaza A	50	
Polites	Teaching Children Traumatized by Violence: Assessment Guidelines & Intervention Tools	Capital III	35	
Sharapan	Helping Children Want to Become Readers and Writers	Ruby Ballroom	120	.75
Shugart, Leff	It's Good to be Outside!	Plaza D	50	
Silverman, Resener	A Speech/Language Perspective on Second Language Acquisition	Plaza C	50	
Walters, Fisher	Developing Effective Programs for Young Children: From the Board Room, to the Classroom, to the Home	Capital I	35	
Weisman, Brea	A Positive 'Beehavior' Program for Preschoolers	Capital IV	35	
Williams, Israelson	The Perfect Storm: Successfully Navigating the Turbulent Waters of Challenging Behaviors	Governors	60	


TUESDAY, SEPT 27 – (3:15 PM – 4:45 PM) WORKSHOP SESSIONS III		ROOM	CAPACITY	
Brouette	Children's Scientific Experimentation Through Project Work	Capital V	35	
Chamberlain	English Language Learners (These Children Don't Speak English: What should I do?)	Plaza C	50	
Fisher, Musielski	Early Intervention to Early Childhood: Strategies that Work	Capital VI	35	1.5
Hollis	Strategies for Successful School/Family Meetings	Capital I	35	1.5


TUESDAY, SEPT 27 – (3:15 PM – 4:45 PM) WORKSHOP SESSIONS III		ROOM	CAPACITY	
Jones-Bock, Michalak	Supporting Students with ASD	Plaza B	50	
Kluzik-Stauch	What's New in Assessment? Taking a look at Teaching Strategies GOLD for Progress Monitoring	Plaza D	50	
Light-Shriner, Vowels, Wolowiec-Fisher	Effective Classroom Practices: AAC Ideas and Strategies for Challenging Preschool Children with Disabilities	Capital IV	35	
Notter	Yoga with Children	Plaza F	150	1.5
Ostrosky, Meyer	“Why does Ian sniff the bricks?” Creating Communities of Acceptance in Early Childhood Classrooms	Illinois	60	
Quesenberry	Teach Me What To Do! Promoting Social and Emotional Competence and Preventing Challenging Behaviors	Plaza A	50	
Sharapan	What Do You Do with the Mad that You Feel? Helping Children Deal with Their Angry Feelings	Ruby Ballroom	120	
Weisheit	The Effects of Methamphetamine on Children and Families	Governors	60	1.5
Yates & Fetting	Animals, Senses and Backyard Creatures! Embedding Literacy Opportunities Across Themes	Emerald Ballroom	175	

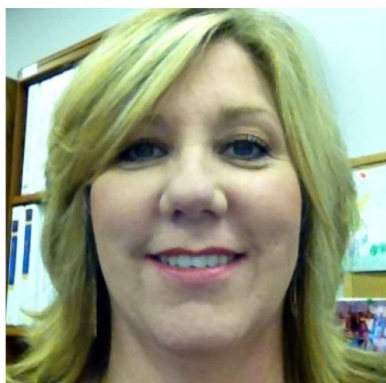
TUESDAY, SEPT 27 – (10:15 AM – 11:45 AM) KEYNOTE		ROOM	CAPACITY	
Foppe	Within Reach	Sapphire/Diamond/Emerald/Ruby Ballrooms on 2nd Floor	820	1.5

WEDNESDAY, SEPT 28 – (10:15 AM – 11:45 AM) WORKSHOP SESSIONS IV		ROOM	CAPACITY	
Brown, Kraus	Sisterhood of the Traveling Suitcases	Capital III	35	1.5
Carrillo	Understanding and Working with Hispanic/Latino Families	Plaza C	50	1.5
Chvostal-Schmidt, Dauksas	Differentiated Leadership: Teacher and Leader Perspectives	Capital VI	35	
Clark	Click. What is this? Snap. Now do you know?	Governors	60	
Curtis	Wild, Wacky and Wonderful Art Experiences	Plaza E	60	1.5
Faust	Cooking up Reading Skills	Plaza D	50	

WEDNESDAY, SEPT 28 – (10:15 AM – 11:45 AM) WORKSHOP SESSIONS IV		ROOM	CAPACITY	
Fettig, Yates	Why, What and How of Testing Emergent Literacy Learning	Plaza B	50	
Hoelscher	Hitting a Home Run with the PQA: Steps to Improving Quality Using HighScope's Program Quality Assessment	Capital II	35	
Hojnoski, Missall	Assessing and Supporting Early Mathematics in the Classroom	Plaza A	50	
Hood, Miller-Young, Chandler, Shields	Developing Leaders to Align and Coordinate Early Learning and K-12 Programs and Schools	Capital V	35	
Knollhoff, Nelson	Strategies for Including and Supporting the Child with Autism in Any Setting	Ruby Ballroom	120	1.5
Miller, Kuhlemeier	Children as Individual Learners	Capital I	35	1.5
Roope	Don't Get Drawn In! How to Stay Out of Power Struggles With Children	Plaza F	150	
Salisbury, Copeland	Taking a Closer Look at Collaboration During Home Visits	Capital IV	35	1.5
Thompson, Bruns	Feeding Young Children: Developmental Considerations, Concerns and Strategies	Illinois	60	1.5

WEDNESDAY, SEPT 28 – (1:30 PM – 3:00 PM) WORKSHOP SESSIONS V		ROOM	CAPACITY	
Beneke	Look! They're Working Together!	Illinois	60	
Breese	Basic Everyday Sign Language for Young Children	Plaza A	50	1.5
Chandler, Miller-Young, Snow, Phillips, Schrubbe, Herrell	Leadership Strategies to Ensure We Meet Children's Needs with Targeted Interventions: Examining the Link between "R" and "I" in RtI (Response to Intervention)	Plaza B	50	
Clark	Introduction to the "Early Childhood Environmental Rating Scale"	Capital V	35	
Darragh-Ernst	Supporting Social Inclusion in Early Childhood Classrooms	Plaza C	50	.75
Drake, Kubetz	Using Teacher-made Grid and Path Games to Foster Young Children's Mathematics Knowledge and Dispositions	Plaza D	50	
Hoelscher	Mission Transition: Activities to Support Phonological Awareness	Governors	60	
Johnson	Green Kids in our Classrooms & Homes	Capital I	35	1.5
Martinez	Transitioning to Inclusive Kindergarten	Capital IV	35	

WEDNESDAY, SEPT 28 – (1:30 PM – 3:00 PM) WORKSHOP SESSIONS V		ROOM	CAPACITY	
Matticks	Play Without Limits! Assessing Assistive Technology Needs	Capital VI	35	1.5
Pinzino	Come Children, Sing!	Ruby Ballroom	120	1.5
Roope	Working with Families - When Values Collide	Plaza F	150	1.5



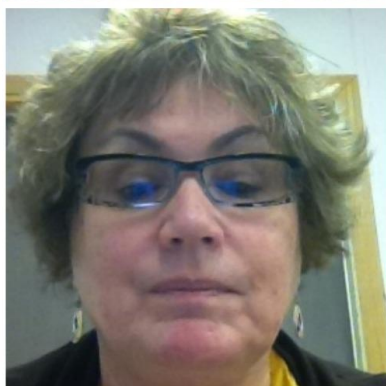
WORKSHOP SESSION I

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Date: Tuesday, September 27
Room: Plaza F
Time: 8:00 am - 10:00 am



It's Contagious: 5 Easy Strategies to Change Your Child's Behavior



Community (0-5) Introduction

Presented by: Sheila Bauer and Joan Debelak, Resource Specialists, Illinois STAR NET Region VI

Children do the most amazing things and sometimes what they do leaves parents puzzled, maybe even frustrated. This workshop draws from Positive Solutions for Families developed by the Center on the Social and Emotional Foundations for Early Learning (CSEFEL). Presenters will offer research on understanding behavior and specific strategies to make those frustrating times a lot easier.

Biography

Sheila Bauer and **Joan Debelak** are employed as Resource Specialists for STAR NET Region VI and are social workers and parents of children with special needs. Both have been involved in early intervention and early childhood for many years and have been presenting trainings locally and at state conferences on behavior, including Conscious Discipline and the curriculum developed by the Center on the Social and Emotional Foundations for Early Learning (CSEFEL) for the last five years.

Handouts

[5 Strategies to Change Your Child's Behavior](#)

[5 Strategies to Change Your Child's Behavior – Supplemental Information](#)

Approved for 2.0 hours of Early Intervention credit.

WORKSHOP SESSION I

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Date: Tuesday, September 27
Room: Plaza C
Time: 8:00 am - 10:00 am

Transforming Teaching through Observational Assessment

Assessment (0-8) Intermediate

Presented by: Dr. Cecelia Benelli, Professor, Western Illinois University

If you currently use observational assessment in your classroom, but struggle with aspects of it, this presentation will address the challenges of “Capturing what I see”, “Understanding what I see” and “Using what I see” to benefit children’s learning and development.

Biography

Dr. Cecelia Benelli is a Professor of Early Childhood Education at Western Illinois University where she teaches undergraduate and graduate courses in assessment, child development, and curriculum. She has worked extensively with classroom teachers on assessment practices and is a WSS-IL trainer.

Handouts

No handouts available at this time.



WORKSHOP SESSION I

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Date: Tuesday, September 27
Room: Capital I
Time: 8:00 am - 10:00 am

Leading with Heart in Times of Cardiac Arrest

Leadership (0-8) Intermediate

Presented by: Dr. Christy Chambers, CEO, Beyond the Box, LLC

A job description is “WHAT” we do, and leading with heart is “HOW” we make it happen. Attend this workshop to identify strategies and tools to build switched on teams by practicing the principles of leading with heart. This workshop is designed for administrators and teacher leaders seeking strategies and resources to lead effective teams and be leaders in their own situations.

Biography

Dr. Christy Chambers is Past President, Council of Administrators of Special Education. She has 19 years experience as Superintendent/Executive Director of 3 special education joint agreements in Illinois, most recently “rewired” as former Superintendent of Special Education District of McHenry County. Christy is the author of numerous articles on leadership and the recently released book, *The Journey to Effective Leadership*. Christy is the CEO of Beyond the Box, LLC, a consulting group providing educational services to school districts, education agencies and companies. Christy is the 2008 CASE Harrie Selznick Leadership Award recipient and frequent speaker and trainer of teams in Illinois and across the country in *Leading with Heart in Times of Cardiac Arrest-TM*.

Handouts

[Leading with Heart](#)



WORKSHOP SESSION I

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Date: Tuesday, September 27
Room: Art Gallery Plaza E
Time: 8:00 am - 10:00 am



Wild, Wacky and Wonderful Art Experiences

Learning (0-5) Introduction

Presented by: Ann Curtis, Former Director, Western Illinois University Infant and Preschool Center

Through this workshop you will learn about a variety of art projects not for the faint of heart. These are the things most teachers shy away from but children LOVE and become totally engaged in. These are the WILD things that make others say, "What was she thinking?"

Biography

Ann Curtis, MS.Ed., is the director/teacher of the Western Illinois University Infant and Preschool Center. She has been at the center since 1977 and has also taught early childhood and child development classes for WIU, Spoon River College, and Carl Sandburg College. Ann has presented trainings and workshops for many years for early childhood professionals and has written articles and shared ideas with several teaching and parenting magazines.

Handouts

[Wild Wacky Wonderful Art Experiences](#)

Approved for 2.0 hours of Early Intervention credit.

WORKSHOP SESSION I

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Date: Tuesday, September 27
Room: Capital IV
Time: 8:00 am - 10:00 am

Using a Montessori Approach in Inclusive Preschool Classrooms

Adapting (3-5) Introduction

Presented by: Natalie Danner, Doctoral Student and Mary-Alayne Hughes, Clinical Associate Professor, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign

This workshop provides information about the Montessori approach and highlights ways in which this approach can be applied within early childhood inclusive environments.

Biography

Natalie Danner is a doctoral student in the Department of Special Education at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign. For the past ten years, she taught and led early childhood preschool inclusion programs in Montessori, Head Start, and city-funded schools in New York City and Arizona. She has an early childhood teaching credential from the American Montessori Society and a M.S.E. in Early Childhood Special Education from Fordham University. Her research interests include pre-service teacher education for inclusive preschool settings.

