39th ANNUAL

STATEWIDE CONFERENCE FOR PRE-KINDERGARTEN & KINDERGARTEN EDUCATORS

Renaissance Hotel • Schaumburg, IL

March 4-6 2020
Children Want to Talk

Education Video Clips on Early Language Acquisition for Children up to Age 4.

The Zurich State Department of Education, Switzerland, would like to share this FREE resource library of 71 video clips of early childhood education.

The video clips and accompanying commentaries have proved to be extremely useful for practitioners, particularly those studying in teacher preparation programs at university schools of education, and for the families involved.

www.children-4.net

The video clips are in HD-quality, each lasting 2–3 minutes long and available in 13 languages.
You are invited to attend
the 39th Annual Illinois ASCD Statewide Conference for
Pre-Kindergarten & Kindergarten Educators

Please join us for the 39th Annual Illinois ASCD Pre-Kindergarten and Kindergarten Conference at the Renaissance Schaumburg Convention Center Hotel on March 4-6, 2020. We will have over 150 Featured Presenters and Concurrent Presenters! As always, you can register for Thursday only, Friday only, or both days! School Administrators attend for free, if you register a team of two or more. Come learn, enjoy, and have fun listening, participating and visiting our exhibit hall.

2020 FEATURED PRESENTERS:

Mary Amoson
Kim Adsit
Becky Anderson
Gerry Brooks
Kathy Brown

Richard Cohen
Kim Jordano
Karen Graber
Wendy Halperin
Mary Pat Larocca

Melissa Leach
Marsha McGuire
Sarah Martino
Adam Peterson
Shari Sloane

Greg Smedley-Warren
Carole Stephens
Deedee Wills
Donna Whyte

Bios begin on page 8 >
THANKS to the Conference Planning Committee

Marilyn Blank          Cathleen Hughes          Rachel Shannon
Kathy Brown           Leanne Jebens           Leea Shelton
Peggy Carr            Terry Jostes            Tammy Schmidt
Michelle Cimarossa    Judy Kmak              Kerry Shilkaitis
Kathleen Conn         Pam Kunkel              Katherine Spengler
Ruth Cormier          Erika Liburd            Cindy Snyder
Micheal Creasey       Amy Little              Trevor Steinbach
Jan Dews              Rochelle Luttrell        Katherine Stengele
Laura Ettema          Sarah Martino           Bev Taylor
Jamie Evans           Michelle Matt            Clint Thorton
Julie Frisch          Lindsey Neff            Angela Winger- Bryant
Sandy Greenham        Carol Owles              Robert Winters
Gina Harding          Rebecca Pencak           Tia Zerbe
Debra Honegger        Cathy Pope               Nancy Zulawski

Ryan Nevius
Executive Director

Bill Dodds
Associate Director

Bev Taylor
Conference Chair
### Conference Schedule

**Wednesday, March 4, 2020**
- 5:30 - 9:30 p.m. **Registration**
- 6:00 - 8:00 p.m. **Greg Smedley-Warren**

**Thursday, March 5, 2020**
- 7:00 - 9:30 a.m. **Registration**
- 7:30 - 8:30 a.m. **Session A**
- 8:45 - 10:15 a.m. **Session B**
  (KEYNOTE)
- 9:45 - 10:15 a.m. **Lunch/Exhibits**
- 10:30 - 11:30 a.m. **Session C**
- 11:15 - 11:45 a.m. **Lunch/Exhibits**
- 11:45 - 12:45 p.m. **Session D**
- 12:45 - 1:15 p.m. **Lunch/Exhibits**
- 1:15 - 2:15 p.m. **Session E**
- 2:30 - 3:30 p.m. **Session F**
- 3:45 - 4:45 p.m. **Session G**
- 5:00 - 6:30 p.m. **Happy Hour**

**Friday, March 6, 2020**
- 7:00 - 9:30 a.m. **Registration**
- 7:30 - 8:30 a.m. **Session I**
- 8:45 - 10:15 a.m. **Session J**
  (KEYNOTE)
- 9:45 - 10:15 a.m. **Lunch/Exhibits**
- 10:30 - 11:30 a.m. **Session K**
- 11:15 - 11:45 a.m. **Lunch/Exhibits**
- 11:45 - 12:45 p.m. **Session L**
- 12:45 - 1:15 p.m. **Lunch/Exhibits**
- 1:15 - 2:15 p.m. **Session M**
- 2:30 - 3:30 p.m. **Session N**

**Exhibit Hours**
- Wednesday - Closed
- Thursday - 7:00 a.m. - 5:30 p.m.
- Friday - 7:00 a.m. - 2:30 p.m.

**WEDNESDAY EVENING SESSION**
**6:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m.**
Greg Smedley-Warren Presents:
Supercharge Your Literacy Instruction While Meeting the Social-Emotional Needs

**THURSDAY MORNING KEYNOTE**
**8:45 a.m. - 10:15 a.m.**
Climate and Culture in Schools with Gerry Brooks

**THURSDAY EVENING SESSION**
**5:00 p.m. - 6:30 p.m.**
Teacher Happy Hour!

**FRIDAY MORNING KEYNOTE**
**8:45 a.m. - 10:15 a.m.**
Early Childhood Professionals: The Heroes of Our Time with Richard Cohen

Join us at the conference! **CLICK here TO REGISTER NOW online**
Sessions

- All sessions will be 60 minutes in length.
- There will be three 30 minute breaks throughout the day for visiting the vendor display floor.
- If you want to eat lunch, you need to eat during a 30 minute break or leave a session open during the day.
- Continental Breakfast Thursday & Friday until 9:30 a.m.

Wireless Access

Bring your mobile devices! Free WiFi will be available in all meeting rooms, ballrooms, and the exhibition floor. Please note that there is a charge for WiFi use in the individual hotel sleeping rooms.

Exhibition Hall

Plan to visit The Exploration Hall from 7:00 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. Thursday and from 7:00 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. on Friday.

Get the App!

Search IL ASCD in your provider’s app store and download it for free for your iPhone, Android phone or your tablet. The general IL ASCD app is available now. The tab for the 39th Annual Pre-K/Kindergarten Conference will be available three to four weeks before the event. If you’ve previously downloaded the IL ASCD app to your mobile device, please delete it and download the latest version.

- Real time updates. You’ll be notified of any cancelled or added sessions
- Handy conference center map
- Handouts available for download and printing before and after the conference (as provided by presenters)
- Networking with fellow conference goers
- Exhibitor information and Speaker profiles

Coupons

Illinois ASCD is providing $15.00 discount lunch coupons! Yummy Coupons may be used all day at any of the food stations set up in the hallways, Exhibit Hall Food Court, the Rendezvous Café (second floor), the Gather Bar/Lounge, or Sam and Harry’s Restaurant. The coupons cannot be used for gratuities.

Please Note
1. Lunch will be available to all attendees from 9:45 to 1:15 p.m.
2. Yummy Coupons can only be used on the day printed on the coupon. Blue coupons will be accepted on Thursday and green coupons on Friday.
3. The food stations in the halls or east of the Schaumburg Ballrooms do not accept credit cards.
4. No cash refunds are available for unspent portions of Yummy Coupons.
5. Consider taking a session off to enjoy lunch.
**Administrators Attend Free**

As a Pre-K, Kindergarten, or 1st Grade Teacher, bring along your school administrator as part of the team (two or more teachers) and he/she can attend FREE on the days the team attends.

**Professional Development Hours**

Earn 13 PD hours over the days of the conference. Two additional hours can be earned at Wednesday’s evening event and 1.5 hours can be earned on Thursday evening. By attending all sessions you may acquire 16.5 PD hours. If you need to leave after lunch at 1:00 p.m., you can earn 5 PD hours on Thursday or 4 PD hours on Friday.

In order to receive credit for Professional Development Hours, you will need to:
1. Sign in each morning at the sign-in table with your name and IEIN number.
2. Complete the Evaluation form for each day.
3. Return the Evaluation form to the sign-in table at the end of the day to receive your Evidence of Completion form.
4. Enter the earned hours into ELIS.

The sign-in table will be at the east end of the hallway outside Schaumburg East. PD Hours are also available for Wednesday and Thursday evening events.

**Tote Bags**

We greatly appreciate Kaplan Early Learning Company for again providing the conference tote bags. Please visit their exhibit booths 201 and 300.

**Ticket Swap**

If you are interested in exchanging your ticketed sessions for other sessions that may be available, check with the Ticket Swap at the conference registration table.

**Handouts**

Handouts will be made available through the mobile App and by URL link provided after registration closes in February.

**Session Target Audience**

P = Pre-Kindergarten  K = Kindergarten  1 = First Grade  A = Administrators

**Conference confirmations will be emailed and session tickets will be picked up onsite.**

**Graduate Credit**

Get 1 hour of graduate credit for your attendance at the 2020 Conference through St. Francis University. A representative will be located in the hallway near Schaumburg East/West.

Follow and share your 2020 Kindergarten experiences and pictures using our official Twitter, Instagram and Facebook accounts. @ILASCD
**Featured Presenters**

**KIM ADSIT**
Kim, a former Teacher of the Year, has taught kindergarten for 30 years. She has been a national presenter for more than 20 years, where she focuses on sharing curriculum and strategies that incorporate child-centered activities. She emphasizes the fun of early childhood education by tapping into the curiosity of young children that plants the seed for lifelong learning. Kim has been selected as an Expert Teacher, and she serves as a teacher mentor. She has a Specialist Degree in Early Childhood Education as well as an At-Risk Endorsement. Kim has authored many teacher resources that are available at:

- [Teacherpayteachers.com/store/kim-adsit](http://Teacherpayteachers.com/store/kim-adsit)
- [Facebook.com/kim-adsit](http://Facebook.com/kim-adsit)
- [Instragram.com/kindergals](http://Instragram.com/kindergals)
- [Pinterest.com/kindergalkim/kindergals](http://Pinterest.com/kindergalkim/kindergals)

**MARY AMOSON**
Mary has enjoyed 14 years in the kindergarten classroom, where she enthusiastically uses technology and hands-on activities to engage her little learners. She loves sharing the ideas, activities, and tools that have worked with her kindergartners through her blog, Sharing Kindergarten. She is committed to instilling passion in teachers because she believes that passion is truly the secret to increasing learning and achievement.

- [Sharing Kindergarten on Facebook](http://Sharing Kindergarten on Facebook)
- [Digital Deals on Facebook](http://Digital Deals on Facebook)
- [Join our Newsletter by clicking here!](http://Join our Newsletter by clicking here!)

**BECKY ANDERSON**
Becky Anderson, co-owner of Anderson’s Bookshops and Anderson’s Bookfair Company in Naperville, Aurora, Downers Grove and La Grange, Illinois, began her career at the age of 11 in her family’s drugstore, after a fire. Her first job was to dust soot off of shelves and fixtures. She is the fifth generation to manage the family owned and operated businesses, which had its beginnings in Naperville in 1875. Books were sold from the beginning but the family’s first official bookshop opened 52 years ago above their pharmacy. Anderson’s Bookshops are general stores within which is a strong presence of children’s books. That emphasis led to the creation of a children’s wholesale book company, Anderson’s Bookfair Company more than 30 years ago to provide quality book fairs and educational sales in northern Illinois, but also nationally. She has a regular program called *Authors Revealed* on NCTV 17 and has been a regular book contributor on *Windy City Live* on ABC 7-TV in Chicago. She lives in Naperville with her husband of 37 years, Chuck Wilkins. They have three grown kids: Charlie, Sarah, and Hallie, who, to their mother’s joy, are voracious readers!

**Conference confirmations will be emailed and session tickets will be picked up onsite.**
GERRY BROOKS
Gerry Brooks is an elementary school principal in Lexington, Kentucky with experience including six years in the classroom, two years as an intervention specialist, and 12 years as an administrator. He is a passionate public speaker whose focus is on encouraging and helping teachers improve their instructional abilities and administrators to successfully lead their staff.