Mary-alayne Hughes is a Clinical Associate Professor at the University of Illinois in Urbana-Champaign. She has worked in a variety of roles in the field of early intervention and early childhood special education for the past 30 years. Currently, she teaches ECSE coursework and supervises students in the Department of Special Education. She is interested in relationship-based early intervention, and coordinates a practicum playgroup experience for early childhood special education students. She is also the Director of a federal pre-service training grant entitled Preparing Relationship-based Early Intervention and Early Childhood Special Education (PREP II Project).

Handouts

[Using a Montessori Approach In Inclusive Preschool Classrooms](#)



WORKSHOP SESSION I

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Date: Tuesday, September 27

Room: Illinois

Time: 8:00 am - 10:00 am

The Art of Giving Meaningful Feedback

Peaceful (0-8) Advanced

Presented by: Dina Emser, Professional Development Coach, Emser International

You will achieve greater understanding of giving effective, meaningful, clear feedback, in light of its power to encourage and teach. These feedback techniques can be used with staff members, volunteers, student workers and parents. You will gain information and tools to use right away delivered through short lecture, large group discussion and small group practice.

Biography

Dina Emser is a Certified Positive Discipline lead trainer with over 30 years of experience in education. She has taught every grade level from kindergarten through eighth grade as well as college level students, teachers and parents. For nine years she served as the principal of an elementary/middle school whose staff incorporated Positive Discipline principles including classroom meetings. Currently Dina works as a Certified Professional Coach and Educational Consultant working with individuals, schools and organizations.

Handouts

[The Art of Giving Meaningful Feedback](#)

WORKSHOP SESSION I

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Date: Tuesday, September 27
Room: Plaza B
Time: 8:00 am - 10:00 am

Taming Temper Tantrums

Peaceful (3-8) Intermediate

Presented by: Elizabeth Frisbie, Mental Health Consultant

You will learn the cycle of an angry outburst and discover effective techniques to reduce tantrum behaviors and manage outbursts. Identifying triggers, helping children calm and release angry feelings appropriately will all be covered.

Biography

Elizabeth Frisbie has worked with young children, their families and teachers for over 20 years as a behavior specialist, psychotherapist and educator. She holds masters degrees in clinical child psychology and education.

Handouts

No handouts available at this time.



WORKSHOP SESSION I

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Date: Tuesday, September 27
Room: Capital VI
Time: 8:00 am - 10:00 am



CRACKERBARREL: Issues Related to Collaborating with Other EI Providers

Community (0-3) Intermediate

Presented by: Michel Helmke, Speech Pathologist; Myriam Garcia-Rodriguez, Developmental Therapist; Grethel Bayro, Speech Pathologist; and Orit Schwartz, Occupational Therapist, University of Illinois-Chicago Child and Family Development Center

This workshop is designed to be a highly participatory structured dialogue about issues in the Early Intervention (EI) system that impact EI providers' ability to collaborate with others who serve the same child/family. We hope to surface recommendations, as well as issues, that can be shared with policy personnel in Illinois.

Biography



Michel Helmke is a licensed Speech-Language Pathologist with both provider and evaluator early intervention credentials. He received his M.S. from Eastern Illinois University in 1987. He has been practicing as a speech therapist for 25 years, with 15 years experience in early intervention. He has been employed at CFDC for the past 12 years. His particular interest is communication disorders in young children.



Myriam Garcia-Rodriguez is a credentialed Developmental Therapist and evaluator/provider in the IL Early Intervention system. She received her master's degree in Child Development in 1993 from Loyola University. She has been involved in early intervention for 13 years and is a provider at the UIC Child & Family Development Center in Chicago. Her specialization involves delivering EI services to children who have developmental delays and are Spanish speaking, and coaching monolingual and bilingual Spanish caregivers.

Grethel Bayro is a bilingual licensed Speech-Language Pathologist and a credentialed provider and evaluator in the IL Early Intervention system. She received her Master of Science degree in 2007 from Rush University. She has been involved in early intervention for four years and is a provider at the UIC Child & Family Development Center in Chicago. Her areas of interest include motor speech disorders, autism spectrum disorders, and feeding disorders. She coaches families dealing with these issues in complex urban settings.

Orit Schwartz is a licensed Occupational Therapist and a credentialed evaluator/provider in the IL Early Intervention system. She received her Master's degree in Occupational Therapy at the University of Illinois in Chicago and she also holds a Master's degree in Adult Education from National Louis University. She has been involved in early intervention for five years and currently works as a provider and evaluator at the UIC Child & Family Development Center in Chicago. Orit works with a diverse population of children and families in complex urban homes and neighborhoods. Her specializations include working with children with SI difficulties or ASD, children with neurological problems, and children with complex medical histories.

Handouts

No handouts at this time.

Approved for 2.0 hours of Early Intervention credit.



WORKSHOP SESSION I

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Date: Tuesday, September 27
Room: Governors
Time: 8:00 am - 10:00 am

Creating Classrooms for All Through Co-Teaching

Leadership (3-5) Introduction

Presented by: Denise Henry, Senior Consultant/Resource Consultant, STAR_{NET} Region IV

This workshop will look at models of collaboration and co-teaching as ways to support children with IEPs in a variety of Early Childhood settings. The roles of general educators, special educators, and related service providers will all be discussed. Together we'll explore ideas and create solutions to key issues including planning, meeting individual needs, and implementing a variety of models of classroom support.

Biography

Denise Henry has a Master of Arts degree in Early Childhood Special Education. As a past general education teacher, Denise has worked with students who have a variety of abilities. After teaching in the classroom, Denise was a consultant for Project CHOICES to help promote and support the inclusion of students with disabilities in general education classrooms. Now with STAR NET Region IV, Denise strives to provide resources and information about good teaching strategies that can be used with ALL children.

Handouts

Handouts available in class only.



WORKSHOP SESSION I

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Date: Tuesday, September 27
Room: Plaza A
Time: 8:00 am - 10:00 am



Intentional Teaching with Mother Nature

Introduction (0-8) Learning

Presented by: Barbara Hocking, Child Development Specialist/Early Childhood Consultant

This workshop will focus on the importance of introducing nature to our young explorers. Explore the outdoors in four seasons with suggestions for activities that stimulate the senses, provide relaxation, and allow children to develop in all domains. Help children to find opportunities for learning in their own backyard and to develop what Howard Gardner has named their Naturalist Intelligence.

Biography

Barbara Hocking has a B.S. in Communicative Disorders and an M.A. in Education of the Auditorily Impaired from DePaul University, Chicago, IL. She is teacher certified in Illinois in the areas of Deaf and Hard of Hearing and Early Childhood and has over 25 years of experience working with children Birth to age 5 with special needs. Barbara is an Early Childhood Consultant for the Chicago Botanic Garden Center for Teaching and Learning and for community preschools and day care centers as well as a Developmental Therapist/Evaluator - Hearing Specialist for the Illinois Early Intervention System. She is an Adjunct faculty at Benedictine University and have been a presenter at State, National and International conferences since 1987.

Handouts

Handouts available in class only.

Approved for 2.0 hours of Early Intervention credit.



WORKSHOP SESSION I

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Date: Tuesday, September 27
Room: Ruby Ballroom
Time: 8:00 am - 10:00 am



Music Therapy Techniques for School, Home and Play

Adapting (0-8) Introduction

Presented by: Rachel Rambach, Music Therapist, Music Therapy Connections

Music is an effective tool for learning and growing. The music therapy-based tips, resources, songs and interventions in this session are designed to help children meet important developmental objectives while having FUN. You will receive instruction on leading evidence-based musical activities both in the classroom and at home.

Biography

Rachel Rambach, MM, MT-BC is a board-certified music therapist in Springfield, IL. She owns a private practice called Music Therapy Connections and an online resource called Listen & Learn Music (www.listenlearnmusic.com). Rachel specializes in work with children of all ages and abilities. She is a published songwriter and has a studio album called Time to Sing Hello.

Handouts

No handouts will be distributed.

Approved for 2.0 hours of Early Intervention credit.

WORKSHOP SESSION I

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Date: Tuesday, September 27
Room: Capital V
Time: 8:00 am - 10:00 am



Adaptations and Strategies for Working with Young Children with Visual Impairments

Adapting (0-3) Introduction

Presented by: Susan Sullivan, Early Intervention Educator, Illinois School for the Visually Impaired

Young children born with vision loss face the challenge of learning about their environment without sight. Parents and early interventionists will be introduced to strategies for adapting toys and environments for these children in order to teach developmental concepts through play.

Biography

Susan Sullivan received her Bachelor's degree from Illinois State University in teaching children with visual impairments. She earned her Master's degree in early childhood special education from the University of Illinois. She is currently working as an early intervention educator at the Illinois School for the Visually Impaired.

Handouts

No handouts available at this time.

Approved for 2.0 hours of Early Intervention credit.

WORKSHOP SESSION I

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Date: Tuesday, September 27
Room: Plaza D
Time: 8:00 am - 10:00 am

Curricular Adaptations for Diverse Learners

Learning (3-5) Intermediate

Presented by: Barbara Walti, Coordinator of Early Childhood Assessment Teams; Ilyse Brainin, EC Literacy Coach; Michelle Clark, EC Deaf and Hard of Hearing Teacher; Therese Quoss, Program Supervisor, Special Education District of Lake County (SEDOL)

This workshop will be an overview of SEDOL's Early Childhood Curriculum and our Model Classroom Handbook for Early Childhood based on the *Creative Curriculum for Preschool, 4th Ed.* SEDOL's Units of Study create a foundation for the development and implementation of diverse learners. Adaptations and examples of our curriculum for a variety of learners will be presented.

Biography

Barbara Walti currently holds a Master's Degree in Early Childhood Special Education and School Administration. She is currently the Coordinator of Early Childhood Assessment Teams at the Special Education District of Lake County where she conducts eligibility evaluations for Part B of IDEA for her member's districts. She also coordinates her district's Early Childhood Discipline and provides Creative Curriculum training to those Early Childhood educators.

Handouts

No handouts available at this time.



KEYNOTE SPEAKER

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Date: Tuesday, September 27, 2011
Time: 10:15 AM – 11:45 AM
Room: Sapphire/Diamond/Emerald/Ruby Ballrooms
on 2nd Floor



Beyond Classification

Presented by: LeDerick Horne

LeDerick Horne was classified as neurologically impaired in the third grade. Despite this diagnosis, and the effect it had on his self-image, LeDerick was able to graduate from high school, earn a B.A. from New Jersey City

University, become a nationally recognized poet and start his own property management company. His presentation will address a variety of issues through LeDerick's personal struggle as a student with a learning disability and will utilize the wealth of information that he has collected as an advocate for people who have been labeled as disabled. LeDerick will specifically address increasing the performance and confidence of students with disabilities, self-determination, and self-advocacy. This emotionally moving presentation is filled with empowering information and moving verse that will help the audience improve the quality of life for individuals with disabilities.

Biography

As a child, **LeDerick Horne** believed he did not have much of a future. But despite being classified as neurologically impaired in the third grade, LeDerick has become a successful spoken word poet, playwright, motivational speaker, entrepreneur, and advocate.

Using his gift for spoken word poetry as a teaching tool, LeDerick has been recognized across the country as a motivational speaker and advocate for people with disabilities. After graduating with honors from New Jersey City University in 2003 with a BA in Mathematics and a minor in Fine Art, LeDerick released Rhyme Reason and Song (2005), an album of his poetry set to music, and he co-created and performed in New Street Poets, a spoken word play addressing gentrification's affect on urban culture which received great critical acclaim at the New York City International Fringe Festival in 2007, and is currently touring throughout the northeast.

LeDerick has facilitated workshops, delivered keynote presentations, and spoken to thousands of students, teachers, and service providers about his experiences and is currently the board chair of Project Eye-to-Eye (projecteyetoeye.org), a national nonprofit that provides mentoring programs for students labeled LD/ADHD.

Handouts

No handouts will be distributed.

Approved for 1.5 hours of Early Intervention credit.

WORKSHOP SESSION II

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Date: Tuesday, September 27
Room: Capital VI
Time: 1:30 pm - 03:00 pm



Outcomes in Action

Assessment (0-3) Intermediate

Presented by: Jennifer Barrett-Zitkus, Regional Training Consultant, IL Early Intervention Training Program and IL Medical Diagnostic Network Coordinator for Lutheran General Children's Hospital

Since understanding typical development is the foundation of the child outcomes process, this workshop will give you the opportunity to strengthen and refresh your understanding of typical development in infants and toddlers and gain a deeper understanding of how to make the child outcomes summary form work by embedding it into the IFSP process. This session will also allow you to problem solve and discuss challenging situations and special circumstances from the field.