An encouraging speaker for educational groups all around the nation, his focus is on improving instruction through personal climate and culture strategies. He desires to help administrators focus on how to lead all staff positively and constructively.

His following on social media has developed through humorous videos that focus on real-world educational experiences.
www.youtube.com/gerrybrooks

KATHY BROWN
Kathy Brown has enjoyed teaching our youngest learners in the wonderful world of kindergarten for the past 32 years. Her passion for early literacy instruction was ignited in 1987 when she did her student teaching in Australia. Her action research was published in 1998 after she earned her Master’s Degree from Aurora University. Kathy is a Nationally Board Certified Teacher and the co-author of Kindergarten and the Common Core: It’s as Easy as ABC, which won Learning Magazine’s 2015 Teacher’s Choice Award for outstanding professional development resource. She was also a contributing expert to the professional development book entitled, Comprehensive Literacy Basics: An Anthology by Capstone. Kathy is passionate about sharing her love of teaching young children at early childhood conferences and has been a speaker at NAEYC, I Teach K, ILA, IRA, and more! canyoureadityeswecan.com

RICHARD COHEN
Richard Cohen, M.A. has proudly been an early childhood professional for over thirty years. For the last twenty years, Richard has traveled the world as a consultant, coach and motivational speaker/instructor, facilitating fun, innovative, thought-provoking, interactive adult learning experiences for communities of early childhood teachers, administrators, caregivers and parents. Additionally, he curates his viral social media presence, “Zen and the Art of Early Childhood Education,” offers a catalog of online ECE Professional Development courses and hosts Community Sing-a-Longs.

In recent years, Richard has fallen in love with teaching Early Care and Education at
the community college level. Currently at Manchester Community College in Connecticut and previously at Saint Louis Community College in Ferguson, Missouri—where his life was transformed by the shooting of Michael Brown and the ensuing riots that both wrought destruction on, and bonded together, his community. richie4360.wordpress.com

KAREN GRABER
Karen Graber is an innovative, energetic teacher with 33 years of Kindergarten experience. Karen holds a master’s degree in Early Childhood Education from Illinois State University. Presenting workshops for 20 years, Karen got her start at the IL ASCD Kindergarten Conference and has presented with BER, conducting two-day workshops for teachers across the U.S. and Canada. In addition, Karen has been a mentor teacher, served on a variety of district leadership councils and has been nominated for Disney Teacher of the Year Award. Karen’s presentations will share teacher-tested ideas that will enhance student learning.

WENDY HALPERIN
Wendy Anderson Halperin took an interesting path to entrepreneurship. She began her career as an illustrator for children’s books and then created an in-person enrichment program for students and teachers to help develop fine motor skills through drawing. The lessons that she learned from both of those careers led her to help create Drawn to Discover, an online program that teaches better handwriting and fine motor skills through drawing. Check out an article on Wendy in Forbes. www.wendyhalperin.com

KIM JORDANO
Kimberly Jordano has incorporated over 30 years of teaching experience into her kindergarten classroom. A master teacher and language-arts mentor in the Los Alamitos School District in California, Kimberly holds a master’s degree in English as a Second Language (ESL). Kimberly is a full-time kindergarten teacher in Los Alamitos California. Kimberly is a national teacher presenter and teacher blogger. You can find her posts daily on both Instagram, and her Facebook pages Kinderbykim. Kimberly’s kindergarten blog is kinderbykim.blogspot.com and has fans all across the world! You can find all of her creative teacher resource materials on Teacherspayteachers.com/kinderbykim Kimberly’s goal is to keep the joy in kindergarten while teaching the standards in a meaningful child-centered way!
Featured Presenters

MARY PAT LAROCCA & CELINE HILL
Mary Pat and Celine have taught kindergarten for a combined total of almost 70 years! They work together on the kindergarten team in La Grange South School District #105. Mary Pat and Celine presented together last year at this conference as well as at the national Learning Forward Conference in 2017. Mary Pat has attended this conference since its inception and has presented at this conference for over 30 years.

SARAH MARTINO
Sarah Martino is a kindergarten teacher, author, conference presenter, and kindergarten intervention teacher. She has a Master’s Degree and has been teaching kindergarten

MELISSA LEACH
Leach’s Literacy Training, LLC provides unique and dynamic professional development for teachers across the United States and in Canada. Melissa Leach, owner and president, is a sought after literacy specialist for her knowledge of the Balanced Literacy Framework. She is known for her ability to make success in each and every component feel achievable to every participant. Melissa has been a classroom teacher in Michigan and Texas, a K-5 ELAR specialist at Education Service Center Region 12, a Professional Learning Designer for the District of Columbia Public Schools, a K-12 ELAR and SLAR Specialist in a TX district, and she currently works full-time alongside her team of literacy consultants to run Leach’s Literacy Training, LLC

MARSHA MCGUIRE
Marsha McGuire is a kindergarten teacher in Cadillac, Michigan where she has accumulated over 15 years of experience teaching in early childhood classrooms. Her undergraduate degree was completed at Macalester College in St. Paul, Minnesota and her graduate degree in Early Childhood Education with a focus on Differentiated Instruction at Grand Valley State University. Marsha is also the author and creator behind the blog, A Differentiated Kindergarten, where she shares ideas, activities, and products. Her blog has become an avenue to aide other instructors in developing practical, developmentally appropriate, and differentiated instructional strategies in their classroom. differentiatedkindergarten.com

Click the cover for more info.

SARAH MARTINO
Sarah Martino is a kindergarten teacher, author, conference presenter, and kindergarten intervention teacher. She has a Master’s Degree and has been teaching kindergarten
for the past 20 years. She is the co-author of *Kindergarten and the Common Core: It's as Easy as ABC*, which won Learning Magazine’s 2015 Teacher’s Choice Award for outstanding professional development resource. Sarah was also a contributing expert to the professional development book entitled, *Comprehensive Literacy Basics: An Anthology by Capstone Professional*. Sarah enjoys presenting and sharing her love of teaching. She has been a speaker at conferences such as NAEYC, I Teach K, ILA, IRA, and more!

canyoureadityeswecan.com

**SHARI SLOANE**

Shari has been an enthusiastic kindergarten teacher for over 30 years. An experienced national presenter, she offers a range of kindergarten-specific topics and teacher-tested strategies. Shari expertly translates what occurs in her classroom into innovative and practical instructional methods that enrich the learning environment. Her website, [www.kidscoun1234.com](http://www.kidscoun1234.com), contains many easy to use activities and centers that you can print and go. She has released music CDs for use in the classroom, including her most popular songs “Vowel Bat” and “The Cleanup Song.”

**GREG SMEDLEY-WARREN**

Greg has been teaching for 14 years. He spent a year teaching fifth grade, two years in second grade and is now in his 11th year in Kindergarten, which he’s determined is his calling and passion. He received his bachelor’s degree from Indiana University and ELL certification from David Lipscomb University. In 2015 he was selected as Teacher Of The Year. When not in the classroom, Greg enjoys blogging and doing all things teach. His husband (known as The Mister online) is a large part of his blog, social media, and their conference, ELEVATE. They recently added a daughter Adelynn to their family and complete the fam with their dog Butters. [thekindergartensmorgasboard.com](http://thekindergartensmorgasboard.com)

**ADAM PETERSON**

Adam Peterson is an educator, speaker, author, and vlogger most known for his YouTube channel, Teachers Learn Too. A kindergarten teacher with over 13 years in the classroom, Adam now dedicates his time to helping teachers create meaningful and engaging experiences for their students! He’s on a mission to make classrooms as fun as possible to ensure every day is the best day ever in school!

[www.adampetersoneducation.com](http://www.adampetersoneducation.com)  
[www.makesomeonesdayyellow.com](http://www.makesomeonesdayyellow.com)  
Facebook: Adam Peterson Education  
Twitter and Instagram: @teacherslearn2  
Follow all his classroom adventures on his vlog, [teacherslearn2.com](http://teacherslearn2.com)
CAROLE STEPHENS
Dubbed “the Pied Piper of children’s music,” “Miss Carole” Stephens is a nationally renowned music specialist. Her cross-curricular music and guidance techniques instantly invite all audiences from the youngest child to the oldest adult to join in singing, dancing and rhythmic movement.

Click for more info.

DONNA WHYTE
Donna Whyte is a certified teacher, an education consultant and an author. Her positive attitude, high energy, and her many practical ideas make her presentations exciting and valuable to educators. Donna has published several books including You Can’t Teach a Class You Can’t Manage and a 2nd edition of Morning Meeting ~ Afternoon Wrap Up. She is also the author of Social, Emotional and Behavioral Interventions, The Reading Aptitude Continuum and My Writing Words.

DEEDEE WILLS
Deedee began her teaching career in San Diego where she taught at a school with 96% second language learners. After several years of teaching second grade, she became her district’s literacy coach. She helped to train and implement balanced literacy to the K – 2 staff, but found she missed the classroom and returned to teach Kindergarten. She runs the popular blog www.mrswillskindergarten.com

Session descriptions will also be available on our Kindergarten Conference app.
SPECIAL EVENING EVENTS

Supercharge Your Literacy Instruction While Meeting Social-Emotional Needs with GREG SMEDLEY-WARREN

Curious about how to supercharge your literacy instruction while meeting the social-emotional needs of your students? Find out how to do BOTH, in a short amount of time, all while implementing a morning meeting and a literacy routine in the classroom.

Wed. March 4th | 6 to 8 p.m.

$59 MEMBERS • $108 NON-MEMBERS • $79 GROUP (3+) • $29 STUDENT/RETIREE

Teacher Happy Hour!

Do you wish you had more time for play in your classroom? Join us for a collaborative social hour about bringing play back to Kindergarten. This is not a presentation, but rather an opportunity to share ideas and collaborate with like minded colleagues while enjoying some refreshments.

Thurs. March 5th | 5 to 6:30 p.m.

Limited to 50 people, so reserve (page 80) your space/ticket as part of your registration! $20/$10 students

FOYER OUTSIDE ADVENTURE HALL • CASH BAR
Thursday, March 5th - SESSION A: 7:30 a.m. - 8:30 a.m.

A01 Mad Science
P • K • 1
Greg Smedley-Warren
Transform your students into mad scientists with this fun, hands-on science session!
Learn the benefits of doing hands-on science with your students and learn easy-to-do science experiments for your class!

A02 Differentiating Literacy Stations
K • 1
Marsha McGuire
Organize, implement, and maintain differentiated literacy stations that fill your classroom with independence, engagement, meaningful activities, and success. Whether you use literacy stations or a Daily 5 model, learn classroom-tested tips and ideas for making Differentiating Instruction a reality!

A03 Restorative Behavioral Practices: Using the Behavior Management Cycle to Establish Positive Classroom Culture
P • K • 1 • A
Kendrick Johnson
Start fostering restorative behavior management practices the first weeks of school by building positive, healthy relationships with students and establishing social capital within your classroom community. The restorative behavior management approach will provide you with strategies to promote high expectations, maximize time on task, and ensure that learning is the top priority. Leave knowing how to apply this restorative behavior management system with your own students.

A04 Model, Motivate, Write, Repeat!
K • 1
Adam Peterson
Do your students complain and whine when it’s time to sit and write? No more! Attend this session to explore how to change writing time into one of the most positive, exciting times of your day. Get your students excited by allowing them to tell stories, see their stories come to life in the classroom, and turn their writing into published books!

A05 Learning Sight Words and Having Fun
K • 1
Mary Amoson
Replenish your supply of fresh, new ideas for sight word games and activities kids LOVE to play! Learning sight words has never been so much fun! Mary sends you home with kid-tested and teacher-approved sight word games to try tomorrow. This session includes a digital make and take download.
Thursday, March 5th - SESSION A: 7:30 a.m. - 8:30 a.m.

**A06 Journey to Discovery Based Learning**  
P • K • 1  
Emily Vaughn  
Michelle Cook

This session will outline our implementation of a discovery-based classroom. We will talk about how we came to the decision of implementing, preparing to implement, and our 1st year. We will also discuss what we learned along the way and what we would change for next year.

**A07 Promoting a Growth Mindset in Your Classroom**  
P • K • 1  
Sarah Teed  
Lorri Larsen

We will give a brief summary of the research by Carol Dweck, model how we teach growth mindset lessons, and show great growth mindset resources. Come hear about amazing resources that encourage and promote a growth mindset.

**A08 Developmentally Appropriate Practice in the Kindergarten Classroom**  
P • K • 1 • A  
Anni Reinking

In this session administrators and kindergarten teachers will dive into what it means to have developmentally appropriate practice in a kindergarten classroom. This will include examples and discussions of hands-on inquiry play, along with understanding assessment in a DAP classroom.

**A09 Preschool Partnerships Are Powerful**  
P • A  
Melba Hooker  
Eileen Gaters

Preschool is proven as a powerful catalyst for future learning. Factors such as decreasing budgets, overtaxed staff, and lack of family structure could prove restrictive. Partnerships are powerful for youngsters to increase success in a financially unstable climate. Simple and systematic steps to recruit local support from the local “village” can fill in the gaps.

Join us at the conference!  
CLICK here TO REGISTER NOW online
Thursday, March 5th - SESSION A: 7:30 a.m. - 8:30 a.m.

A10 Getting Started With Guided Reading

Carmalita Neely

This presentation will provide educators with a framework to follow for planning guided reading in the classroom. Educators will learn: What is Guided Reading, how to set up for Guided Reading, what to do before Guided Reading, what to do during Guided Reading, and what to do after Guided Reading.

A11 Pint-Sized Savers

Sheryl Gallaher
Judith Dymond

Learn to engage Pre-K/K students in financial literacy through popular children's literature and hands-on activities. All lessons that will be shared are aligned to IL language arts, math and social studies standards. These activities introduce young children to real life financial and decision-making in a creative and fun way. Teachers will receive a bibliography and play dough. There will be a drawing for a teacher lesson book for Kindergarten students.

A12 A Picture is Worth a Thousand Words

Lana Briggs
Eduardo Perez

This session will give you additional strategies to build oral and written language. The strategies help develop background knowledge and pre-teach complex vocabulary. It will help students become confident as writers and presenters while making real world to text connections.

A13 Math and Reading...It’s FUNdamental

LeSaundra Blakley

Would you like to increase the rigor of your math instruction? Join us for this eye-opening session that is filled with fun activities that integrate math and literature simultaneously. In this session, participants will learn how to move from mathematics instruction to numeracy development using storybooks to increase student engagement and retention.

Session numbers are in numeric order; however, missing numbers do not mean missing sessions.
Thursday, March 5th - SESSION A: 7:30 a.m. - 8:30 a.m.

A14 Student-Created Rubrics: How-to-Guide
1 Deanna Bauers

Looking for a way to teach self-monitoring to your primary students? Empower them by using Student Created Rubrics! Take a walk through the process. Then confidently guide your class in creating a simple rubric that can drive your instruction. Incorporating Student Created Rubrics will change the way you teach!

A15 Are We Responding to Behavior Issues in the “Right” Way?
A Benita Anderson

This session will present a data-driven, proven disciplinary plan and strategies that can be used school wide. The strategies will provide a framework for administrators and teachers that promotes consistent measures for teaching behaviors and accountability at an early age.

A16 Easy Technology Tips to Change Your Teaching
P • K • 1
Kelly Haynes

Participants will learn simple technology tips that help making learning fun for the teacher and students. During this session, technology tips will be shared that are not only relevant, engaging and fun BUT free.

A17 Math in the Mud: Ways to Incorporate Nature Into Your Math Curriculum
P • K • 1 • A
Julie Parker
Marnie McKee

As teachers with a mission to put the environment at the center of everything we do, we will share practical ways to enhance your math curriculum by getting kids outside. Whether you teach in the city or suburbs, this session will offer enriching hands-on experiences to encourage learning outdoors.

A18 Make Your Day Engaging, Enjoyable, and Motivating For You AND Your Young Learners!
K • 1
Mary Pat Larocca
Celine Hill

Come to this session and go back to your classroom with many strategies to engage today’s young learners! Learn how important it is to develop rapport and connections with your students. Take home songs, poems, and tactics that will positively gain children’s attention. We will also tell you how we have learned how to make “turn and talks” easy and effective with kindergartners and how you can get your students engaged and talking more and you talking less! We will share every trick and all of our favorite resources (combined 70 years of kindergarten experience!) for positive classroom management, mindful practices, and ways to foster intrinsic motivation in your students.
Thursday, March 5th - SESSION A: 7:30 a.m. - 8:30 a.m.

A19 Building STEAM: Creating an Environment of Science Discovery in Early Childhood
P • A
Shannon Cribaro
This session will focus on the science interest center in the classroom using CC and ECERS-3 guidelines as well as classroom data. Teachers & Administrators will learn how to set the stage for children to become curious and confident young scientists. Through thoughtful design of the science and discovery area and sharing in children’s interest and excitement, staff can provide opportunities to explore and engage in the practices of science.

A20 Rhyme and Reason: Storybook Tales that Make Tech Talk Fun and Simple
P • K • 1
Lemi-Ola Erinkitola
Ruchi Sharma
Welcome to Cyber City! In this session, you’ll meet Digital Dan and his friends, the stars of an all-new book series that uses rhyme and poetry to help pre-K and early elementary children understand and use technology in a safe, fun way. Cybersecurity has never been so fun!

A21 Engagement, Collaboration, and Discovery: STEAM in the Early Childhood Classroom
P • K • 1 • A
Kat Armstrong
This session focuses on the importance of incorporating STEAM in the Early Childhood classroom to enhance learning across content areas. It will provide practical tools for teaching STEAM concepts through a combination of open-ended exploration opportunities and lessons that are accessible for all learners, including students receiving special education services.

Conference confirmations will be emailed and session tickets will be picked up onsite.
KEYNOTE

Gerry Brooks
Climate and Culture in Schools

Climate and culture are extremely important in all schools. What we sometimes forget is how important it is to each individual working with students. This keynote will focus on the importance of personal climate and culture to become the best educator you can be no matter what position you hold.

Thursday, March 5th - SESSION B: 8:45 a.m. - 10:15 a.m.

C01 Thinking Deeply About Books: Engaging Readers in Interactive Read Alouds
K • 1
Deedee Wills

How do you teach emergent readers to become deep thinkers and engage in focused discussions? How do you scaffold them, support their attempts, and help them transfer their learning to new situations? It just doesn’t happen... it happens with deliberate instruction. Join Deedee as she walks you through the process of planning an interactive read-aloud for deliberate instruction.
C02 Differentiating Literacy Stations
K • 1
Marsha McGuire
Repeated Session: A2
Organize, implement, and maintain differentiated literacy stations that fill your classroom with independence, engagement, meaningful activities, and success. Whether you use literacy stations or a Daily 5 model, learn classroom-tested tips and ideas for making Differentiating Instruction a reality!

C03 Emotional, Social and Behavioral Interventions that Work!!
P • K • 1 • A
Donna Whyte
Join Donna to answer the question of “now what?” when students lack social, emotional or behavioral skills. Learn fun and engaging activities that you can incorporate in your classroom to increase these life skills so important to learning success! Leave this session with ideas to use immediately when you return to your classroom. (Make and Take – bring scissors and a glue stick)

C04 Math Centers that Matter
K • 1
Kim Adsit
In this session you will learn how to organize and run math centers that will have your children mathematicians in no time! Kim will share her ideas for organizing math centers that will ensure the math standards are taught and maintained throughout the year. She will share activities, games, and journal ideas that she uses in the different centers. Kim will also show you how math centers will enable you to work with small groups and provide both enrichment and tutorial activities for all learners!

C05 Powerful Early Intervention Strategies in Literacy
K • 1
Shari Sloane
In this session, Shari will present early interventions and techniques to help accelerate and increase the skills of your struggling students. These strategies can be taken back to your own classroom and implemented immediately. You will learn a few tools that you can take with you that will ensure that your core instruction and interventions are aligned with key standards that are linked to student achievement.

Session descriptions will also be available on our Kindergarten Conference app.
C06 Teacher I’m Done
P • K • 1 • A
Kim Jordano

The three dreaded words you hear when you just sat down to teach small group reading! Well worry no more. Kim will show you how to create engaging hands-on activities to keep your early finishers engaged, on task and learning through independent and partner activities.

C07 Model, Motivate, Write, Repeat!
K • 1
Adam Peterson

Repeat Session: A04
Do your students complain and whine when it’s time to sit and write? No more! Attend this session to explore how to change writing time into one of the most positive, exciting times of your day. Get your students excited by allowing them to tell stories, see their stories come to life in the classroom, and turn their writing into published books!

C08 Huddle Up: Mini-Lessons in a Writer’s Workshop Classroom
K • 1
Melissa Leach

Like the huddle at the start of a football game, mini-lessons help little writers know the play! Melissa demonstrates powerful mini-lessons that will teach your students about conventions and craft. Ready... WRITE!

C09 Twin Goals of Writing and Social Emotional Learning
K • 1 • A
Kristy Rauch

Participants will experience an approach to writing instruction that also supports young writers’ SEL growth. Using high-quality literature to guide students through the early developmental stages of writing, this session will suggest ways to nurture independent writers while also encouraging a sense of inquiry and collaboration.

C10 Universal Communication: Core Boards
P • K
Cynthia Dressler
Deanne DiDomenico

The use of core boards can help bridge your students’ developing language and communication skills. Core boards are a tool that can be used for student interaction and communication regardless of their level of ability to vocalize, English language skills or age. Come and see how they are used to support instruction in the various settings in a preschool setting.
C11 Using Storytelling to Teach Bilingual Students  
P • K • 1 • A  
Michael Lockett  
“The Normal Storyteller”

Storytelling is one of the most effective ways to introduce vocabulary, build fluency, raise reading comprehension, all while improving speaking and listening skills for both regular and bilingual students. Participants will be immersed in “Story Play”, an effective technique for quickly learning to tell and use stories in the classroom.

C12 Game-Set-Math for Preschool and Pre-K: Numbers + Balls = Math Success!  
P  
Jan Ackmann

This workshop is hands-on! Learn exciting games that meet Math Standards for Preschool & Pre-K. Count, work with numbers and sets, move, think, compare and more! I will walk you through it – you will do the math - and you will walk out a better teacher! Let’s do this!

C13 The Power of Play  
P • K  
Dondra Burton-Womack  
Angie Richards

This session will discuss how important play is to a child’s health and development. Children can learn through various forms of play and games are one of them. When children play games, they invest time and energy and there are many learning opportunities available. Playing games can be incorporated for all types of learners. The benefits of Universal Design with games is that it increases access for all students, encourages all students to participate and try new ideas, and increases retention. There are many forms of games that can enrich a child’s brain. Instead of teachers having to create or find new games, this session will teach them how to take old school games to create new school games. Many of the games we played as children are still very popular such as pat-a-cake, duck-duck-goose, hopscotch, ring around the rosie, and many more. These same games can be used in a creative way to make learning fun and engaging.

Join us at the conference!  
CLICK here TO REGISTER NOW online
Thursday, March 5th - SESSION C: 10:30 a.m. - 11:30 a.m.