Biography

Jennifer Barrett-Zitkus is a Regional Training Consultant for the Illinois Early Intervention Training Program and she believes that Early Intervention supports families so they can enhance their child's development and participate in family and community activities. In addition to her role with the EI Training Program she is the Illinois Medical Diagnostic Network Coordinator for Lutheran General Children's Hospital, which provides technical assistance to Child and Family Connections # 2 in Lake County, IL. As the IMDN Coordinator, Jennifer gives training, support and provides quality assurance in early intervention to providers, parents and service coordinators. Jennifer also has a private practice, Early Intervention Direction, providing developmental evaluations, consultations, trainings and support to families and agencies.

Jennifer brings over 20 years of experience in the field of early intervention to the Illinois EI Training team and is a member of the Council for Exceptional Children (CEC) and the Division for Early Childhood (DEC) and served on the Governing Board for the American Association of Home-Based Early Interventionist (AABEI) and currently is a board member on the Illinois Developmental Therapist Association.

Handouts

[Child Outcomes in Action](#)

Approved for 1.5 hours of Early Intervention credit.



WORKSHOP SESSION II

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Date: Tuesday, September 27
Room: Capital II
Time: 1:30 pm - 03:00 pm



Designing Inclusive Lives with Families

Community (0-8) Intermediate

Presented by: Bridget and Nancy Brown, Butterflies for Change

You will be inspired by the story of Bridget Brown, a young woman with Down syndrome and her mother, Nancy, a leader in her child's education as you learn tools and strategies that you can share with families that will help them to be leaders in their children's lives.

Biography

Bridget Brown is a young woman with Down Syndrome who was the first person included in her district. She is a national speaker, a person-centered planning coach, a guest speaker for Project CHOICES (ISBE) and an advocate for all children with disabilities.

Nancy Brown is an Inclusion Consultant with Project CHOICES as well as Bridget's mother. Nancy has worked with children and adults with disabilities for 30 years. She works with educators, families and school districts to help facilitate inclusive education. Nancy also works with families who have children with disabilities to learn how to be leaders in their child's life.

Handouts

[Parents Review Overview](#)

[MAP Summary for Parents](#)

[MAP Booklet for Families of Young Children](#)

Approved for 1.5 hours of Early Intervention credit.

WORKSHOP SESSION II

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Date: Tuesday, September 27
Room: Illinois
Time: 1:30 pm - 03:00 pm

Assess and Align: PreK to Kindergarten

Assessment (3-8) Intermediate

Presented by: Vicki Davis and Jamie McDowell, Quincy Public Schools #172

Helping children transition from PreK to kindergarten can be supported by aligning assessment practices between the two programs. You will learn examples of shared assessments, how and when to assess and the benefits that can be achieved.

Biography

Jamie McDowell is a veteran elementary and EC teacher. She currently serves as the Literacy Coach for Quincy Early Childhood and has experience with leading staff in assessment and curriculum reviews, as well as implementing PBIS.

Vicki Davis is a veteran educator and presenter with over 25 years in education. She is currently the Education Coordinator for Quincy Early Childhood and has a wealth of knowledge and experience to share.

Handouts

No handouts available at this time.

WORKSHOP SESSION II

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Date: Tuesday, September 27
Room: Plaza F
Time: 1:30 pm - 03:00 pm



Home Visiting Challenges and Dilemmas

Community (0-3) Advanced

Presented by: Mary-alayne Hughes, Clinical Associate Professor, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign; Kimberly Hile, Independent Developmental Therapist and Supervising Service Coordinator, Child and Family Connections; and Laura Czopek, Toddler Teacher, Two Rivers Early Head Start

Early Intervention services are typically delivered through home visits. However, home visiting can be challenging for a variety of reasons (e.g., what to do when siblings are present; how to incorporate bagless therapy). This presentation will emphasize a problem-solving approach to addressing some of these challenges and dilemmas.

Biography

Mary-Alayne Hughes is a Clinical Associate Professor at the University of Illinois in Urbana-Champaign. She has worked in a variety of roles in the field of early intervention and early childhood special education for the past 30 years. Currently, she teaches ECSE coursework and supervises students in the Department of Special Education. She is interested in relationship-based early intervention, and coordinates a practicum playgroup experience for early childhood special education students. She is also the Director of a federal pre-service training grant entitled Preparing Relationship-based Early Intervention and Early Childhood Special Education (PREP II Project).

Kimberly Hile is the parent of a child who was born prematurely. She is also an Independent Developmental Therapist and the Supervising Service Coordinator with Child and Family Connections in Champaign County. She has over seven years experience conducting home visits for families that have children with special needs or who are considered at risk for developmental delays. She graduated with her Masters degree in Early Childhood Special Education from the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, with a focus on working with children birth to three with special needs. Kimberly especially enjoys working with pregnant and parenting teens in order to provide parental education and to help teens form positive bonds with their infants and toddlers.

Laura Czopek is an Independent Developmental Therapist in the northwest Chicago suburbs. She has also worked as a toddler teacher for Early Head Start. Laura earned her Masters of Education, with a focus on Early Childhood Special Education, birth to age three, from the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign. Laura practices “bagless therapy” in Early Intervention and enjoys working with children diagnosed with an Autism Spectrum Disorder.

Handouts

[Home Visiting Challenges and Dilemmas](#)

Approved for 1.5 hours of Early Intervention credit.

WORKSHOP SESSION II

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Date: Tuesday, September 27
Room: Capital V
Time: 1:30 pm - 03:00 pm

Outcomes: Gathering and Using Quality Data in Your Early Childhood Program

Adapting (3-5) Intermediate

Presented by: Nancy Kind, Early Childhood Program Administrator, NSSD

As early childhood special education providers, we are all required to collect and submit early childhood outcome data. This interactive workshop will provide practical strategies for the utilization of this data to inform program planning and effective instruction. This session would be beneficial for new EC team members and administrators who are looking for ways to use this data to make an impact in their program.

Biography

Nancy Kind is an administrator of Early Childhood and Educational Life Skills programs at NSSD. She works with teachers and related service staff as well as school districts and community Early Childhood programs to provide special education service. Nancy has presented at the national, state and local levels on topics related to Early Childhood outcomes and R&I at the EC level.

Handouts

No handouts available at this time.

WORKSHOP SESSION II

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Date: Tuesday, September 27
Room: Plaza B
Time: 1:30 pm - 03:00 pm

Teaching Them All --- Success in the Blended Classroom

Adapting (3-5) Intermediate

Presented by: Denise Moore, Teacher and Dee Friye, Teacher, Quincy Public Schools #172

Teaching Them All is a session designed to provide information on how to meet the ever-increasing diversity of students' needs within the same classroom. It is possible to make learning fun, have students learn, meet IEP goals and the state standards!

Biography

Denise Moore has been teaching at Early Childhood for over twelve years. She has experience in a variety of inclusive settings including blended classrooms, co-teaching and integration into the regular room.

Dee Friye is an 18 year veteran of Quincy Early Childhood. She began as a PreK teacher and is now teaching a blended class, serving both the roles of regular and special educator.

Handouts

No handouts available at this time.

WORKSHOP SESSION II

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Date: Tuesday, September 27
Room: Plaza A
Time: 1:30 pm - 03:00 pm

It's All Geek To Me: Using the iPod/iPad for Teaching Our Children

Adapting (3-8) Introduction

Presented by: Carla Oldham, President, PROUDD

Join the new wave of educating our children with the iPod/ iPad. Using these handheld devices allows us to teach skills that are fun, functional and portable! We will explore and discuss a variety of applications, functions and programs to support your child in the school, community and at home including life skills, organization, communication and some fun with a function. You are encouraged to bring your iPod touch/iPads with you to play along!

Biography

Carla Oldham, B.S., is a professional and parent with a creative, fun and practical view of living and working with individuals with disabilities. She has worked with the disabled in many capacities both in the private and public sectors over the last 14 years. She divides her time up between working as President of Proud as a private consultant, as an Autism specialist for a state grant program and spending time with her family. Carla is a frequent presenter at local and state conferences and organizations. She states that she is no geek but loves finding practical ideas to support the many challenges faced by parents and educators working with our special people!

Handouts

No handouts available at this time.

WORKSHOP SESSION II

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Date: Tuesday, September 27
Room: Capital III
Time: 1:30 pm - 03:00 pm

Teaching Children Traumatized by Violence: Assessment Guidelines & Intervention Tools

Community (3-8) Intermediate

Presented by: Andrea Polites, Director of Counseling Services Program, Family Shelter Service

This workshop addresses the effects of trauma and witnessing domestic violence on brain development and children. You will learn to recognize and understand emotional, social, behavioral and educational consequences of exposure to family violence. Interventions to support educators and school staff in addressing trauma's impact on learning will be suggested and explored.

Biography

Andrea Polites graduated from Aurora University with an MSW, and is an LCSW and Certified Domestic Violence Professional. She received her Type 73 Certification in 2009 and interned with the DCFS Glen Ellyn Field office, has served as the Assistant Director of Counseling and Children's Services Coordinator with Family Shelter Services and is currently the Director of Counseling. Andrea has developed a Parenting Curriculum for working with victims of Domestic Violence and contributed to the development of a trauma informed services curriculum. She is presently participating in the IL Child Parent Learning Collaborative presented by Erikson University and the Harris Foundation, providing clinical supervision to interns and staff and teaching several sessions of the 48-hour Domestic Violence Training.

Handouts

No handouts available at this time.

WORKSHOP SESSION II

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Date: Tuesday, September 27
Room: Ruby Ballroom
Time: 1:30 pm - 03:00 pm



Helping Children Want to Become Readers and Writers

Learning (0-5) Introduction

Presented by: Hedda Sharapan, Director of Early Childhood Initiatives, The Fred Rogers Company

How can we set the foundation for a lifelong love of reading and writing? In this workshop we'll discuss "emergent literacy" through treasured video segments of a lullaby, traditional finger plays and Mister Rogers' Neighborhood visits with Ella Jenkins and Eric Carle! You'll come away with new ways to think about pre-literacy skills and learn creative ideas for helping children want to learn to read and write.

Biography

Hedda Sharapan recently celebrated her 44th year with Fred Rogers and the small nonprofit company that he founded, Family Communications, Inc, (FCI). She has been there since the very beginning of MISTER ROGERS' NEIGHBORHOOD and currently serves as Director of Early Childhood Initiatives. Continuing to carry on Fred Roger's legacy and building on her master's degree in Child Development from the University of Pittsburgh, her work includes writing for articles, books, and websites, along with creating and presenting professional development materials for early childhood educators, including a highly popular monthly newsletter. As ambassador on the road for the Neighborhood, she is a highly sought-after speaker at national and statewide education conferences.

Handouts

[From Lullabies to Literacy](#)

Approved for .75 hours of Early Intervention credit.

WORKSHOP SESSION II

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Date: Tuesday, September 27
Room: Plaza D
Time: 1:30 pm - 03:00 pm

It's Good to be Outside!

Learning (3-8) Intermediate

Presented by: Connie Shugart, Program Coordinator and Joan Leff, Early Childhood Resource Specialist, STAR_{NET} Regions I & III

Research shows that outdoor play is not only fun, but also essential to child growth and development. A well-designed outdoor classroom environment is as important as the indoor classroom environment. In this workshop we will discuss the value of outdoor time and the planning that goes into it. You will leave with ideas for turning your outdoor areas into engaging outdoor environments.

Biography

Connie Shugart is the Project Coordinator for STAR NET Regions I & II. She has been a Teacher/Trainer in the Early Childhood field for many years and has presented at numerous state and national conferences. Connie is the Executive producer and host of many of the Apples Video Magazines including several related to Early Childhood Environments.

Joan Leff is an early childhood resource specialist with numerous years of experience for STAR NET Regions I & III. Her past experiences have been in the early childhood profession, working with professionals as well as young children and their families in the Early Intervention, preschool and primary grade settings. Joan has presented at numerous local, state and national conferences and has been the Executive Producer of numerous Apples Video Magazine programs (a monthly in-service training program designed specifically around early childhood issues for professionals and families). Joan also has been a mentor for the Preschool for All programs. Joan has a Master's Degree in Early Childhood Special Education.

Handouts

[It's Good to be Outside](#)

WORKSHOP SESSION II

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Date: Tuesday, September 27
Room: Plaza C
Time: 1:30 pm - 03:00 pm

A Speech/Language Perspective on Second Language Acquisition

Adapting (3-5) Intermediate

Presented by: Nancy Silverman, Speech Pathologist, Wheeling School District #21 and Ann Resener, Teacher, Elgin U46 School District

This workshop will highlight the importance of using developmentally appropriate practices for language development when working with English Language Learners (ELL) ages 2-5 years in early childhood settings and include a discussion of strategies which teachers, providers and/or parents may successfully use when working with young ELL children.