C14 Bringing the Excitement of the Library of Congress to Kindergarten
K • 1 • A
Danielle Daletski

Increase student engagement, questioning, and critical thinking utilizing primary sources from the Library of Congress. Access free, vetted, standards-aligned lessons for immediate use in kindergarten that focus around teaching with primary sources from the Library of Congress.

C15 Embracing Nature
P • K
Molly Babu

The outdoors offers important health, developmental benefits, and valuable experiences. With thoughtful planning, supportive practices, and policies, programs can provide children with opportunities for active outdoor play, nature exploration, and connections in many ways, even in circumstances that are less than ideal. Working together, staff can offer rich outdoor learning opportunities that support children’s development and help them find success and joy with little or no cost to you.

C16 Math Chats
K • 1
Sarah Martino
Kathy Brown

Turn up the talk in your everyday math lessons. Get your students explaining, collaborating and celebrating as they discuss core math skills like counting, adding, subtracting, measuring, shapes and more. Kathy and Sarah will share a 5-10 minute daily routine you can use whenever it fits best into your day. Add a math chat during whole group math time as a warm up or during small group math intervention time as guided practice. Discover our easy routine including a strategic name for each day like Make It Monday and True or False Tuesday. Try implementing math chats and before you know it, your students will be singing and chanting, “I can solve problems in so many ways!”

C17 Design Thinking for Kindergarten and 1st Grade
K • 1
Crystal Wash

Design thinking can be developed in students as early as kindergarten. Students enter schools with a natural curiosity to create. Why not give them this opportunity? In this workshop, you will learn how to take primary students through the five phases of Design Thinking to think, plan and take action to solve a particular problem.

Session numbers are in numeric order; however, missing numbers do not mean missing sessions.
C18 Digging for Facts  
P • K • 1  
Deb Bible  

In this session teachers will learn about and experience ways to include non-fiction reading and writing throughout the day.

C19 Math Shakers Activities - There Will be a Whole Lot of Shaking Going On!  
K • 1  
Jane Felling  

Come prepared to play with Jane’s favorite math manipulative, a math shaker. The activities incorporate all learning channels and allow students to move and dance while they take a “math brain break.” Great for centers or whole group. Be prepared to dance and move while you practice: counting, subitizing, doubles, count on and back, ordering and comparing numbers, early operations and more. Gameboards, student samples, math talk and journal ideas. Participants will receive a shaker!

C20 If They Build It, They Will Come!  
P • K • 1 • A  
Michelle Escapa  

Simple. Wooden. Blocks. Give them the ‘field,’ and they’ll build the dreams. Prepare to be blown away by all the ways a scaffolded block center can be rigorous and engaging. Through active participation, you will discover how to meet learning standards while gathering evidence on KIDS measures.

C21 Don’t Throw It Away! Make Something and Play!  
P • K • 1  
Joyce Hemphill  

Cereal boxes, yogurt cups, and plastic lids are the makings of playful learning activities which promote problem solving, decision making, coordination, and turn-taking. Attendees will construct make-n-take activities from safe household recyclables and experience firsthand the benefits of playful learning. All materials will be provided.
Thursday, March 5th - SESSION D: 11:45 a.m. - 12:45 p.m.

**D01 Thinking Deeply About Books: Engaging Readers in Interactive Read Alouds**
K • 1
Deedee Wills

Repeat Session: C01
How do you teach emergent readers to become deep thinkers and engage in focused discussions? How do you scaffold them, support their attempts, and help them transfer their learning to new situations? It just doesn’t happen... it happens with deliberate instruction. Join Deedee as she walks you through the process of planning an interactive read-aloud for deliberate instruction.

**D02 High Poverty, High Results: Transformational Teaching of At-Risk Populations**
P • K • 1 • A
Kendrick Johnson

This session explores the discrepancies between personal and institutional mindsets and their effects on academic achievement among students of color, particularly those living in poverty. This session explores how to shift from damaging mindsets to liberation mindsets in order to effect change in school culture and promote educator effectiveness.

**D03 Emotional, Social and Behavioral Interventions that Work!!**
P • K • 1 • A
Donna Whyte

Repeat Session: C03
Join Donna to answer the question of “now what?” when students lack social, emotional or behavioral skills. Learn fun and engaging activities that you can incorporate in your classroom to increase these life skills so important to learning success! Leave this session with ideas to use immediately when you return to your classroom. (Make and Take – bring scissors and a glue stick)

**D04 Math Centers that Matter**
K • 1
Kim Adsit

Repeat Session: C04
In this session you will learn how to organize and run math centers that will have your children mathematicians in no time! Kim will share her ideas for organizing math centers that will ensure the math standards are taught and maintained throughout the year. She will share activities, games, and journal ideas that she uses in the different centers. Kim will also show you how math centers will enable you to work with small groups and provide both enrichment and tutorial activities for all learners!
Thursday, March 5th - SESSION D: 11:45 a.m. - 12:45 p.m.

**D05 Powerful Early Intervention Strategies in Literacy**  
K • 1  
*Shari Sloane*

Repeat Session: C05  
In this session, Shari will present early interventions and techniques to help accelerate and increase the skills of your struggling students. These strategies can be taken back to your own classroom and implemented immediately. You will learn a few tools that you can take with you that will ensure that your core instruction and interventions are aligned with key standards that are linked to student achievement.

**D06 Teacher I’m Done**  
P • K • 1 • A  
*Kim Jordano*

Repeat Session: C06  
The three dreaded words you hear when you just sat down to teach small group reading! Well worry no more. Kim will show you how to create engaging hands-on activities to keep your early finishers engaged, on task and learning through independent and partner activities.

**D07 Let’s Talk “Number Talks!”**  
K • 1  
*Mary Pat Larocca  
Celine Hill*

Come and hear how we start our Shared Math lesson each day with a ten minute “number Math lesson each day with a ten minute “number talk!” We will share with you our daily routine which even includes songs! We focus on a different skill each day of the week: Counting, Shapes, Numbers, a day for the many different CCSS we work on, and we end the week with “Fast Eyes Friday” where we focus on subitizing. We will give you a handout which will include EVERYTHING you will need to try this “number talk routine” in your classroom. If you want engaged mathematicians, this is the presentation for you!

**D08 Huddle Up: Mini-Lessons in a Writer’s Workshop Classroom**  
K • 1  
*Melissa Leach*

Repeat Session: C08  
Like the huddle at the start of a football game, mini-lessons help little writers know the play! Melissa demonstrates powerful mini-lessons that will teach your students about conventions and craft. Ready... WRITE!

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**Join us at the conference!**  
**CLICK here TO REGISTER NOW online**
Thursday, March 5th - SESSION D: 11:45 a.m. - 12:45 p.m.

D09 Play-Based Kindergarten
K
Melissa Davidson
Attendees will learn how to incorporate play in the classroom by ditching the worksheets and still meeting the state standards, collect data, rotate centers without spending hours preparing, align learning to the KIDS instrument and set up your classroom to allow play in kindergarten.

D10 Teaching Creative: Problem Solving With Fairy Tales
P • K • 1
Trevor Steinbach
Belinda Veillon
Have your students make predictions, respond appropriately to information and ideas conveyed orally, and seek answers to questions through active exploration in a fun way as they explore fairy tales. Learn this approach today and implement the process tomorrow with your favorite story or big book.

D11 Early Childhood SEL: A Hands On Approach
P • K • 1
Cathy Tantillo
Carla Tantillo Philibert
This session provides participants with strategies to structure community-centered, pro-social early childhood classrooms. Movement and breathing activities for use throughout the day help students learn self-awareness, self-regulation and interpersonal skills. Mindful Practices’ early childhood curriculum supports staff to manage student behavior via SEL activities. SEL books and songs are shared.

D12 Right Information, Right Now!
P • K • 1
Rebecca Swartz
Jill Tompkins
Bernadette Laumann
Be ready to answer questions about children learning, development, and special needs. During this interactive session, you will be introduced to the free resources provided by the Early Childhood Collective in the Department of Special Education at the University of Illinois and learn to find high quality resources for families.

Conference confirmations will be emailed and session tickets will be picked up onsite.
**D13 Through the Eyes of a Child: Vision and Learning**
P • K • 1 • A
David Maze

Led by Dr. David Maze, a board certified Developmental Optometrist, we will discuss how to work with children who have visual processing disorders. Even for your brightest child, these challenges interfere with their ability to read, learn, comprehend, and even pay attention. Learn how to recognize the issues and support the child.

**D14 Anchor Charts 101**
K
Carolyn Hacker

In this session Carolyn will share an overview on how to use anchor charts in the classroom. Come away with tons of ideas, tips, and tricks to get you incorporating anchor charts right away! We will end the session with a hands-on make and take anchor chart for your classroom.

**D15 Monarchs and Me: the Mission**
P • K
Jeannette Bielenda
Dawn McCarthy

Making a difference through play can help monarchs in a big way. Inquiry, research, and hands-on activities can make junior scientists learn with ease. Culture, Math, and Art help the students learn the conservation part. Milkweed, habitats, and yoga activities will exactly be the answer to build the monarch community!

**D16 Phonics Fun for Everyone**
K • 1
Sarah Martino
Kathy Brown

Are you and your students bored with the same old phonics skill and drill instruction? Join us for this session and learn how to make phonics fun again. Kathy and Sarah will show you how to link letter and sound instruction with real reading, writing, speaking, and listening. Discover how to bundle 30 standards in one phonics routine. Parent ideas and literacy center routines are embedded throughout the presentation too. Lots of ideas for Daily 5! Leave genuinely inspired to make phonics learning fun for everyone!

**D17 It All Started With A Tarantula!**
K • A
Julie Lingl

Learn how to create an environment that supports play, creativity and wonderment while increasing learning. Topics include: Starting small with a “Curiosity Corner,” the social-emotional tools kids need, getting administration on board, and parents as partners.
Thursday, March 5th - SESSION D: 11:45 a.m. - 12:45 p.m.

**D18 Using Sensory Tables to Meet Learning Standards**
P • K • 1
*Tera Hammond*

In this session, participants will be introduced to a variety of options for sensory tables and bins other than commercially made products. They will get their hands-on samples of fillers and receive a list of them and where they can be found. Additionally, they will learn about how to use additional materials like tools and fun add-ins to help children meet learning standards while they explore with their senses.

**D19 Demystifying Dice - Great Math Activities with All Kinds of Dice**
P • K • 1
*Jane Felling*

Come prepared to rock and roll with double dice, 10, 12, 20, subitizing and 30 sided dice. Ideas for building number sense, subitizing, graphing, comparing and ordering doubles, and calendars will be shared. Dice are wonderfully engaging to students and easy to integrate into your centers or use in whole group. You will be amazed with all the math you can teach with multi-sided dice. One of our favorite workshops and certainly our student’s favorite. Who can resist such fun! Gameboards and dice giveaways.

**D20 Connecting the Dots - Domino Math Games**
P • K • 1
*Carrie Brockway*

Come prepared to play games that incorporate the use of standard double-six dominoes. Students love this manipulative and it is perfect for centers, small or whole group and family math nights. You will play and learn games for patterning, counting, early addition, graphing and more. Participants will receive gameboards and ideas for management. Student samples, ideas for journals and assessment will be shared.

**D21 Physics in the Pre-K Classroom: A Collaboration**
P • K • 1
*Diane Riendeau*
*Elise Riendeau*

We will share the results of the collaboration between a Pre-K teacher and a High School Physics teacher. The session will include ideas that can be utilized in any Early Childhood classroom.
Thursday, March 5th - SESSION D: 11:45 a.m. - 12:45 p.m.

D22 Making Math Fun!
K • 1
Karen Graber
Connie Boznos

Let’s make math fun and hands-on! Come see many ideas and activities that will strengthen math skills and reinforce the standards! Activities shared can be used in whole group time or in math station/centers.

D23 Singable Songs and Fingerplays for Developing Early Literacy Skills, Attention and Community in PreK & K!
P • K • 1
Carole Stephens

To learn, children must engage. To become engaged - get their attention. To get their attention present content that is developmentally appropriate, interesting and FUN! Making music is a vital gateway to early learning. Teachers of all abilities will learn music to sing and DO with children of all abilities.
Thursday, March 5th - SESSION E: 1:15 p.m. - 2:15 p.m.

**E02 Math Stations Gone Differentiated**

K • 1  
*Marsha McGuire*

Make math stations your students’ favorite time of the day by introducing fun and engaging activities that address their interests, learning profiles, and readiness. Marsha introduces tips and techniques that will quickly take your math stations to the next level. Gather ideas for organizing materials and creating a classroom of independent and eager learners. Marsha also provides standards-based examples to illustrate counting, number recognition, counting on, decomposing, adding/subtracting, and geometry.

**E03 Foundations of Reading**

K • 1  
*Donna Whyte*

Reading is Rocket Science! As the author of *The Reading Aptitude Continuum Ladders*, Donna will share unique classroom-tested strategies for creating a classroom of motivated readers. Gain instructional ideas that aid in addressing the needs of individual readers in your room. Leave with a better understanding of how to teach at a higher level by focusing what you choose to teach. Learn to target imperative elements of learning to read – focused teaching will equal MORE learning.

**E04 We “ECERED” Up, Now What?**

P • A  
*Linda Housewright  Amy Fullerton*

This session will focus on the learning toys/tools to purchase for PFA/Expansion classrooms. We will take an intentional look at how we purchase materials, how they match our curriculum, where they fit into an ECERS friendly environment and how to authentically assess children as they play with these learning tools. Teachers will leave with lesson plan experiences built around specific learning standards/benchmarks and they connect to individual portfolio collections... AND there will be some giveaways involved!!!!

Session numbers are in numeric order; however, missing numbers do not mean missing sessions.
E05 Create the Magic that Connects Children to their Own Possibilities with Drawn To Discover
P • K • 1
Wendy Halperin

It’s affordable, it’s effective, it’s innovative, it’s ground-breaking and children love it. We draw to engage and that engagement leads effortlessly to improvement in handwriting, attention span, following direction skills and the critical fine motor connections to the brain in early childhood education. This program has been researched and the results will amaze teachers, parents and students alike. Teachers learn to draw along with their students. You will see a box of 64 crayons in a completely new light for a lifetime and so will your students. We teach to the tools. Come to this session and join us in “Unleashing the Happiness”. Come draw with Wendy and experience the magic.

E06 Literacy at the Pre-K-K Level
P • K
Elizabeth Clarkson

Developing strong language and literacy skills are a foundational building block for school success. Children should experience story comprehension, phonological awareness, and phonics in developmentally appropriate and engaging environments. We’ll look at examples of curriculum mapping structures to clearly define these elements and ways to build strong integration within the curriculum.

E07 Learning Sight Words and Having Fun
K • 1
Mary Amoson

Repeat Session: A05
Replenish your supply of fresh, new ideas for sight word games and activities kids LOVE to play! Learning sight words has never been so much fun! Mary sends you home with kid-tested and teacher-approved sight word games to try tomorrow. This session includes a digital make and take download.

E08 Over the Rainbow with Phonemic Awareness, Phonics, and Letters- Oh My!
P • K • 1
Melissa Leach

Get out your ruby slippers and learn how to boost your kindergartners’ phonemic awareness, phonics and letter ID skills with three clicks of your heels! Melissa will share games and activities that will reinforce PA and letter/sound recognition. Your students will have so much fun playing that they won’t even realize they’re learning.

Join us at the conference!
CLICK here TO REGISTER NOW online
E09 Developing an Inquiry Mindset in our Youngest Learners
P • K • 1 • A
Amy MacCrindle

Our classrooms should be a place where all students feel like they can be curious to discover the world around them. In order for this to happen, we as educators must set up an environment for students to launch into that inquiry mindset. Leave this session with specific examples of how you can best empower young learners, allow for wonderings, and cultivate that mindset in them.

E10 Working with Children and Families Living In Poverty
P • K • 1 • A
Anni Reinking

In this workshop participants will develop empathy for students living in poverty, understand the impact of trauma on the brain, and critically analyze what schools are currently doing in relation to students living in poverty. By bringing in a few statistics and developing an action plan, participants will leave with applicable knowledge.

E11 Kiddie Economy
K
Sheryl Gallaher
Judith Dymond

A classroom economic system provides children with experiences that involve decision-making and cost/benefit analysis at a level that kids can understand and enjoy. This session will demonstrate how to set up a Kiddie Economy that teachers can personalize to fit individual classroom needs and to meet state standards in Economics.

E12 It’s More Than Just Behavior
P • K • A
Andrew Fruth

It’s more than just Behavior—a look how behavior manifests itself in students, why it pushes our buttons, the societal issues influencing our students, and most importantly strategies to help combat problematic behavior in your classroom.

E13 Coding in Kindergarten
P • K • 1
Connie Boznos

Learning to code prepares kids for the world we live in today. Learn what coding is and why it’s essential in the kindergarten classroom. This session will include an introduction to coding as well as how to incorporate it into your class using everyday materials.
Thursday, March 5th - SESSION E: 1:15 p.m. - 2:15 p.m.

E14 Culturally Responsive Teaching & Global Awareness in a Pre-K-2nd Classroom
P • K • 1 • A
Jennifer LaRocque

In my sessions, I will discuss how I increase global awareness and culturally responsive teaching in my kindergarten classroom. I will discuss how culturally responsive teaching can impact learning and brain function. In my classroom, I use real photos of people from around the world, relationship building activities, diverse books and STEM centers to provide a welcoming and inclusive classroom for all of my students. I will also discuss how I incorporate global awareness through S.O.L.E. and STEAM challenges.

E15 Understanding Selective Mutism
P • K • 1 • A
Kathy Slattery

Selective Mutism is an often misunderstood anxiety disorder typically identified during the preschool or early primary school years. Children with Selective Mutism can speak at home and where comfortable, but often cannot speak in school and group care settings due to anxiety. Attend this session to learn how teachers and others can support these children and help them overcome this condition.

E16 Best Books Ever: Empower Social Skills Superstars
K • 1
Sarah Martino
Kathy Brown

You can’t teach the ABC’s and the 123’s if your students are not socially and emotionally ready to learn. Books are great springboards to discussing social skills. Do you need some tried and true titles to use to help your students develop skills such as making good choices, taking risks, perseverance, growth mindset, kindness, etc.? We love sharing our favorite read alouds. Join us and learn how to empower a classroom of social skills superstars! Get excited as you leave with a list of magical mentor texts and extension ideas to use to inspire a community of caring and confident learners.
Thursday, March 5th - SESSION E: 1:15 p.m. - 2:15 p.m.

E17 Developing Social Emotional Literacy During Free Choice Play Centers
P • K • A
Christine Anderson
Beth Pelletier

Intentionally designed free choice play centers allow students to develop their imagination, build problem-solving skills, expand their creativity, and develop cognitive and academic skills. Most importantly, play helps children build the important life-long skills of cooperation, collaboration and social/emotional literacy. In this session, we will share our collaboration with Debra Honegger, journeyintoearlychildhood.com, on ways choice play centers are used to enhance students’ social/emotional development. Debra will join us to answer any questions and provide additional information.

E18 A Multi-Sensory Introduction to Sight Words Through Songs
P • K
LaDonna Wicklund

Joyous songs, gifted to you, boost Pre-K and Kindergarten children in essential language and literacy skills. Sing and dance children into reading and writing 13 beginning words, reading simple print, forming letters, and having an I CAN READ attitude. Especially helpful for ELL and at-risk children.

E19 Aprender Jugando
K
Rocio Torres
Lourdes Buchs

This session is to help Dual Language teachers understand what and how the play base centers work and are done. Teachers will learn the simple steps to create purpose play centers based on themes/units. Teachers will get guidance on how to prepare, plan, and play during this 45 minute block during a full day kindergarten day.

E20 Literacy Fun “die”mentals
P • K • 1
Carrie Brockway

Come prepared to play our literacy games that incorporate the use of alphabet tiles, dice and word decks. Games and activities focus on learning the alphabet and its’ sounds, letter recognition, rhyming and word families, vocabulary, spelling simple CVC words, initial work with vowels and blends. Gameboards provided. Activities are perfect for centers or small groups.

Join us at the conference! CLICK here TO REGISTER NOW online
Thursday, March 5th - SESSION E: 1:15 p.m. - 2:15 p.m.

**E21 The Outdoor Classroom at Green Bay School**  
P • K • A  
Mirela Vesa  
Paula Acuna

Outdoor classrooms combine the benefits of traditional classes with the wealth of natural resources found outdoors. Each season, students explore and learn in a hands-on, sensory-rich environment. Here, teachers guide students as they make new connections to music, dramatic play, motor, and science concepts while cultivating a general appreciation for nature.

**E23 Dancing and Movement to Encourage Physical Skills, Appropriate Touch, and Rhythm, Pattern and Sequence**  
P • K • 1  
Carole Stephens

Children arrive wired for music at birth, learning by moving in their environment within seconds. Research shows that children who can find and keep a steady beat, follow verbal instructions, interpret visual images and participate in communal activities become engaged learners. Active music is for everyone: singers, dancers, head-boppers and eye-blinkers!

**E22 Learn and Play the Creative Way**  
P • K • 1  
Kim Adsit  
Adam Peterson

Are you looking for ways to have a more playful classroom? Do you want to find a better mix of work and play? With today’s standard-driven curriculums, allowing time for play is more important than ever! Kim and Adam will show you simple, cost-effective ways to incorporate a play-based learning approach to your classroom! Using teacher-made creations, board games, technology, dramatic play and more, your students will be learning the way children are meant to learn!

Session descriptions will also be available on our Kindergarten Conference app.
Thursday, March 5th - SESSION F: 2:30 p.m. - 3:30 p.m.

F01 Fitting it All in: Making the Most of Your Instructional Day
P • K • 1
Deedee Wills

How can you fit it all into your day? Take a peek at Deedee’s week that is both fun and filled with standards-based learning! See how to plan out your instruction to incorporate reading, writing, math, and content-area studies. Use these tips to engage your class while having fun and meeting the needs of your student’s curriculum.

F02 Math Stations Gone Differentiated
K • 1
Marsha McGuire

Repeat Session: E02
Make math stations your students’ favorite time of the day by introducing fun and engaging activities that address their interests, learning profiles, and readiness. Marsha introduces tips and techniques that will quickly take your math stations to the next level. Gather ideas for organizing materials and creating a classroom of independent and eager learners. Marsha also provides standards-based examples to illustrate counting, number recognition, counting on, decomposing, adding/subtracting, and geometry.

F03 READ All About It! EXTRA! EXTRA! New and Notable Books for Your Classroom!
K • 1 • A
Becky Anderson

Books that will engage, inform, make you and your students laugh, but most of all instill that lifelong love of reading and learning. A variety of genres will be covered including: picture books; early/beginning readers; great read-alouds; informational books on people, places, and things; poetry; and maybe something for you to read, too. Books will be available for purchase, review, and inspection.

F04 Maximizing Math in PreK
P
Karen Raistrick
Paige Sidlo

Teachers will explore ways to support students in developing numeracy skills. Instructional ideas for whole-group activities, small-group guided lessons, and math stations will be shared. Teachers will discover how to maximize their math instruction so that students can move beyond counting to working flexibly with numbers.

Conference confirmations will be emailed and session tickets will be picked up onsite.
F05 ADD and ADHD: Identification and Interventions
P • K • 1
Shari Sloane
This session will give an overview of the different types of attention deficits and what they might look like in the school setting. You will learn many helpful tools that parents and teachers can employ to help every student in both individual and group settings. Shari will provide many instructional techniques and behavioral interventions that are easy to use in your classroom.