Biography

Nancy Silverman is a Speech Language Pathologist who has worked in the field for over 20 years. She has worked in the Early Childhood Program in Wheeling School District for the last 15 years. Nancy has been instrumental in facilitating and integrating "best practice" in her role as a Speech /Language Pathologist in the blended early childhood program at the Hawthorn Early Childhood Center. Nancy is especially interested in Second Language Acquisition and aside from having the "everyday on the floor experiences" with the children; she also prides herself on being a conference "groupie". Nancy is also an Early Intervention Specialist who has had many experiences with ELL children and their families.

Anne Resener has had over 30 years as an SLP with a variety of experiences both school based and clinical settings. Anne has worked in Elgin U46 School District as a bilingual speech/language pathologist for the last 15 years as a therapist as well as supervisor of bilingual speech assistants.

One of Anne's roles in U46 is to evaluate ESL students. Anne is also involved in Early Intervention where her areas of expertise include oral motor and second language acquisition.

Handouts

No handouts available at this time.

WORKSHOP SESSION II

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Date: Tuesday, September 27
Room: Capital I
Time: 1:30 pm - 03:00 pm

Developing Effective Programs for Young Children: From the Board Room, to the Classroom, to the Home

Leadership (0-8) Intermediate

Presented by: Geneva Walters, Superintendent and Laura Fisher, Director of Teaching and Learning, SPEED Special Education Joint Agreement #802

This presentation will provide strategies for improving the educational environment for all students including those with mild, moderate and severe developmental delays. We will look at issues that impact all levels of the school system emphasizing, that in order to make effective changes, the vision and goal setting must begin with the Superintendent and extend to the building administrator, the classroom teacher, the student and parent.

Biography

Dr. Geneva Walters is the Superintendent of a Special Education district (SPEED) which serves students from 0 - 21. She began her career in Head Start and Prevention Initiative as a Family Resource Worker. She has worked as the Principal of a school with pre k - 3rd grade. Before transitioning to her current position, she worked as the Director of Human Resources.

Laura Fisher is currently the Director of Teaching and Learning at SPEED. She has worked in the field of education for over 20 years. Most of her career she worked with children ages 3-8.

Handouts

[Developing Effective Programs for Young Children](#)

WORKSHOP SESSION II

[Back to Top](#)

Date: Tuesday, September 27
Room: Capital IV
Time: 1:30 pm - 03:00 pm

A Positive “Beehavior” Program for Preschoolers

Peaceful (3-5) Introduction

Presented by: Martha Weisman, Teacher and Sylvia Brea, Social Worker, Wheeling School District 21

This presentation will provide you with information needed to develop your own school based positive behavior program. Presenters will highlight the process used to develop and implement this successful program used with a variety of EC students. Program specific posters, signs, songs, cheers and other behavior management tools will be available to preview – all related to “Buzzy Bee.”

Biography

Martha Weisman has been working with Early Childhood students for approximately 20 years. She has taught Early Childhood Special Education students and currently works in a blended Early Childhood classroom in Wheeling School District 21. Martha has presented at a previous Sharing A Vision Conference in the area of play based assessment.

Sylvia Brea is a school social worker and supports the students and families at the Early Childhood Program at School District 21 in Wheeling. Sylvia is a Spanish speaker who is a frequent presenter to parents of children in the preschool program.

Handouts

No handouts available at this time.



WORKSHOP SESSION II

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Date: Tuesday, September 27
Room: Governors
Time: 1:30 pm - 03:00 pm

The Perfect Storm: Successfully Navigating the Turbulent Waters of Challenging Behaviors

Peaceful (3-8) Introduction

Presented by: Tionia Williams, Teacher and Laura Israelson, Teacher, Valley View Early Childhood Center



Learn interventions and a system wide approach to meeting challenging behaviors of children from diverse backgrounds and students who have stress related behavior due to being expelled from preschool. Universal expectations will calm the perfect storm and sail the family, school and community into the sea of tranquility. This workshop will demonstrate how developing positive behavior is being accomplished in one Midwestern Early Childhood program and how it can be replicated.

Biography

Tionia Williams started her teaching career in the inner city of Chicago where she taught Preschool through Fifth grade for 10 years. She has experience working with students with challenging behaviors and preschool dropouts and has implemented many Tier 2 and 3 strategies to provide successful outcomes for these students. She is currently an early childhood teacher with the Valley View School District 365U Early Childhood Center in Romeoville Illinois where she is teaching blended classes with at-risk and special needs students. She is a member of the school-wide PBIS team and represents her school as an Internal Coach for the district where she has been instrumental in facilitating many of the practices at the Center at the Tier 1 level and she is a nationally requested presenter at state conferences throughout America.

Tionia received her undergraduate degree in Early Childhood from Iowa State University and will receive her Masters degree in Special Education at Lewis University in Romeoville, IL in the fall of 2010 where she will have her LSB1 Certification. She is currently working on her Masters in Educational Leadership through Concordia University

Laura Israelson is special education preschool teacher at Valley View Early Childhood Center in Romeoville, IL. Laura received her Bachelor's degree from Dominican University in River Forest, IL. She recently received her Masters degree in Early Childhood Special Education from Elmhurst College. She currently teaches a cross categorical classroom with children ranging from the ages of three to five years old. She has worked with preschool age children having a wide range of disabilities including Autism. She continuously adapts social-

emotional materials and lessons to fit the needs of all children in her class. Laura is a member of the school-wide PBIS team and has been instrumental in providing Tier 1 and 2 supports for students with special needs who display challenging behaviors. Laura works closely with team members to support staff with implementing universal expectations in her school.

Handouts

[The Perfect Storm: Successfully Navigating the Turbulent Waters of Challenging Behavior](#)



WORKSHOP SESSION III

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Date: Tuesday, September 27
Room: Capital V
Time: 3:15 pm - 04:45 pm

Children's Scientific Experimentation through Project Work

Learning (3-5) Introduction

Presented by: Scott Brouette, Lead Teacher, Western Illinois University Infant and Preschool Center

You will review actual experiments conceived and conducted by children 3-5 years of age as part of the Project Approach in the classroom. You will be introduced to the power of projects and the five steps in young children's scientific experimentation: Questioning, Planning, Material Gathering, Experimentation and Answers.

Biography

Scott Brouette has been working with young children ages 2-6 years in a University setting since 1986. He has received Bachelor of Science degrees from Illinois State University in Early Childhood Education, Psychology and Mass Communications and recently received a Masters degree in Early Childhood Education at WIU. Scott has been the Lead Teacher at the Western Illinois University Preschool Center since the fall semester of 2005 and has presented at conferences throughout the United States and New Zealand.

Handouts

No handouts available at this time.



WORKSHOP SESSION III

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Date: Tuesday, September 27
Room: Plaza C
Time: 3:15 pm - 04:45 pm

English Language Learners

Correct Title:

***These Children Don't Speak English:
What should I do?***

Adapting (3-8) Introduction

Presented by: Pat Chamberlain, Instructor, Erikson Institute

The Early Childhood classroom and curriculum offer teachers many opportunities for adapting and differentiating instruction for children learning two languages. This presentation will address factors that affect second language acquisition, how to determine levels of proficiency and strategies to maximize learning. Suggested resources will also be discussed.

Biography

Pat Chamberlain is currently working as a consultant with school districts and agencies on issues related to optimizing the educational opportunities for culturally diverse young children and their families. She also teaches coursework in Bilingual Special Education at the University of Illinois-Chicago and in Bilingual/ESL Early Childhood at the Erikson Institute in Chicago. She has worked in a variety of capacities since 1975. She has been a bilingual teacher, a teacher trainer at the Illinois Resource Center, a bilingual special education supervisor, and a director of Early Learners programs in School District U-46. She currently is a member of the Board of Directors for Two Rivers Headstart and the Linguistic and Cultural Diversity Committee of the Illinois Early Learning Council. Her most recent research and teacher training has been related to building strong foundational skills through play with young dual language learners.

Handouts

[These Children Don't Speak English: What should I do?](#)

WORKSHOP SESSION III

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Date: Tuesday, September 27
Room: Capital VI
Time: 3:15 pm - 04:45 pm



Early Intervention to Early Childhood: Strategies that Work

Community (0-3) Intermediate

Presented by: Lisa Fisher, Consultant and Gina Musielski, Resource Specialist, Illinois STAR NET Region II

Transitions from Early Intervention to Early Childhood programs can be a stressful and confusing time due to differences in eligibility, vocabulary, service delivery and even expectations. However, there are strategies and tools to help make this transition a smooth, timely and successful process. You will leave with strategies and guidelines to enhance the transition process from Early Intervention to Early Childhood programs.

Biography

Laura Fisher is currently the Director of Teaching and Learning at SPEED. She has worked in the field of education for over 20 years. Most of her career she worked with children ages 3-8.

Gina Musielski is a Family Resource Specialist for STAR NET Region II. Previously she was a Parent Liaison for Child and Family Connections in the Early Intervention System for 10 years. With a focus on support and resources for families during transition, Gina has assisted hundreds of families moving from Early Intervention to Early Childhood services. As a mother of two young teens, one of whom receives special education services, Gina has that "parent perspective" on strategies that help parents understand the special education system. In addition to life as a mom and her work at STAR NET, Gina was part of the workgroup that wrote the new state guide to transition: "When I Am Three, Where Will I Be?"

Handouts

[Early Intervention to Early Childhood: Strategies that Work](#)

Approved for 1.5 hours of Early Intervention credit.

WORKSHOP SESSION III

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Date: Tuesday, September 27
Room: Capital I
Time: 3:15 pm - 04:45 pm



Strategies for Successful School/Family Meetings

Community (0-8) Introduction

Presented by: Anne Hollis, Consultant, Project CHOICES

Meetings between families and schools can be an excellent way to strengthen communication and improve outcomes for a child. Yet so often meetings become obstacles in the process, rather than a vehicle for success. In this interactive workshop you will explore two key questions: What can school districts do to support families in meetings? What strategies can we share with families to help empower them to be active and equal participants in meetings?

Biography

Anne Hollis has both a Bachelor's and Master's degree in Education and first became involved with Project CHOICES in 2006, when she began attending workshops as a parent of two young daughters with Down Syndrome. Anne was looking for guidance on how to better advocate for inclusive educational opportunities for her children. Armed with the tools and education gained through Project CHOICES trainings, Anne worked with her local school district to adapt their preschool setting to include children of all abilities.

Handouts

No handouts available at this time.

Approved for 1.5 hours of Early Intervention credit.



WORKSHOP SESSION III

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Date: Tuesday, September 27
Room: Plaza B
Time: 3:15 pm - 04:45 pm

Supporting Students with Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD)

Adapting (3-8) Introduction

Presented by: Dr. Stacy Jones-Bock, Ph.D, Associate Professor and Nikki Michalak, Regional Consultant, Illinois State University

Many children with ASD respond positively to visual supports such as calendars, schedules, choice boards, first/then cards, and social stories. This interactive presentation will talk about and provide examples of multiple types of visual strategies that can be used in the home and in the classroom. It will also describe the difference between the Picture Exchange Communication System (PECS) and basic visual and environmental strategies. You will walk away with the resources necessary to create these essential supports.

Biography

Dr. Stacey Jones-Bock is an Associate Professor at Illinois State University. She has been in the field of autism as a teacher and teacher educator for approximately 17 years. She has published numerous professional articles and has made many professional presentations in the area of autism spectrum disorders, has coordinated a technical assistance project in Kansas and in Illinois, and is the Director of the Autism Spectrum Institute at Illinois State University.

Nikki Michalak, M.S. is the Central Regional Consultant for the Illinois Autism Training and Technical Assistance Project in conjunction with Illinois State University. She began working with individuals with developmental disabilities and autism in group home settings during her undergraduate program. Her graduate studies focused on behavioral psychology while working as a clinician in Illinois State University's Autism Clinic. She has been an integral part of writing and producing ISU's online autism course.

Handouts

No handouts available at this time.