F06 Sight Word Soup
P • K • 1
Kim Jordano
Enjoy a delicious presentation filled with ideas to teach site word recognition and fluency. Kim will spoon up bowls full of hands-on sight word activities that will have your children begging for more! Including games, literacy center ideas, class books, songs, and take home activities that will make learning sight words fun!

F07 Making Science Meaningful
K • 1
Mary Amoson
Replenish your supply of fresh ideas and hands-on activities for making science content topics meaningful to little learners. Attend this session to see how to integrate multiple content areas into science while making learning fun for your class. STEM activities, art projects, and games will help your students learn like never before! We are adding components to make this session more hands-on and interactive.

F08 Growing Up WILD: The Value of Outdoor Learning
P • K • 1 • A
Valerie Coduto
Research is showing us the cognitive, emotional, and physical benefits of young children playing and learning in nature. This interactive session will touch on the importance of nature and the young child as we explore activities and curriculum that supports outdoor learning.

F09 Kindergarten Bootcamp- Why Classroom Management Just got Easier!
P • K • 1
Charlotte Thompson
It’s no secret that setting routines for our youngest learners sets the stage for a productive school year. Through morning meetings, circles, and other social-emotional regulation strategies, we will share how we are using these techniques in our district to promote positive learning outcomes.
F10 Kiddynamics: Using Children’s Literature to Teach Economics and Personal Finance  

*P • K*  
Eva Johnston  
Sandy Kettelkamp  

Learn about free lessons and activities for teaching young learners about spending, saving, making choices, goods, consumers, and producers. Lessons complement children’s books such as *Betty Bunny Wants Everything* and *An Orange in January* and are aligned with kindergarten readiness skills. Participants will receive a copy of the lessons demonstrated.

F11 Daily Math Reasoning Routines  

*K • 1*  
Joseph Santucci  
Mandy Thalhammer  
Jessica Weir  

Are you looking for a way to boost number sense, subitizing, fluency, mathematical reasoning, critical thinking, and speaking and listening in your classroom? Come learn about a variety of fun, thought-provoking, ten-minute routines that can be used to do just that each day.

F12 ELLevate English Language Learners in the Classroom  

*K • 1*  
Jacqueline Bever  
Anna Ahne  

Learn about best practices to engage all children in the classroom with SWRL (speaking, writing, reading, and learning) activities. The focus will be on student collaborative partnerships to promote oral English development and vocabulary. Activities can be used across the curriculum in literacy, math, social studies, and science.

F13 Differentiating Without Drama  

*P • K • 1*  
Katie Feldmann  
Tanya Boyle  

Do you find it difficult to differentiate your lesson plans? Then this session is the right one for you! We provide an overview of the MTSS process and how to use it to plan appropriate and effective lesson plans that help ALL students access the curriculum.

Join us at the conference!  
CLICK here TO REGISTER NOW online
**F14 The Benefits of On-Campus Childcare for Single Mothers' College Completion**

Ariel Sylvester

To focus on how beneficial on-campus childcare funded through CCAMPIS (Child Care Access Means Parents in School) is for single mothers’ college completion. I’ll give some statistics on why this topic is essential, provide history on primarily single motherhood in America. I’ll share my story of being the child of a single mother college student and give findings from pilot studies that I’ve conducted. Finally, I’ll provide some information on CCAMPIS and the Two-Generation Approach and how programs like this can benefit single mothers’ college completion, education of young children, and potentially create a cycle of educational attainment in contrast to maintaining a cycle of poverty.

**F15 Forget Me Nots**

Patty Corum

This day and age, we are no longer just teaching the three R’s. We are doing it all. So in this session, I plan to give you strategies, room arranging tips, and teach-to expectations to make your room shine above the rest.

**F16 Get Moving: Learn 10 Awesome Brain Break Songs for Your Class**

The Awesome Squad

Attendees will learn high energy songs with The Awesome Squad that are full of movements that can be implemented in their classroom immediately. They will learn new ways to teach children how to use the body to create rhythms and foster imagination while simultaneously encouraging movement that enhances brain function and fitness by crossing the center line.

**F17 Maximizing the Transition from Pre-k to Kindergarten**

Shay Frey

As a single-site charter school with a strong early childhood program, Christopher House is an organization that focuses much attention on the collaboration between pre-kindergarten and elementary school. This session will address the importance of this transition and highlight strategies and processes we have used to ensure a smooth transition for both students and their families when moving from an early childhood classroom into an elementary school setting.
F18 Integrated & Engaging Learning Centers for Little Learners
Jessica Bennett
Learn new and engaging ways to incorporate math, literacy, and excellent motor skills into everyday learning centers for Pre-K students. You will receive materials to take back to your classroom and begin using right away with your students.

F19 Rolling into Fact Fluency
Jane Felling
Who knew regular dice could be used to teach and practice so many operational concepts? Come prepared to play with easily found dice and learn games to help teach the following concepts: count on and back, fact families, doubles, doubles + 1, +2 make tens, part/part-whole and number lines. Student samples, gameboards and ideas for differentiating the activities will be shared. Our favorite Box Cars games that use our dice trays will be the focus of this games workshop and are great for centers or whole group.

F20 Innovate & Create
Tanille Yow Ulm
Learn about free resources for ECE / Elementary Educators.

F21 Science Time
Sherry Ann Wolfer
You don’t have to be a scientist to do or have science in your classroom. Learn how to incorporate science into all areas of the classroom. Explore this “hands-on” workshop that contains easy and inexpensive science experiments, science activities and science table top props that you can do with children from two years old through one hundred plus years old.

F22 Put a Bit of Sunshine in Someone’s Day by Showing KINDNESS the Kindergarten Way!
Karen Graber
Join me as I share simple ideas, resources and books that promote kindness in the classroom, school and community! Making someone feel appreciated or just sharing a smile can be easy and FUN!!!

F23 GOLD Objective Lesson Planning 101
Kathy Bishop
I will teach pre-k, kindergarten, and special education teachers exactly how to write literature based lessons that incorporate a popular children’s book. Each lesson is developmentally appropriate and is aligned with the Teaching Strategies GOLD objectives. Additionally, each lesson
Thursday, March 5th
SESSION F: 2:30 p.m. - 3:30 p.m.

F23 GOLD Objective Lesson Planning 101 continued...

shows just how to score each objective for on the spot recording and can easily be taught in an Illinois Preschool For All Classroom. All lessons are ECERS friendly and explain intradisciplinary connections for Danielson’s Framework for Teaching. There is also an area for teachers to write modifications for individual children. Lessons contain ideas for focused learning centers and additional suggestions that can be included for enhancement.

Thursday, March 5th - SESSION G: 3:45 p.m. - 4:45 p.m.

G01 Fitting it All in: Making the Most of Your Instructional Day
P • K • 1
Deedee Wills

Repeat Session: F01
How can you fit it all into your day? Take a peek at Deedee's week that is both fun and filled with standards-based learning! See how to plan your instruction to incorporate reading, writing, math, and content-area studies. Use these tips to engage your class while having fun and meeting the needs of your student’s curriculum.

G02 Supporting Behavior and Self-Regulation Through a Team Approach
P • K
Jackelyn Cadard
Shannon Cribaro

Do you have students demonstrating challenges with self-regulation and behavior? Do you have teachers struggling to support their unique needs? Come to our session to learn more about ways to help your teams, teachers and most importantly your students! Learn how to support the development of self-regulation skills and behavior strategies through a team approach!
Thursday, March 5th - SESSION G: 3:45 p.m. - 4:45 p.m.

G03 ¡Anímate! Incorporando El Juego En Tu Salón de Clase
P • K • 1
Zahidee Marcano
Martha Mancera

Please note – This session will be presented in Spanish. Durante la presentación, los participantes recibirán estrategias que les ayudarán a incorporar las áreas educativas de lectura, escritura y matemáticas mediante el juego. También recibirán estrategias e ideas de posibles temas de juego y planeación durante el año escolar.

G04 Leading the Curriculum Process in Lower Elementary School
P • K • 1
Elizabeth Clarkson

Pre-K-1st-grade teaching calls for teachers to combine subject-specific knowledge with developmentally appropriate pedagogy. In this session, we will discuss this unique curriculum writing setting and talk about ways to support the process within warm and responsive classroom environments.

G05 ADD and ADHD: Identification and Interventions
P • K • 1
Shari Sloane
Repeat Session: F05

This session will give an overview of the different types of attention deficits and what they might look like in the school setting. You will learn many helpful tools that parents and teachers can employ to help every student in both individual and group setting. Shari will provide many instructional techniques and behavioral interventions that are easy to use in your classroom.

G06 Sight Word Soup
P • K • 1
Kim Jordano
Repeat Session: F06

Enjoy a delicious presentation filled with ideas to teach site word recognition and fluency. Kim will spoon up bowls full of hands-on sight word activities that will have your children begging for more! Including games, literacy center ideas, class books, songs, and take home activities that will make learning sight words fun!

Conference confirmations will be emailed and session tickets will be picked up onsite.
Thursday, March 5th - SESSION G: 3:45 p.m. - 4:45 p.m.

**G07 Making Science Meaningful**

K • 1

Mary Amoson

Repeat Session: F07

Replenish your supply of fresh ideas and hands-on activities for making science content topics meaningful to little learners. Attend this session to see how to integrate multiple content areas into science while making learning fun for your class. STEM activities, art projects, and games will help your students learn like never before! We are adding components to make this session more hands-on and interactive.

**G08 Over the Rainbow with Phonemic Awareness, Phonics, and Letters- Oh My!**

P • K • 1

Melissa Leach

Repeat Session: E08

Get out your ruby slippers and learn how to boost your kindergartners’ phonemic awareness, phonics and letter ID skills with three clicks of your heels! Melissa will share games and activities that will reinforce PA and letter/sound recognition. Your students will have so much fun playing that they won’t even realize they’re learning.

**G09 Stop, Regulate, Listen! - Teaching Self-Regulation Skills**

K

Dinah Leibovitz
Trisha Leibovitz

More and more time is taken up in the classroom to address behavioral problems. Often, students do not have the skills yet to be problem solvers. Teaching self-regulation empowers students. In this session, we will provide several ideas and activities that help you teach self-regulation to kindergarteners.

**G10 Designing Your Environment to Become a “Third Teacher”**

P • K • A

Debra Honegger
Jenn Corrigan

A well-designed environment helps young children feel secure and can become a “third teacher,” which is the first key to assisting children develop social and emotional skills as well as increase their cognitive development. Come explore the seven aspects of an intentionally designed environment to promote relationships, communication, collaboration, exploration and learning.

Join us at the conference!

CLICK here TO REGISTER NOW online
Thursday, March 5th - SESSION G: 3:45 p.m. - 4:45 p.m.

G11 Ready, Set, Maximize Your Guided Reading Block
P • K • 1
Nikki Zolotar
Grace VanDerKolk
Erica Kile

Whether you have 10 minutes or 20, you will leave with a toolkit of ideas that you can implement almost immediately. Not sure how to differentiate between a level B and C? We will give you the MUST DO’s at each level. Don’t miss this opportunity to get your kids ready and reading!

G12 Game-Set-Math for SPECIAL ED! Three Types of Balls That Open a Child’s Mind!
P • K • 1 • A
Jan Ackmann

This workshop is hands-on! Learn exciting games that meet Math Standards for Special Education. Three types of tactile balls plus kinesthetic games that encourage teamwork and problem-solving! I will walk you through it—you will do the math—and you will walk out a better teacher! Let’s do this!