WORKSHOP SESSION III

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Date: Tuesday, September 27
Room: Plaza D
Time: 3:15 pm - 04:45 pm

What's New in Assessment? Taking a Look at Teaching Strategies GOLD for Progress Monitoring

Assessment (3-5) Introduction

Presented by: Pat Kluzik-Stauch, Resource Specialist, STAR NET Region II

This workshop will introduce early childhood teachers and related service professionals to the new assessment system for young children: Teaching Strategies GOLD. This new authentic assessment system provides the background, support and information for teachers who want to measure the progress of each child in a meaningful way. This workshop will include the presentation and description of the GOLD components, hands-on exploration of GOLD and discussion of how GOLD can be used in a variety of classroom settings.

Biography

Pat Kluzik-Stauch has been a Resource Specialist for STAR NET Region II for more than 10 years of her 25-year career in Early Childhood Special Education. Pat's professional experiences range from her current work with STAR NET to teaching and consulting in community early childhood settings, early childhood special education classrooms and institutional settings. The primary focus of her work has been in serving young children with special needs, their parents and professionals with the goal of recognizing and building on the strengths that everyone has to offer.

Handouts

[What's New in Assessment?](#)

WORKSHOP SESSION III

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Date: Tuesday, September 27
Room: Capital IV
Time: 3:15 pm - 04:45 pm

Effective Classroom Practices: Augmentative and Alternative Communication (AAC) Ideas and Strategies for Challenging Preschool Children with Disabilities

Adapting (3-5) Intermediate

Presented by: Cheryl Light-Shriner, Clinical Assistant Professor and Kim Wolowiec-Fisher, Doctoral Candidate, University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign and Crystal Vowels, Principal, Washington Early Childhood Urbana School District #116

Scenarios will be presented that illustrate specific behavioral and communication challenges for preschool children with challenging disabilities. A team-approach to assessment and intervention will be discussed as well as interventions to address the challenges. You will view videos to illustrate the interventions and be encouraged to submit behavioral and communicative challenges for discussion.

Biography

Cheryl Light Shriner, Ph.D. is a Clinical Assistant Professor at the University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign who has been trained in Applied Behavior Analysis and Augmentative and Alternative Communication (AAC). She has worked extensively with individuals with disabilities at all ages who have behavioral and communication challenges. Most recently, Dr. Light Shriner has consulted with the Washington Early Childhood Program in Urbana, IL and worked collaboratively with teachers to address behavioral and communication challenges of specific children.

Crystal Vowels is the principal of Washington Early Childhood Program in Urbana. This program serves preschoolers within the Urbana School District who have been identified as having disabilities or who may be at risk for developing disabilities. Cris supports the use of a team approach to interventions at her school and encourage teachers to collaborate regularly each week. Prior to becoming a principal, Ms. Vowels was a special education teacher for many years within the same school district.

Kim Fisher is a doctoral candidate at the University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign and was a special education teacher for many years in the Chicago area. Her areas of expertise are in assistive technology, augmentative and alternative communication devices, and social interaction between children with disabilities and their peers. Kim is also the mother of a preschooler who has a severe communication disability and uses an AAC system.

Handouts

[Effective Classroom Practices: AAC Ideas and Strategies for Challenging Preschool Children with Disabilities](#)

WORKSHOP SESSION III

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Date: Tuesday, September 27
Room: Plaza F
Time: 3:15 pm - 04:45 pm



Yoga with Children

Peaceful (0-8) Introduction

Presented by: Tamara Notter, Assistant Director, Child Care Resource & Referral

During this workshop be prepared to move. Yoga poses can be relaxing for children and adults and promote body awareness, balance and strength. You will learn a variety of yoga poses that you could conduct with children ages two to eight and begin to understand the importance of using yoga as it relates to the Illinois Early Learning Standards. If you plan on attending this workshop, please bring a bath or beach towel with you.

Biography

Tamara Notter holds a Masters degree in ECE/Administration and has worked in the field of Early Childhood and School Age Education for 30 years. She also is an ACE Certified Group Fitness Instructor and has been teaching fitness for 26 years.

Handouts

[Yoga for Adults and Children](#)

Approved for 1.5 hours of Early Intervention credit.



WORKSHOP SESSION III

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Date: Tuesday, September 27
Room: Illinois
Time: 3:15 pm - 04:45 pm

“Why Does Ian Sniff the Bricks?” Creating Communities of Acceptance in Early Childhood Classrooms

Leadership (5-8) Introduction

*Presented by: Michaelene Ostrosky, Professor and Lori E. Meyer,
Doctoral student, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign*

Creating classroom communities where children accept one another and see the similarities and differences in each other as strengths is a goal of most early childhood teachers. Learn ways to create such classrooms, with an emphasis on book reading and discussions that focus on individuals with disabilities.

Biography

Dr. Michaelene M. Ostrosky is Department Head and Professor of Special Education at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign. Professor Ostrosky has been involved in research and dissemination on social interaction interventions, social emotional competence, challenging behavior, and naturalistic language interventions. Currently she is conducting studies on the attitudes of kindergarten children toward their peers with disabilities.

Lori E. Meyer is currently a Ph. D. student in Special Education at the University of Illinois where she received her B.S. in Early Childhood Education and Ed.M. in Infancy and Early Childhood Special Education. Mrs. Meyer has taught in early childhood special education and inclusive prekindergarten classrooms. Her research interests include young children's social competences, preschool inclusion, and interventions to promote positive peer relationships for children with and without disabilities.

Handouts

No handouts available at this time.

WORKSHOP SESSION III

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Date: Tuesday, September 27
Room: Plaza A
Time: 3:15 pm - 04:45 pm

Teach Me What To Do! Promoting Social and Emotional Competence and Preventing Challenging Behaviors

Peaceful (3-5) Introduction

Presented by: Amanda Quesenberry, Assistant Professor, Illinois State University

Through large group discussion and small group activities, teachers and administrators will discover strategies for promoting children's social and emotional development and addressing challenging behaviors that commonly occur in early childhood classrooms. The content of this session will be based on material provided by the *Center on the Social Emotional Foundations for Early Learning (CSEFEL)*.

Biography

Dr. Amanda Quesenberry, Ph.D. is an Assistant Professor at Illinois State University in the Department of Curriculum and Instruction. Dr. Quesenberry has over 10 years experience working in the field of early childhood. She has worked in a local Head Start program, has served as a training and technical assistance provider for early childhood programs across the country, and also completed a National Fellowship at the Office of Head Start in Washington, DC. Dr. Quesenberry received her Ph.D. in Early Childhood Special Education from the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign in 2007. Her research interests include young children's social emotional development, educators' professional development, and early childhood policy. She has presented conference and poster sessions at numerous local, state, and national conferences and is involved in local, state, and national organizations in the field of early childhood special education.

Handouts

[Teach Me What to Do!](#)

WORKSHOP SESSION III

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Date: Tuesday, September 27
Room: Ruby Ballroom
Time: 3:15 pm - 04:45 pm

What Do You Do with the Mad that You Feel? Helping Children Deal with Their Angry Feelings

Peaceful (3-5) Introduction

Presented by: Hedda Sharapan, Director of Early Childhood Initiatives, The Fred Rogers Company

Here's sound and practical help for one of the biggest challenges today. In this interactive workshop, with the help of engaging video segments, you will find insight into anger and learn ways to foster children's developing self-control and guide them towards constructive ways to express their anger.

Biography

Hedda Sharapan recently celebrated her 44th year with Fred Rogers and the small nonprofit company that he founded, Family Communications, Inc, (FCI). She has been there since the very beginning of MISTER ROGERS' NEIGHBORHOOD and currently serves as Director of Early Childhood Initiatives. Continuing to carry on Fred Rogers legacy and building on her masters degree in Child Development from the University of Pittsburgh, her work includes writing for articles, books, and websites, along with creating and presenting professional development materials for early childhood educators, including a highly popular monthly newsletter. As ambassador on the road for The Neighborhood, she is a highly sought-after speaker at national and statewide education conferences.

Handouts

[What do You do with the Mad the You Feel?](#)



WORKSHOP SESSION III

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Date: Tuesday, September 27
Room: Governors
Time: 3:15 pm - 04:45 pm



The Effects of Methamphetamine on Children and Families

Community (0-8) Introduction

Presented by: Dr. Ralph Weisheit, Distinguished Professor, Illinois State University

Methamphetamine use and manufacture has an impact on communities and on families. Children are affected by exposure to harmful chemicals and to the drug itself, and by the parenting styles of adult methamphetamine users. Their behavior in the classroom is often affected by these factors. This presentation provides a general overview of what is known about the drug, its manufacture, and the impact on the behavior and emotional well being of children who live in homes with parents who are involved with methamphetamine.

Biography

Dr. Weisheit is a Distinguished Professor of Criminal Justice at Illinois State University where he has been teaching and conducting research for more than 27 years. Much of his research has focused on the consequences of illicit drug use. For the past seven years he has been intensively studying the impact of methamphetamine use and production. He is the author of eight books, including his most recent book titled "Methamphetamine: Its History, Use, and Production" which is co-authored with William White, an international authority on drug treatment.

Handouts

[The Effects of Methamphetamine on Children and Families](#)

Approved for 1.5 hours of Early Intervention credit.

WORKSHOP SESSION III

[Back to Top](#)

Date: Tuesday, September 27
Room: Emerald Ballroom
Time: 3:15 pm - 04:45 pm

Animals, Senses and Backyard Creatures! Embedding Literacy Opportunities Across Themes

Peaceful (3-5) Intermediate

Presented by: Tweety Yates, Research Assistant Professor, University of Illinois Urbana Champaign and Angel Fettig, Post Doctoral Research Fellow, The Frank Porter Graham Child Development Institute at UNC Chapel Hill

You will leave with many fun ideas and strategies for embedding literacy opportunities across typical preschool themes. In this workshop you will learn the importance of literacy skills for preschoolers, share fun ideas and strategies for promoting literacy skills across daily schedules and discover fiction and non-fiction books and activities along with videotaped examples.

Biography

Tweety Yates is in the Department of Special Education at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign. Her focus is in Early Childhood birth to five and she has been involved with many Early Childhood grant funded projects focusing on literacy development, social emotional development and parent-child interaction.

Angel Fettig obtained her PhD in Special Education from the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign. Her major research interests are children's social emotional development, challenging behaviors, and early literacy. She is currently a postdoctoral research fellow at the Frank Porter Graham Child Development Institute at UNC Chapel Hill.

Handouts

No handouts available at this time.



KEYNOTE SPEAKER

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Date: Wednesday, September 28, 2011
Time: 8:30 AM – 10:00 AM
Room: Sapphire/Diamond/Emerald/Ruby Ballrooms
on 2nd Floor



Within Reach

Presented by: John Foppe

John Foppe was born without arms, but he believes all things are within reach. As a child, he had difficulty doing the simple things most of us take for granted, and he led a life marked by dependency. At ten-years-old, John couldn't put his own pants on. Today, he travels the world as an author and owner of a successful international training company.

In this fascinating, poignant, but ultimately inspirational speech, John recounts his transformation from victim to victor. But, more importantly, he helps you discover your own place in the world.

Biography

Born without arms, **John Foppe** has had to break down and re-think every aspect of day-to-day life. He learned that the inability to do something didn't rest on the lack of resources or vision. Instead, it has more to do with one's subconscious perception to meeting a challenge head on.

His compelling story and methods caught the attention of the legendary Zig Ziglar, who broke his long-standing rule of promoting from within and recruited and mentored John. He is the author of *What's Your Excuse?*, which has been translated into six foreign languages. John is a contributing editor for "U.S. Business Review". In 2007, he wrote a bimonthly column entitled, *The Vision Thing*, focusing on how to maintain momentum when translating visions into outcomes.

Recently, John put his feet where his heart is by taking on the role of Executive Director for Community Link, a non-for-profit organization, headquartered in Breese, Illinois, that helps adults and children with developmental disabilities. John oversees a six million dollar operating budget and manages more than 130 employees who provide a full array of services, including employment, job training, and housing, to more than 400 individuals. He will continue to speak to other companies on a limited and selected basis.

Handouts

No handouts will be distributed.

Approved for 1.5 hours of Early Intervention credit.



WORKSHOP SESSION IV

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Date: Wednesday, September 28
Room: Capital III
Time: 10:15 am - 11:45 am



Sisterhood of the Traveling Suitcases

Community (0-8) Introduction

Presented by: Sue Brown, Certified Occupational Therapy Assistant, True Life Presentations and Sheri Kraus, Family Resource Specialist, STAR NET Region IV



Travel along with two Moms as they share their stories of past experiences only to discover their life journey is guiding them along the same path. This presentation will give hope, encouragement and suggestions of what to do after receiving your child's diagnosis. It will enlighten all who provide services to the child and help them to see the "child" first.

Biography

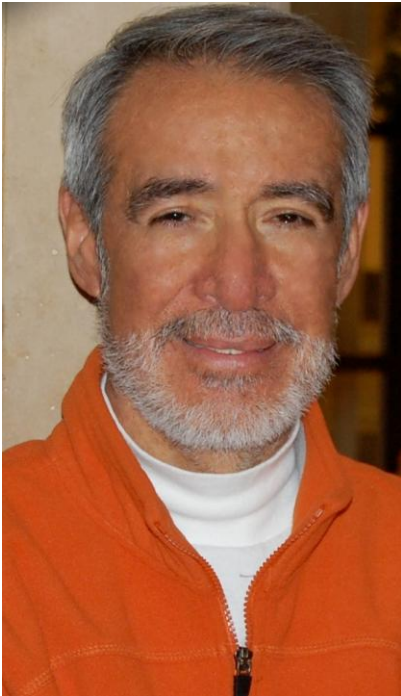
Sue Brown is a Certified Occupational Therapy Assistant working in Early Intervention in Madison County. She is on the Board of the ARC of IL, The IL Association of Microboards and Cooperatives and a past board member of the Down Syndrome Association of Greater St. Louis. She has presented at over 140 workshops, including Keynote Presenter at several of them. She is first and foremost the proud Mom of two daughters, the youngest who has down syndrome and mild autism.

Sheri Kraus is a Family Resource Specialist with STARNET Region IV and a Licensed and Certified Sign Language Interpreter in Illinois and Missouri. She is involved with Special Olympics and has served as a past board member for the PTOEC (Parents and Teachers Organization for Exceptional Children). Sheri became interested in sign language when her middle son was diagnosed with autism. She loves working with people and enjoys sharing all she can with families who have children with and without disabilities.

Handouts

No handouts available at this time.

Approved for 1.5 hours of Early Intervention credit.



WORKSHOP SESSION IV

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Date: Wednesday, September 28
Room: Plaza C
Time: 10:15 am - 11:45 am



Understanding and Working with Hispanic/Latino Families

Adapting (0-8) Introduction

Presented by: David Carrillo, Private Practice, Training and Development

You will be provided with a beginning understanding of the Hispanic/Latino culture, and how the understanding of these children and families will increase the effectiveness of providers in educational settings. Family dynamics, the different roles of family members, important family values,

behavioral expectations, and skills necessary for providers working with these children and families will all be covered.

Biography

David V. Carrillo is a Licensed Clinical Social Worker and he has been working with children and families for over 30 years. He presents state and national workshops on topics such as Hispanic culture, mental health issues, crisis intervention, and successful parenting. He is a graduate of Clark-Atlanta University, maintains a private practice in Palatine, Illinois and is on the faculty at Elgin Community College training future human service providers. He has also authored two books in the areas of social emotional learning, and advice to women.

Handouts

No handouts will be distributed.

Approved for 1.5 hours of Early Intervention credit.

WORKSHOP SESSION IV

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Date: Wednesday, September 28
Room: Capital VI
Time: 10:15 am - 11:45 am

Differentiated Leadership: Teacher and Leader Perspectives

Leadership (0-8) Intermediate

Presented by: Kathey Chvostal-Schmidt, Child Development Specialist, SPEED Early Learning Center and Linda Dauksas, Assistant Professor, Elmhurst College

Responsive leaders need to adapt their leadership style to the readiness behaviors of their teachers and staff by diagnosing their skills, developmental and commitment level. In this workshop you will receive information about how to use the 4 leadership styles to determine the different readiness levels and whether you should put greater or less focus on the task in question and/or the relationship with the employee, depending on their readiness or developmental level.

Biography

During **Kathey Chvostal-Schmidt's** career she has been able to work with a variety of leaders both in education and in the field of social services. The various experiences have lead her to adapt her own work or readiness style to best meet the needs and demands of her job and position. Currently, she works for SPEED SEJA #802, in their Early Learning Center. She has been the developmental therapist for SPEED for 14 years and was an adjunct professor at Governor State University in their early childhood department.

After teaching and leading programs for young children with special needs for 33 years, **Linda Dauksas** is currently teaching in the Early Childhood Education Program at Elmhurst College. While Working as Principal at an early Learning Center, she had the opportunity to lead a school reform initiative that expanded consistency and continuity for children from Birth-3rd grade. Leading a diverse team of professionals, from Early Intervention, Prevention Initiative, Early Childhood Special Education and Elementary grades, provided an opportunity to practice differentiated leadership as our school changed from a Birth-5 model to a Birth-3rd grade school.

Handouts

No handouts available at this time.

WORKSHOP SESSION IV

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Date: Wednesday, September 28
Room: Governors
Time: 10:15 am - 11:45 am

Click. What is this? Snap. Now Do You Know?

Learning (3-8) Intermediate

Presented by: Letha Clark, Resource Specialist, Illinois STAR NET Regions I & III

Providing a digital camera and a digital microscope for children to use offers them tools to examine and investigate their environment, satisfy their curiosity, and take charge of their learning. How might children use these tools? During this hands-on workshop, you will answer that question as you use both tools to explore, experiment, discover, and create.

Biography

Letha Clark possesses an M.S. Ed. in Education Administration and Supervision and has been active in the fields of early childhood for more than 23 years. She has consulted with school principals and early childhood program directors, collaborated with classroom teachers and school staff as they worked to integrate technology tools into their curriculum and conducted staff development opportunities and workshops related to the integration of technology into the curriculum, emphasizing its use as a tool for learning. An experienced presenter, she has presented at numerous state, regional, national and international conferences.

Handouts

No handouts available at this time.



WORKSHOP SESSION IV

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Date: Wednesday, September 28
Room: Plaza E
Time: 10:15 am - 11:45 am



Wild, Wacky and Wonderful Art Experiences

Learning (0-5) Introduction

Presented by: Ann Curtis, Former Director, Western Illinois University Infant and Preschool Center

Through this workshop you will learn about a variety of art projects not for the faint of heart. These are the things most teachers shy away from but children LOVE and become totally engaged in. These are the WILD things that make others say, "What was she thinking?"

Biography

Ann Curtis, MS.Ed., is the director/teacher of the Western Illinois University Infant and Preschool Center. She has been at the center since 1977 and has also taught early childhood and child development classes for WIU, Spoon River College, and Carl Sandburg College. Ann has presented trainings and workshops for many years for early childhood professionals and has written articles and shared ideas with several teaching and parenting magazines.

Handouts

[Wild, Wacky and Wonderful Art Experiences](#)

Approved for 1.5 hours of Early Intervention credit.



WORKSHOP SESSION IV

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Date: Wednesday, September 28
Room: Plaza D
Time: 10:15 am - 11:45 am

Cooking up Reading Skills

Learning (3-8) Introduction

Presented by: Kristin Faust, IL NET Consultant

This is a fun, interactive workshop session that builds literacy and cooking skills using nutrition-focused storybooks as a springboard. Learn how to encourage kids to try new and healthy foods while helping them develop basic cooking skills. Learn how to identify a healthy recipe and make and taste simple, nutritious recipes that can be accomplished in the classroom. Walk away with lesson ideas that tie in age appropriate nutrition messages.

Biography

Kristin Faust received her bachelor's degree in Food Science & Human Nutrition with an emphasis in Dietetics from the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign (UIUC). She completed her dietetic internship at the James A. Haley Veterans' Hospital in Tampa, Florida and earned her master's in Nutritional Sciences at U of IL Champaign. Her 8 years of experience in children's nutrition also includes work as a dietitian in children's diabetes camps both in and out of state where she planned interactive carbohydrate counting and nutrition games for the campers. She combines work at the Illinois Nutrition Education and Training (NET) Program with her other position as Managing Editor at UIUC, respectively.

Through her role at NET, she enjoys providing presentations to child care facilities and elementary schools about development of healthy, active curriculum and marketing nutritious school meals. Her goal as a NET consultant is to promote health and well being to all individuals. Kristin has a passion for children and loves to see families eat healthy.

Handouts

[Cooking up Reading Skills](#)

WORKSHOP SESSION IV

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Date: Wednesday, September 28
Room: Plaza B
Time: 10:15 am - 11:45 am

Why, What and How of Testing Emergent Literacy Learning

Assessment (3-5) Intermediate

Presented by: Angel Fettig, Post-Doctoral Research Fellow, The Frank Porter Graham Child Development Institute at UNC Chapel Hill and Tweety Yates, Research Assistant Professor, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign

You will understand purposes and approaches to testing emergent literacy learning, become familiar with two instruments used in an Early Reading First Project, and understand how they were used for different purposes.

Biography

Angel Fettig obtained her PhD in Special Education from the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign. Her major research interests are children's social emotional development, challenging behaviors, and early literacy. She is currently a postdoctoral research fellow at the Frank Porter Graham Child Development Institute at UNC Chapel Hill.

Tweety Yates is in the Department of Special Education at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign. Her focus is in Early Childhood birth to five and she has been involved with many Early Childhood grant funded projects focusing on literacy development, social emotional development and parent-child interaction.

Handouts

No handouts available at this time.

WORKSHOP SESSION IV

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Date: Wednesday, September 28
Room: Capital II
Time: 10:15 am - 11:45 am

Hitting a Home Run with the PQA: Steps to Improving Quality Using HighScope's Program Quality Assessment

Assessment (3-5) Introduction

Presented by: Julie Hoelscher, Early Childhood Specialist, HighScope Educational Research Foundation

You will explore the Program Quality Assessment Continuum categories of Learning Environment, Daily Routine, Adult-Child Interaction and Curriculum Planning and Assessment. You will choose from several scored items and make a plan for quality improvement.

Biography

Julie Hoelscher is an Early Childhood Specialist at the HighScope Education Research Foundation. She has been an infant/toddler teacher, preschool teacher and center director. She has conducted training for Early Childhood professionals for twenty years and has worked as an elementary school reform coach. She co-authored "Activities for Home Visits" and "Preschool Activities for Family Child Care." She also writes articles on classroom teaching practices for HighScope's Extensions.

Handouts

No handouts available at this time.

WORKSHOP SESSION IV

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Date: Wednesday, September 28
Room: Plaza A
Time: 10:15 am - 11:45 am

Assessing and Supporting Early Mathematics in the Classroom

Assessment (3-5) Intermediate

Presenter change: Due to circumstances beyond their control, Robin Hojnoski and Kristen Missall will not be presenting this workshop. This workshop will now be presented by Sherial McKinney, STAR NET Regions I & III

This workshop will address assessment of early mathematical skills and knowledge as a means of data based decision making to inform instruction. You will gain an understanding of methods of assessment, using classroom level data to inform instruction, and strategies to support children's mathematical growth in the classroom.

Biography

Handouts

No handouts available at this time.

WORKSHOP SESSION IV

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Date: Wednesday, September 28
Room: Capital V
Time: 10:15 am - 11:45 am

Developing Leaders to Align and Coordinate Early Learning and K-12 Programs and Schools

Leadership (0-8) Introduction

Presented by: Lisa Hood, Project Director, LINC; Robin Miller-Young, Student Services Coordinator, Prairie Children Preschool Indian Prairie School District #204; Lynette Chandler, Professor, Northern Illinois University; and Luann Shields, Former Principal of Prairie Children Preschool Indian Prairie School District #204

You will be introduced to the idea that early childhood programs, elementary schools, middle schools and high schools need to work together to meet the child's developmental and educational needs at all ages in one aligned continuum of learning by using the Leadership to Integrate the Learning Continuum (LINC) Curriculum Module, concepts of a seamless continuum and content and how to enter a Type 75 program.

Biography

Lisa Hood is the project director of the Leadership to Integrate the Learning Continuum (LINC) project at Illinois state University, Center for the Study of Education Policy. This project focuses on studying the effective strategies in aligning and coordinating early childhood and K-12 programs and schools, particularly the role of leadership in facilitating that alignment.

Robin Miller Young, EdD, NCSP, is the Student Services Coordinator at Prairie Children Preschool (Indian Prairie SD # 204, Aurora, IL), an inclusive, tuition-based EC/"at-risk"/ECSE preschool. She serves on the administrative leadership team, overseeing daily operations and guiding development, implementation, and evaluation of school improvement initiatives such as Response to Intervention (RtI). Her research interests include explicit early academic and social interventions and leadership strategies that move organizations into effective and efficient structures and program practices. Robin recently served as an adjunct instructor of ECSE pre-service teachers at NIU and Elmhurst College. She is also the immediate Past President of the Illinois Division for Early Childhood (IDEC) and she facilitates the RtI in EC/Preschool blog on the RTI Action Network, operated by the NCLD.