G13 Push, Pull, Work!
K • 1
Bradley Banning
Kevin Daugherty

Machines make our lives easier by taking on tough jobs that cannot be done by humans alone. The very food on our plates depends on machines that do serious work. We’ll explore the science behind some of these machines and see what they can really do.

G14 From September to May, Literacy Centers the Kindergarten Way
K • 1 • A
Amy Wylie

In this session, Amy will share fun and engaging literacy center activities for each month of your school year that will get your students excited about reading and writing! Center activities will be based around alphabet knowledge, phonics, working with words, and writing. Walk away with center ideas, organizational suggestions, assessment tools, and more!

Session numbers are in numeric order; however, missing numbers do not mean missing sessions.
G15 Planning and Instructing in the Digital World
P • K • 1 • A
Jessica Pertler
Christen Patinella
Streamline your day-to-day and year-to-year planning through digital tools such as Google Drive and Seesaw. Utilize these tools to organize content, increase student engagement through innovative lessons, and improve staff collaboration, all while gaining back your precious time.

G16 Yogapalooza With Bari Koral: Incorporate Yoga And Mindfulness Into Your Classroom
P • K • 1
Bari Koral
The most fun you can have learning Mindfulness and Yoga guaranteed! Relax with ocean breath, listen like a superhero, learn yoga with a dancing bear and much more. Top Kids Yoga expert Bari Koral is at the forefront of introducing and re-enforcing the incredible benefits of yoga and mindfulness.

G17 Strong Parent, Strong Student
P • K • 1 • A
James Harden
There is a difference between “parental involvement” and “parental empowerment.” Research suggests that, in the early years, empowering parents can lead to academic increases up to three times greater than traditional involvement activities. This workshop will help participants to understand specific interventions and create practical plans to EMPOWER all parents!

G18 What’s SPECIAL about using The Framework for Teaching in Early Childhood Special Education?
P • A
Lisa Hood
Pam Rosa
As an early childhood special education educator have you thought, “How can I use The Framework for Teaching in classrooms where students have moderate to severe learning challenges in _______?” Learn about practical, Framework-aligned resources that you can use IMMEDIATELY in early childhood special education classrooms for high learning impact.
Thursday, March 5th - SESSION G: 3:45 p.m. - 4:45 p.m.

G19 Get in Line! Using Foldable Rulers for Early Math Concepts
P • K • 1
Jane Felling

Come play with a wide variety of number lines including foldable rulers. Games and activities teach: counting, subitizing, comparing numbers, operational concepts including count on and back, odd/even and more. Games will incorporate dice, foldable rulers, regular and open number lines and great dollar store finds. Gameboards and student samples will be shared. Participants will make and receive number lines. Learn numbers to 10, 20, 100, and early addition.

G20 Math Interventions and Activities Made Easy
P • K • 1
Carrie Brockway

Come prepared to learn how to build a strong system of PreK-1st math interventions, activities and assessments that allow for repeated practice in a fun and engaging way. Activities are easy for any adult to lead with very simple data collection opportunities for a teacher, paraprofessional or adult volunteer to carry out. Real examples will be shared and templates given to start these interventions in your own school.

G21 Bubbles 101
P • K • 1
Terrie Schmoldt

Are you ready to get your hands wet and participate in bubble experiments? This is a hands-on, hands-wet, participatory session of fun and exploration as we conduct a plethora of bubble experiments.

G22 Chromebooks in Kindergarten: Sharing Sessions
K
Trevor Steinbach

Are you using a Chromebook in Kindergarten? Would you like to know what apps and software others are using? This is a sharing session for current districts using Chromebooks in Kindergarten. PARTICIPANTS SHOULD BRING CHROMEBOOK TO THE SESSION.

G23 Kindergarten Smackdown
P • K • 1
Kim Adsit
Adam Peterson
Donna Whyte

Join MC Kendrick Johnson as he leads three of the top Kindergarten Consultants in the world to give their top ten tips to improve your classroom instruction. Expect to take away tons of great ideas while enjoying lots of humorous banter.
Friday, March 6th - SESSION I: 7:30 a.m. - 8:30 a.m.

**I01 Math + Movement = Learning Fun!**  
K • 1  
*Adam Peterson*

Math is more than a worksheet! In this session, Adam proves that is true. Through games, music, and movement, Adam shows you how to help your students meet your math standards and exceed their goals while having more fun than they ever imagined.

**I02 Keeping Differentiation Developmentally Appropriate**  
P • K • 1 • A  
*Marsha McGuire*

Need developmentally appropriate activities to differentiate your instruction and meet the needs of all your learners? Join Marsha to deepen your understanding of what differentiated instruction is and is not. Gather activities and tips that focus on ways to include sensory, gameplay, dramatic play, and other hands-on activities into your curriculum while addressing the standards. Forget the worksheets—there's a better way to differentiate your instruction!

**I03 High Poverty, High Results: Transformational Teaching of At-Risk Populations**  
P • K • 1 • A  
*Kendrick Johnson*

This session explores the discrepancies between personal and institutional mindsets and their effects on academic achievement among students of color, particularly those living in poverty. This session explores how to shift from damaging mindsets to liberation mindsets in order to effect change in school culture and promote educator effectiveness.

**I06 Coding with Young Learners**  
P • K • 1 • A  
*Michelle Doyle*

Have you ever wondered how you can start teaching coding with your students? Come learn how to incorporate coding skills in your classroom. The ideas in the presentation will range from free unplugged activities to using store-bought robots that your students can program. You will see classroom examples and get a chance to try some of the activities.

**I07 Making Math Hands-On**  
K • 1  
*Mary Amoson*

Start using the very best high-quality, hands-on skill games and activities in your whole-groups and small-groups and with partners to promote cross-curricular learning in fun ways. You won’t believe how many examples Mary shares. Also, get leveled learning activities to help with remediation, skill-building, and accelerated learning. This session also has hands-on games to try and fall in LOVE with! (This session has hands-on math games for attendees to play)
Friday, March 6th - SESSION I: 7:30 a.m. - 8:30 a.m.

I08 Using a Variety of Visuals in the Early Childhood Classroom for Verbal and Non-Verbal Students
P
Bria Thompson
Mallory Conover

This session will be offered to help teachers understand and use visuals in the classroom. We will be presenting from a Special Education point of view, but we will have strategies for all students. We will include ideas for visuals and how to make them.

I09 Academic Play Centers Your Students (and Administrators) Will Love
P • K • 1 • A
Jacki Hogan
Kyla Bailenson

Explore ways to incorporate engaging, academic play centers into your curriculum while still meeting Common Core Standards for Literacy and Math, and developing NGSS standards. Also, learn about research-based play strategies and SEL documentation that you can present to your administrative team.

I10 Using iPads In Kindergarten
P • K • 1 • A
Kori Pitaro
Karen Whisler

Attendants will learn how to effectively use iPads for classroom management, differentiated instruction, and communicating with the home! Apps covered will be ClassDojo, Reading Eggs, Kids A-Z, ST Math, Seesaw, and the use of QR Codes. Attendants will feel confident using iPads in whole class, small group, and independent settings. (Recommended for 1:1 schools or access to multiple iPads)

I11 Fine Motor-Sneaking It in All Day
P • K • 1
Kelly Haynes

During this session participants will learn simple ways to build in Fine Motor Skills for their students. Through play, literacy and Math centers students can build the much needed fine motor skills.

I12 Teaching Our Youngest Readers
K • 1 • A
Kim Peterz-Dent

This session will focus on research-based strategies for developing the foundational skills that young readers need to become proficient and independent readers. Participants will explore instructional activities such as shared reading, small group work, word study, and meaningful independent practice.
I13 An Apple A Day. . . Is NOT The Only Way! Tips for Integrating Nutrition Education Throughout Your Day

Lauren Pett

Nutrition education teaches preschoolers how certain foods affect their growth and the importance of eating a well-balanced diet - building healthy habits that can last a lifetime. This session will cover various techniques for integrating nutrition ed into other elements of the day, as outlined in Chicago Public Schools’ StartWELL initiative.

I14 Make Your Day Engaging, Enjoyable, and Motivating For You AND Your Young Learners!

Mary Pat Larocca
Celine Hill

Repeat Session: See A18
Come to this session and go back to your classroom with many strategies to engage today’s young learners! Learn how important it is to develop rapport and connections with your students. Take home songs, poems, and tactics that will positively gain children’s attention. We will also tell you how we have learned how to make “turn and talks” easy and effective with kindergartners and how you can get your students engaged and talking more and you talking less! We will share every trick and all of our favorite resources (combined 70 years of kindergarten experience!) for positive classroom management, mindful practices, and ways to foster intrinsic motivation in your students.

I15 Journaling 2.0

Candace Neil

Journaling is such a fantastic way to display growth and get to know your students. Expression is just a word to my students and not a barrier using this progressive new method of journaling. From August to May let me show you the way!

I16 Basics DeKalb County: A Community Saturation Project

Samantha McDavid
Courtney Hill

You will learn why DeKalb County is taking the approach of a community saturation project to increase community awareness of the importance of early learning.
I17 Transitional Kindergarten: The Gift of Time

Leslie Vigor
Keri Bergman

Transitional Kindergarten is a year-long intervention to support kindergarten age-eligible students who are not developmentally ready for Kindergarten. You will learn what it is, who it serves, curriculum, interventions and ideas for planning.

I18 Knowing the Souls of Strangers

Rona Wolfe

A session devoted to understanding the importance of teaching diversity and acceptance in early childhood, specifically showing my kindergarten’s work with the refugee community in Milwaukee. The theory will be explained and examples will be highlighted, all emphasizing a genuine appreciation of differences among us, but also similarities.

I19 Circle Time On Parade and Transition Tips

Julie Torkelson

Circle time should reflect the needs and interests of your children. Improve your children’s cognitive and social skills with fun-filled activities that promote early literacy skills and math concepts, language development and cooperation. Guiding children smoothly through daily transitions is essential. Get some new ideas for transitional activities that children will enjoy.

I20 Our Journey to “Outstanding Practices of Inclusions” In Early Childhood

Shannon Cribaro

Learn about Mannheim Early Childhood Centers’ Journey towards “Outstanding Practices of Inclusion.” This journey began by building an Inclusive blended model of programming for Pre-K and ECSE. MECC started their journey in 2014. The program went through its ups and downs but remains committed to serving young children with disabilities in an inclusive environment.

I21 Baffling to Beaming: Behavior in the Classroom

Ellen Seiberlich
Karina Detwiler

We will be discussing the difference between managing a classroom and disciplining students, as well as strategies to cope with challenging behaviors.
Early Childhood Professionals: The Heroes of Our Time
with Richard Cohen

This powerful, fun, thought-provoking keynote address includes music, opportunities for reflection, interactive discussions with the audience about the stresses and triumphs of the early childhood teacher/caregiver, singing, poetry and (believe it or not) dancing in the aisles! Audiences come away cheering, energized and filled with honor for the unique contribution they are to society.
Friday, March 6th - SESSION K: 10:30 a.m. - 11:30 a.m.

**K01 Assessments and Interventions: What Do You Do When They Don’t Know?**
K • 1
Deedee Wills

Find practical tricks and tools to help you actively identify the skills your students have mastered. Confer on the go to plan instruction, provide interventions, and set future goals. Deedee will show you some organizational ideas that allow you to gather valuable information and monitor the growth of your students without losing valuable instruction time.

**K02 Keeping Differentiation Developmentally Appropriate**
P • K • 1 • A
Marsha McGuire

Repeat Session: I02
Need developmentally appropriate activities to differentiate your instruction and meet the needs of all your learners? Join Marsha to deepen your understanding of what differentiated instruction is and is not. Gather activities and tips that focus on ways to include sensory, gameplay, dramatic play, and other hands-on activities into your curriculum while addressing the standards. Forget the worksheets—there’s a better way to differentiate your instruction!