Lynette Chandler is a professor of special education at Northern Illinois University. She served on the curriculum module design team for the LINC project sharing her expertise in early childhood special education.

Luann Shields is the principal of Prairie Children Preschool in the Indian Prairie School District #204. She served on the LINC Advisory Group, sharing her experience as a principal of an early childhood school and as an adjunct in preparing early childhood and K-12 school leaders.

Handouts

No handouts available at this time.



WORKSHOP SESSION IV

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Date: Wednesday, September 28
Room: Ruby Ballroom
Time: 10:15 am - 11:45 am



Strategies for Including and Supporting the Child with Autism in Any Setting

Adapting (0-8) Intermediate

Presented by: Elizabeth Knollhoff and Kim Nelson, Early Childhood Program Administrator, Four Rivers Special Education District

This workshop will include a brief overview of autism, but the focus of the session will be on providing you with strategies that you can immediately, and often easily, incorporate into any classroom to best support and engage students with autism. Common behavioral/sensory issues and techniques will also be addressed.

Biography

Elizabeth Knollhoff is a Nationally Certified School Psychologist currently serving the preschool population for Four Rivers Special Education District in Jacksonville, Illinois. She holds a Master's Degree in Community/School Psychology and a Specialist's Degree in School Psychology. She was one of six statewide nominees in 2006 for the School Psychologist Practitioner of the Year for Illinois. She started her career as a Mental Health Consultant for Head Start over 10 years ago, and has continued to work in the schools with students with special needs, focusing on early childhood.

Kim Nelson is the Early Childhood Program Administrator for Four Rivers Special Education District in Jacksonville, Illinois. Kim has been working with children with special needs as a teacher, special education program supervisor, and now as an administrator, for over 20 years. She has holds dual Master of Arts Degrees in Educational Administration and Teaching and Leadership. Kim received a Golden Apple Award in 2001 while teaching in a self-contained early childhood classroom. She also developed and taught an early elementary class specifically for students with autism.

Handouts

[Strategies for Including and Supporting the Child with Autism](#)

Approved for 1.5 hours of Early Intervention credit.



WORKSHOP SESSION IV

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Date: Wednesday, September 28
Room: Capital I
Time: 10:15 am - 11:45 am



Children as Individual Learners

Learning (0-8) Introduction

Presented by: Charity Miller and Kristen Kuhlemeier, YMCA Children's Center, Freeport Illinois

Children as Individual Learners concentrates on Howard Gardner's theory of multiple intelligences focusing on how a child's unique style of learning is viewed as a gift to be utilized to help children become individual learners. Creative ideas mixed with lecture and hands on activities will prepare you to use the multiple intelligences theory for each child, either at home or in the classroom.

Biography

Charity Miller has been in the field of early childhood education for over fourteen years and received her Para Professional degree from Northern Illinois University. Her work in daycare settings in Illinois, Wisconsin, and Arizona gave her opportunities to learn from many diverse communities and families. She currently works at the YMCA Children's Center in Northern Illinois and the teachers that she worked with as a Para Educator in the public school system shaped the successful teaching style that she still uses today.

Kristen Kuhlemeier has been working with young children for over ten years; five years as a teen counselor with 7th through 12th grade students, three years as a pre-school teacher and is currently the co-lead teacher in the toddler room at the YMCA Children's Center in Northern Illinois. She is currently enrolled at Highland Community College, and intends to transfer to finish her bachelor's degree in early childhood education. She has learned, from working with diverse ages of children, that each person is unique and had their own learning style.

Handouts

No handouts available at this time.

Approved for 1.5 hours of Early Intervention credit.

WORKSHOP SESSION IV

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Date: Wednesday, September 28
Room: Plaza F
Time: 10:15 am - 11:45 am

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

Peaceful (3-8) Intermediate

Presented by: John Roope, Director Early Childhood Mental Health Services, Chaddock/Caregiver Connections

Help children become partners in the process of learning to control their own behavior as you learn practical strategies and language for diffusing and preventing power struggles while building relationships with children. 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.

Biography

John Roope, M.Ed. is a parent, stepparent, foster parent, and educator who has worked professionally with children and families for over thirty years. Currently the Director of the Caregiver Connections Early Childhood Mental Health Consultation program, and Director of Early Childhood Mental Health Services at Chaddock in Quincy, Illinois,

John previously served as Executive Director of Cheerful Home (a NAEYC accredited childcare agency), as a Mental Health Coordinator for Head Start, and he has worked extensively with children from alcohol and drug affected families. He is a lecturer for the McCormick Center for Early Childhood Leadership at National Louis University, serves on the board of the Illinois Association for Infant Mental Health, and is a member of the Illinois Children's Mental Health Partnership. He is a past President of the Quincy Association for the Education of Young Children, and former co-chair of the Illinois Department of Human Services Child Care and Development Advisory Council. As a presenter, John delivers useful information in a lively package.

Handouts

[John W. Roope](#)

WORKSHOP SESSION IV

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Date: Wednesday, September 28
Room: Capital IV
Time: 10:15 am - 11:45 am



Taking a Closer Look at Collaboration During Home Visits

Community (0-3) Intermediate

Presented by: Christine Salisbury, Director, UIC Child & Family Development Center and Professor of Special Education and Christina Copeland, Director of Program Services, UIC Child & Family Development, University of Illinois-Chicago

This workshop presents program evaluation data on the coaching strategies used by Early Intervention providers during home visits and the relationship of this strategy use to the participation levels of caregivers.

Biography

Christine Salisbury, PhD, is Professor of Special Education and Director of UIC's Child & Family Development Center in Chicago (CFDC), a large Part C provider agency in Chicago. She has published research on Early Intervention (EI) service delivery, serves on the editorial boards of EI journals and is past president of the Division for Early Childhood.

Christina Copeland, LCSW, is Director of Program Services at UIC's Child & Family Development Center (CFDC) where she provides services to caregivers as part of the CFDC team as well as oversees services provided by CFDC's EI program. She is active in Illinois' infant mental health task forces, and a contributor to training and research initiatives through CFDC.

Handouts

[Taking a Closer Look at Coaching Practices During Home Visits](#)

Approved for 1.5 hours of Early Intervention credit.

WORKSHOP SESSION IV

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Date: Wednesday, September 28
Room: Illinois
Time: 10:15 am - 11:45 am



Feeding Young Children: Developmental Considerations, Concerns and Strategies

Adapting (0-5) Introduction

Presented by: Stacy Thompson, Associate Professor and Deb Bruns, Associate Professor, Southern Illinois University Carbondale

This workshop will provide an overview of developmental considerations, concerns and strategies related to feeding development in young children. The presenters will describe common feeding challenges and techniques to address them in a group setting as well as focus on strategies to encourage children's feeding development and related skills. Recommendations and resources will also be shared.

Biography

Stacy D. Thompson is an Associate Professor in the Department of Curriculum & Instruction at Southern Illinois University Carbondale. She teaches undergraduate and graduate courses in the areas of assessment, child development by age and area of development, and early intervention. Dr. Thompson's research interests include feeding and interventions for families and caregivers, risk-taking behaviors in adolescence, fathers of infants born to adolescent mothers, and quality care for young children.

Deborah A. Bruns is an Associate Professor in the Department of Educational Psychology and Special Education at Southern Illinois University, Carbondale. Dr. Bruns serves on the Editorial Board of the Journal of Early Intervention, Early Childhood Research & Practice and Neonatal Network. She teaches undergraduate and graduate courses in the areas of assessment and intervention in early childhood special education, program leadership and working with families. Dr. Bruns's research interests include feeding development and interventions for young children with disabilities, use of play-based assessment as a teaching tool and experiences of families with a child with rare trisomy conditions.

Handouts

[Feeding young children: Developmental Considerations, Concerns & Strategies](#)

Approved for 1.5 hours of Early Intervention credit.

WORKSHOP SESSION V

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Date: Wednesday, September 28
Room: Illinois
Time: 1:30 pm - 03:00 pm

Look! They're Working Together!

Adapting (3-8) Intermediate

Presented by: Sallee Beneke, Assistant Professor, St. Ambrose University

Find out how implementing the Project Approach can impact the quality of inclusion in pre-kindergarten classrooms. See photos and video that reveal strategies that helped teachers to implement and to support inclusion of children with special needs in pre-kindergarten at-risk classrooms. The presenter will share the documentation and findings from an in-depth study.

Biography

Sallee Beneke is currently an assistant professor of early childhood education at St. Ambrose University. She provides trainings in the Project Approach, authentic assessment, inclusion, Creative Curriuculum, and Work Sampling System Illinois. Sallee maintains the Illinois Projects in Practice website in collaboration with Dr. Lilian Katz. She has been a Resource Specialist for STAR NET, a master teacher, prekindergarten at-risk teacher, early childhood special education teacher, and childcare center director. Sallee is a frequent presenter at state and national conferences, and she has authored or co-authored four books and written articles on the Project Approach and documentation of children's learning.

Handouts

No handouts available at this time.

WORKSHOP SESSION V

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Date: Wednesday, September 28
Room: Plaza A
Time: 1:30 pm - 03:00 pm



Basic Everyday Sign Language for Young Children

Adapting (0-8) Introduction

Presented by: Marcia Breese, Outreach Coordinator, Outreach – Illinois School for the Deaf

What are the components of using visual communication? What are the signs for typical daily routines with young children? Where can I continue to learn more? The answers to these questions are explored in a fun and active way. Put down your pens, lift up your hands and sign!

Biography

Marcia Breese, Outreach Coordinator for the Illinois School for the Deaf (ISD), has worked in the field of deafness/disabilities for more than twenty-five years. As the parent of two children who are deaf and visually impaired, Marcia has been actively involved in advocating on local and state levels on issues pertaining to deaf education and deafness. She has served on the ISD Advisory Council, I.S.D. Parent/Staff Organization, IDHHC Parent Manual Task Force, and the Educational Interpreter Task Force. She is currently a member of the Illinois Supervisors of Programs for Individuals who are Deaf and Hard of Hearing (ISHI) and Illinois Teachers of Hard of Hearing/Deaf Individuals (ITHI) and the Illinois Foundation for Deaf Children. As a member of ISHI, Marcia is involved in the development of the Illinois Agenda for Deaf Children.

Handouts

[Basic Everyday Sign Language](#)
[Finger Spelling Chart](#)
[Resources for Information and Practice](#)

Approved for 1.5 hours of Early Intervention credit.



WORKSHOP SESSION V

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Date: Wednesday, September 28
Room: Plaza B
Time: 1:30 pm - 03:00 pm



Leadership Strategies to Ensure We Meet Children's Needs with Targeted Interventions: Examining the Link between "R" and "I" in Rtl (Response to Intervention)

Leadership (3-5) Intermediate



Presented by: Lynette Chandler, Professor, Northern Illinois University; Robin Miller-Young, Student Services Coordinator; Lisa Snow, Diagnostic Coordinator; Natalie Phillips, Psychologist; Betsy Schrubbe, Program Coordinator; and Kristy Herrell, Psychologist, Prairie Children Preschool Indian Prairie School District #204



You will learn targeted leadership strategies to develop Early Childhood Education (ECE) program infrastructures supportive of staff efforts to initiate and sustain an Rtl framework. Development of Professional Learning Communities (PLCs) and coaching systems to enhance team members' application of a Problem-Solving (PS) process will be highlighted.

Biography



Lynette Chandler is a Professor in the Department of Teaching and Learning at Northern Illinois University. She teaches courses in early childhood special education. She has conducted research and provided presentations in a variety of areas including Response to Intervention, Functional Assessment, Social Skills, Early Literacy, DEC Recommended Practices, and Transition. She currently collaborates with several preschools in Illinois on Response to Intervention and Early Language and Literacy and Early Math Skills.



Robin Miller Young, EdD, NCSP, is the Student Services Coordinator at Prairie Children Preschool (Indian Prairie SD # 204, Aurora, IL), an inclusive, tuition-based EC/"at-risk"/ECSE preschool. She serves on the administrative leadership team, overseeing daily operations and guiding development, implementation, and evaluation of school improvement initiatives such as Response to Intervention (Rtl). Her research interests include explicit early academic and social interventions and leadership strategies that move organizations into effective and efficient structures and program practices. Robin recently served as an adjunct instructor of ECSE pre-service teachers at NIU and Elmhurst College.

She is also the immediate Past President of the Illinois Division for Early Childhood (IDEC) and she facilitates the RtI in EC/Preschool blog on the RTI Action Network, operated by the NCLD.

Lisa Snow is a certified School Psychologist and Licensed Clinical Professional Counselor. She has worked in the Early Childhood program at the Indian Prairie School District #204 since 1994. Lisa has presented at the local and national level on a variety of topics including play-based assessment, Positive Behavior Interventions and Supports (PBIS) along with Problem Solving/Response to Intervention Model at the Early Childhood Level. Currently, Lisa is a coordinator for the program where she oversees the diagnostic play based assessment process, speech and language resource services and assists with the problem solving and response to intervention process within the school environment.

Natalie Phillips is a former educator who taught both preschool and elementary students within the Chicago Public School System. Currently, she is working as a school psychologist within Indian Prairie School District 204. Within this program, Natalie has presented at the state, district, and school level on a variety of topics related to the response to intervention model, including positive behavior supports, data collection, and evidence-based academic interventions relevant to the early childhood setting. She holds professional memberships to the Illinois School Psychological Association and the National Association of School Psychologists.

Betsy Schrubbe has worked for the Indian Prairie School District 204 Early Childhood program for 14 years. During her 14 years in education she has been an elementary self contained teacher for children on the Autism spectrum as well as an Early childhood teacher, and in her current role she is a program coordinator for the districts Early Childhood program. Currently she oversees programming for the Early Childhood Autism program, implemented the use of the Verbal Behavior Mapp, assists with the problem solving and RTI process within the school environment, and conducts the preschool screening process. Betsy holds two master degrees and educational certificates in early childhood, K-12 special education, and administration.

Kristy Herrell is a school psychologist beginning her fifth year of experience in early childhood education. Her interests are in teacher education, professional development, data-based decision making, and evidenced-based practice at the early childhood level.

Handouts

WORKSHOP SESSION V

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Date: Wednesday, September 28
Room: Capital V
Time: 1:30 pm - 03:00 pm

Introduction to the Early Childhood Environmental Rating Scale (ECERS-R)

Assessment (3-5) Intermediate

Presented by: Rhonda Clark, Principal Consultant, Early Childhood Division, Illinois State Board of Education (ISBE)

This overview is designed to give you basic knowledge about this research based evaluation tool and some hands-on examples of materials used in the classroom and how they would be scored.

Biography

Rhonda Clark has 18 years of experience in the Early Childhood Field. She received her undergraduate degree from Eastern Illinois University and received her Masters in Education Administration from National Louis University and began her career as a lead teacher in a childcare center. In 1995 she opened a private preschool program, which she later expanded into a full service childcare center. The childcare center was NAEYC accredited and included the state funded PreK program as well as a Head Start program. In 2005, she was hired by the Regional Office of Education #12 to coordinate PreK programs located in the local five counties. She joined the Early Childhood staff at the Illinois State Board of Education in April 2008.

Clark has served on numerous state boards including Southern Illinois Early Childhood Action Team and the Professional Development Advisory Committee. She also holds a level three director credential. Before accepting the position at the State Board of Education, she served as a mentor for State funded PreK programs and a Curriculum Coach.

Handouts

No handouts available at this time.

WORKSHOP SESSION V

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Date: Wednesday, September 28
Room: Plaza C
Time: 1:30 pm - 03:00 pm



Supporting Social Inclusion in Early Childhood Classrooms

Leadership (0-8) Intermediate

Presented by: Johnna Darragh-Ernst, Professor of Early Childhood Education, Heartland Community College

This presentation provides an overview of social and emotional teaching strategies that support social inclusion within early childhood classrooms. The presentation will use the framework of Universal Design to examine how careful attention to both the physical and social environment can ensure that the development and learning of each and every child is supported.

Biography

Johnna Darragh-Ernst has been teaching in the field of early childhood education for 17 years. She is currently a faculty member at Heartland Community College, and faculty liaison to their inclusive Child Development Lab. She is the Principle Investigator on the Heartland Equity and Inclusion Project, funded by the Office of Special Education Programs, and the Illinois Liaison to the National Professional Development Center on Inclusion. She is the author of "Introduction to Early Childhood Education: Equity and Inclusion," which was published by Pearson.

Handouts

No handouts available at this time.

Approved for .75 hours of Early Intervention credit.

WORKSHOP SESSION V

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Date: Wednesday, September 28
Room: Plaza D
Time: 1:30 pm - 03:00 pm

Using Teacher-made Grid and Path Games to Foster Young Children's Mathematics Knowledge and Dispositions

Learning (3-8) Introduction

Presented by: Alison Drake, Assistant Professor/Coordinator Early Childhood Education, Prairie State College and Diane Kubetz, Associate Professor, Early Education and Care, College of DuPage

With mounting evidence of the importance of improving children's mathematics education, this workshop will provide participants with further understanding of the principles of intentional mathematics teaching and the use of grid and path games to enrich the mathematics early childhood curriculum. You will observe many games, learn about the importance of effective teaching methods and leave with ideas and resources.

Biography

Alison Drake is a faculty member in the Early Childhood Education and Child and Family Studies programs at Prairie State College, a community college in the south Chicago suburbs. Alison has over thirty-six years experience in the early childhood field teaching college, directing and teaching in preschools and as a consultant and workshop presenter. She is the President of Early Childhood Essentials: Training for Quality. Alison has been active in NAEYC affiliates and ACCESS.

Diane Kubetz is a faculty member at the College of DuPage, a community college in the western Chicago suburbs. She is an associate professor of the Early Childhood Education and Care Program with thirty years experience in the early childhood field as a college instructor, early childhood program director, teacher of young children, consultant and statewide workshop presenter. Diane is actively involved in NAEYC affiliate leadership.

Handouts

No handouts available at this time.

WORKSHOP SESSION V

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Date: Wednesday, September 28
Room: Governors
Time: 1:30 pm - 03:00 pm

Mission Transition: Activities to Support Phonological Awareness

Learning (3-5) Introduction

Presented by: Julie Hoelscher, Early Childhood Specialist, HighScope Educational Research Foundation

You will learn about the components of phonological awareness such as rhyming, alliteration and segmentation and their importance for preschoolers. After discussing the typical transitions in a preschooler's day, you will develop and practice transition activities that can be used throughout your daily routine.

Biography

Julie Hoelscher is an Early Childhood Specialist at the HighScope Education Research Foundation. She has been an infant/toddler teacher, preschool teacher and center director. She has conducted training for Early Childhood professionals for twenty years and has worked as an elementary school reform coach. She co-authored "Activities for Home Visits" and "Preschool Activities for Family Child Care." She also writes articles on classroom teaching practices for HighScope's Extensions.

Handouts

No handouts available at this time.

WORKSHOP SESSION V

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Date: Wednesday, September 28
Room: Capital I
Time: 1:30 pm - 03:00 pm



Green Kids in our Classrooms & Homes

Community (0-8) Intermediate

Presented by: Benton Johnson, President, Ephphatha Consulting Services, Inc.

Children arrive in our hands with a myriad of gifts and challenges that come from various cultural traditions. In addition to reflection on one's own cultural self, professionals will benefit from identifying cultural strengths in children. You will learn to identify the values embedded in various cultures and how to apply them to enhance learning.

Biography

Dr. Benton Johnson II, LCPC, LMHC, NCC, DT is a national presenter and founder of Ephphatha Consulting Services, Inc. His private practice provides clinical counseling, training & consulting to agencies and families throughout the lifespan. Dr. Johnson has previously provided services for Healthy Families of Illinois (0-2), Safe from the Start (0-5), Centers for Alcohol and Drug Services and was a educational interpreter for the hearing impaired in Iowa & Illinois. Additionally, he has advanced training with children exposed to violence, developmental delays, stressed families, mental health, infant-toddler grief & loss as well as early intervention.

Handouts

No handouts available at this time.

Approved for 1.5 hours of Early Intervention credit.

WORKSHOP SESSION V

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Date: Wednesday, September 28
Room: Capital IV
Time: 1:30 pm - 03:00 pm

Transitioning to Inclusive Kindergarten

Community (3-5) Introduction

Presented by: Maria Martinez, Educational Consultant/Coach, Project CHOICES

The early years of every child's education are filled with many transitions. In this workshop we will focus on the transition from early childhood to inclusive kindergarten and you will gain strategies for planning a pro-active transition to prepare ahead of time in order to be successful. Samples of planning tools and checklists will be shared as well as many strategies to smooth the transition for everyone, the child, the family, and the kindergarten staff.

Biography

Maria Martinez has been an Educational Consultant for Project CHOICES at Northern Illinois University for the past 7 years. She focuses on the inclusion of children with disabilities of all ages. She has also worked for the Chicago Public Schools in various positions and grade levels from self-contained to inclusive classrooms and has experience in private and public early childhood education programs.

Handouts

No handouts available at this time.

WORKSHOP SESSION V

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Date: Wednesday, September 28
Room: Capital IV
Time: 1:30 pm - 03:00 pm



Play Without Limits! Assessing Assistive Technology Needs

Adapting (0-3) Introduction

Presented by: Maria Matticks, Regional Training Consultant, UPC of Greater Chicago/Illinois Early Intervention Training Program

This workshop examines how assistive technology supports can help infants and toddlers participate in developmentally appropriate play. Early Intervention providers and families will discuss the importance of a family-centered, collaborative assessment, consider family's perception of AT, and explore ways to complete functional assessments within the natural environment.

Biography

Maria Matticks, RN, has served as a Regional Training Consultant with the Illinois Early Intervention Training Program, drawing on her own personal experience as a parent, providing training and support to providers and families within EI since 2003. Previously, Maria operated her own EI business providing nursing, developmental therapy, parent liaison and assistive technology services. She also served as the Assistive Technology Coordinator for the Illinois Bureau of Early Intervention, where she reviewed all AT requests and provided technical assistance on a wide range of topics to CFC's, service providers, and families.

Handouts

No handouts available at this time.

Approved for 1.5 hours of Early Intervention credit.



WORKSHOP SESSION V

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Date: Wednesday, September 28
Room: Ruby Ballroom
Time: 1:30 pm - 03:00 pm



Come Children, Sing!

Learning (0-5) Introduction

Presented by: Mary Ellen Pinzino, Director, Come Children Sing Institute

Discover the musical brilliance of every child! Engage in the exciting process of music development during the most important years for music learning.

Explore songs and music activities that stimulate music learning in infants, babies, toddlers and preschoolers. Give every child the opportunity to become musical, whatever your own musical background.

Biography

Mary Ellen Pinzino is the Founder/Director of the Come Children Sing Institute, a center for research and development in music learning. She is the instructor and developer of the Come Children Sing Institute Online Teacher Education Center, offering online courses for graduate, undergraduate and continuing education credits for teachers. She is the developer of “Come Children, Sing!” online Music Classes for infants, babies, toddlers, and preschoolers, and composer of the Come Children Sing Institute SONG LIBRARY, a full resource of songs for children of all ages.

Handouts

No handouts available at this time.

Approved for 1.5 hours of Early Intervention credit.

WORKSHOP SESSION V

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Date: Wednesday, September 28
Room: Plaza F
Time: 1:30 pm - 03:00 pm



Working with Families - When Values Collide

Peaceful (0-8) Advanced

Presented by: John Roope, Director Early Childhood Mental Health Services, Chaddock/Caregiver Connections

Aligning goals, building trust, wrestling with competing agendas, even understanding each other's language – these are but a few of the challenges faced by helping professionals and the families we hope to serve. This workshop provides a framework for resolving many of the barriers that keep us from being the effective helpers we all want to be.

Biography

John Roope, M.Ed. is a parent, stepparent, foster parent, and educator who has worked professionally with children and families for over thirty years. Currently the Director of the Caregiver Connections Early Childhood Mental Health Consultation program, and Director of Early Childhood Mental Health Services at Chaddock in Quincy, Illinois,

John previously served as Executive Director of Cheerful Home (a NAEYC accredited childcare agency), as a Mental Health Coordinator for Head Start, and he has worked extensively with children from alcohol and drug affected families. He is a lecturer for the McCormick Center for Early Childhood Leadership at National Louis University, serves on the board of the Illinois Association for Infant Mental Health, and is a member of the Illinois Children's Mental Health Partnership. He is a past President of the Quincy Association for the Education of Young Children, and former co-chair of the Illinois Department of Human Services Child Care and Development Advisory Council. As a presenter, John delivers useful information in a lively package

Handouts

[John W. Roope](#)

Approved for 1.5 hours of Early Intervention credit.

Crowne Plaza Hotel Springfield Floor Plans