**K03 Writing – The Tools and the Activities (Yes It Can Be Make and Take!)**
K • 1
Donna Whyte

Engage and inspire your students to write like you never thought possible! Donna is the author of the *Writing Teacher’s Coaching Tool Pack* and will address the writing process, along with interventions to use at each step. Return to your classroom ready to meet the needs of the many levels of writers you teach. Build your writing toolbox to create independent writers who take chances and are excited to put ideas on paper. (Make and Take – bring scissors and a glue stick)

**K04 Super Readers Unite!**
K • 1
Kim Adsit
Kim Jordano

Is it a plane? Is it a bird? No, it’s a super reader! In this session, Kim & Kim will share some fun ways kids can soar as they use their “superpowers” to become readers! They will share how they use the “Super Reader League” to introduce different reading strategies. You will leave with ideas for highly engaging activities and fun novelties that will have your kids reading like real superheroes!
Friday, March 6th  -  SESSION K: 10:30 a.m. - 11:30 a.m.

K05 Get Moving: Learn 10 Awesome Brain Break Songs for Your Class
P • K • 1
The Awesome Squad
Repeat Session: F16
Attendees will learn high energy songs with The Awesome Squad that are full of movements that can be implemented in their classroom immediately. They will learn new ways to teach children how to use the body to create rhythms and foster imagination while simultaneously encouraging movement that enhances brain function and fitness by crossing the center line.

K06 Fluency Fun in Kindergarten
K
Shari Sloane
Discover simple and powerful strategies to help your students develop skills to be strong, independent, fluent readers. Shari will review what exactly fluency means and why it is necessary for all readers.

K07 Math Chats
K • 1
Sarah Martino
Kathy Brown
Repeat Session: C16
Turn up the talk in your everyday math lessons. Get your students explaining, collaborating and celebrating as they discuss core math skills like counting, adding, subtracting, measuring, shapes and more. Kathy and Sarah will share a 5-10 minute daily routine you can use whenever it fits best into your day. Add a math chat during whole group math time as a warm up or during small group math intervention time as guided practice. Discover our easy routine including a strategic name for each day like Make It Monday and True or False Tuesday. Try implementing math chats and before you know it, your students will be singing and chanting, “I can solve problems in so many ways!”

Session descriptions will also be available on our Kindergarten Conference app.
K08 I Can Read: Working with Beginning Readers  
K • 1  
*Melissa Leach*

Come examine why some students have a harder time than others. You’ll learn strategies for supporting student progress in phonemic awareness and alphabetic principles. Practice using strategic prompts to create independent readers and gain knowledge and strategies related to English Language Learners. This session will give plenty of classroom applications that will create a classroom full of students who say, “I can read!”

K09 Aligning Early Learning Standards Across Preschool Settings  
P  
*Maddi Bodine*  
*Samantha McDavid*

We will be sharing the steps we are taking to align instruction and experience across preschool settings using the B3 framework. We will present on our work to provide early childhood providers with a common language and understanding the gap between kindergarten expectations and early learning standards.

K10 Legalized Play: Teacher Tested, Administrator Approved!  
K • 1  
Michelle Escapa  
The KIDS Professional Learning Consultants

No matter how advanced or mature your Kindergarteners may be, or how much academic content you’re required to squeeze in, 60 minutes of free choice play is non-negotiable. With great power, comes great responsibility. How are you ensuring ALL students are demonstrating mastery of skills across ALL domains of learning?

K11 Improving Vocabulary with Stories and Music  
P • K • 1 • A  
*Michael Lockett*  
“The Normal Storyteller”

Learn to use Auditory, Kinesthetic and Visual Storytelling cues to build vocabulary at an accelerated rate and how to use storytelling to improve communication and literacy skills in young learners. Reading Educator/Author/International Storyteller, Mike Lockett will use demonstrations and role play to help participants master simple stories for classroom use.
Friday, March 6th - SESSION K: 10:30 a.m. - 11:30 a.m.

K12 Game-Set-Math for Grades K & 1! Concrete. Pictorial. Abstract – Oh My!
K • 1
Jan Ackmann

Roll up your sleeves! Learn exciting games that meet Math Standards for Grades K & 1! Count, work with numbers and sets, move, add, subtract and problem-solve. I will walk you through it—you will do the math—and you will walk out a better teacher! Let’s do this!

K13 Families, Teachers & Schools Working Together to Support Student Learning & School Success-Discussion Seminar
P • K • 1 • A
Bev Schumacher

Recognizing that educators are rich with experiences and ideas, this session will try to draw out their knowledge and working practices. We will dig deeper to explore participant’s good ideas, needs and solutions to effectively partner with families. The challenge will be how you “R” going to implement partnership practices.

K14 Data Made Easy
P • K • 1 • A
Karen Evans
Anne Haddad

Learn a fast and efficient way to collect your data for IEPs, student growth, behavior, etc. using google forms. Learn how to use your data to drive your instruction and differentiate your lessons.

K15 Interventions That Work
K
Rhonda Miller

All learners were not created equally. As regular education teachers, it is our responsibility to see the need and move students forward regardless of the deficit. In this session, we will discuss a variety of interventions for reading, math and behavior. We CAN help our students become successful learners!

K16 6th Annual Appy Hour: Apple Apps for Pre-K to 1st
P • K • 1 • A
Trevor Steinbach

Join Trevor Steinbach as he explores many of his favorite FREE APPLE APPS (or really cheap < $2.99) that can be used immediately in the classroom. Preschool, Kindergarten, and First Grade apps for iPads. See apps in Phonics, Math, Reading, and many more topics. Look at 360 Virtual Reality sites that will allow your students to swim with sharks and walk with real elephants on your classroom electronics. Updated for 2020.

Join us at the conference! CLICK here TO REGISTER NOW online
Friday, March 6th  - SESSION K: 10:30 a.m. - 11:30 a.m.

K17 KinderPals - An SEL Mentorship Program with Intermediate Student Partners  
K • 1 • A  
Paul Solarz

Learn how my 4th and 5th graders partnered with kindergartners to teach social-emotional skills and strategies each month throughout the school year. Just like reading buddies, students built strong relationships while learning a great deal about empathy, self-regulation, teamwork, perseverance, respect, honesty, and more!

K18 Questioning to Grow Young Minds  
P • K • 1  
Deb Bible

In this session, teachers will experience and learn how to use questioning techniques to lead their students into deeper thinking and discoveries during center time and whole group instruction.

K19 Dice + Patterns + Art = Engagement + Creativity  
K • 1  
Jane Felling

You will be amazed at the works of art and pattern making your students can do with regular dice. Come play and create with a rainbow of colored dice to create patterns with numbers, sequencing, symmetry, shapes and more. Ideas for integrating subject areas, and celebrating math and art will be shared along with many journal responses and student samples. Take home your design!

K20 Co-Constructive Learning: Building a Team with Experts  
P • K • 1 • A  
Joann Ford-Halvorsen  
Cheryl Wyer

Co-constructive learning is at the heart of teaching. D102 early-childhood educators used protocols to create spaces to come together and learn with and from each other. Attendees will hear about D102 teachers sharing their insight, knowledge, and experience co-constructively and experience the protocols used to facilitate this team dynamic.

Session numbers are in numeric order; however, missing numbers do not mean missing sessions.
**Friday, March 6th - SESSION K: 10:30 a.m. - 11:30 a.m.**

**K21 The Project Approach for All Learners**  
P • K • A  
*Sallee Beneke*  
*Michaeline Ostrosky*

Review strategies and discuss examples and resources for meeting the educational needs of young children with diverse special needs through the Project Approach. Analyze video examples of practitioners embedding the Project Approach in inclusive settings. Experiment with a Checklist and Guide that supports practitioner implementation of the *Project Approach.*

**K22 What Meets the Eye**  
P • K • 1 • A  
*Richard Cohen*

The art and science of effectively observing and describing children’s behaviors.

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**Participants attending the conference are eligible to register for one hour of graduate credit from the University of St Francis. Along with conference attendance, candidates are required to complete additional assignments online. The cost is $225. Further course information and registration can be found online at: [www.stfrancis.edu/real/professional-learning](http://www.stfrancis.edu/real/professional-learning).**

University representatives will also be available during the conference to answer questions or assist with registration.

For individuals who require prior approval from their school district, the course number and title is: RECT 695: Best Practices in Early Childhood Education

For further information, please contact Gina Korczak at the University of St. Francis at gkorczak@stfrancis.edu.
Friday, March 6th - SESSION L: 11:45 a.m. - 12:45 p.m.

L01 Assessments and Interventions: What Do You Do When They Don’t Know?
K • 1
Deedee Wills

Repeat Session: K01
Find practical tricks and tools to help you actively identify the skills your students have mastered. Confer on the go to plan instruction, provide interventions, and set future goals. Deedee will show you some organizational ideas that allow you to gather valuable information and monitor the growth of your students without losing valuable instruction time.

L02 Math + Movement = Learning Fun!
K • 1
Adam Peterson

Repeat Session: L01
Math is more than a worksheet! In this session, Adam proves that is true. Through games, music, and movement, Adam shows you how to help your students meet your math standards and exceed their goals while having more fun than they ever imagined.

L03 Writing – The Tools and the Activities (Yes It Can Be Make and Take!)
K • 1
Donna Whyte

Repeat Session: K03
Engage and inspire your students to write like you never thought possible! Donna is the author of the Writing Teacher’s Coaching Tool Pack and will address the writing process, along with interventions to use at each step. Return to your classroom ready to meet the needs of the many levels of writers you teach. Build your writing toolbox to create independent writers who take chances and are excited to put ideas on paper. (Make and Take – bring scissors and a glue stick.)

L04 Science Blasters!
P • K • 1
Kim Adsit

Enter into an exciting experience that will help you integrate Science into your own classroom! Kim will show you “explosive” ways to get Kindergartners motivated to learn. Hands-on science activities and experiments, interactive literature, tasty test-tubes, and magical messes will capture your children’s imagination! It’s something that’s OUT OF THIS WORLD!

Join us at the conference!
CLICK here TO REGISTER NOW online
**Friday, March 6th - SESSION L: 11:45 a.m. - 12:45 p.m.**

**L05 READ All About It!**
**EXTRA! EXTRA! New and Notable Books for Your Classroom!**
**K • 1 • A**

*Becky Anderson*

Repeat Session: F03
Books that will engage, inform, make you and your students laugh, but most of all instill that lifelong love of reading and learning. A variety of genres will be covered including: Picture books, early/beginning readers, great read-alouds, informational books on people—places-- and things, poetry, and maybe something for you to read too. Books will be available for purchase, review, and inspection.

**L06 Fluency Fun in Kindergarten**
**K**

*Shari Sloane*

Repeat Session: K06
Discover simple and powerful strategies to help your students develop skills to be strong, independent, fluent readers. Shari will review what exactly fluency means and why it is necessary for all readers.

**L07 Phonics Fun for Everyone**
**K • 1**

*Sarah Martino*

*Kathy Brown*

Repeat Session: D16
Are you and your students bored with the same old phonics skill and drill instruction? Join us for this session and learn how to make phonics fun again. Kathy and Sarah will show you how to link letter and sound instruction with real reading, writing, speaking, and listening. Discover how to bundle 30 standards in one phonics routine. Parent ideas and literacy center routines are embedded throughout the presentation too. Lots of ideas for Daily 5! Leave genuinely inspired to make phonics learning fun for everyone!
Friday, March 6th - SESSION L: 11:45 a.m. - 12:45 p.m.

L08 Create the Magic that Connects Children to their Own Possibilities with Drawn To Discover
P • K • 1
Wendy Halperin

Repeat Session: E05
It’s affordable, it’s effective, it’s innovative, it’s ground breaking and children love it. We draw to engage and that engagement leads effortlessly to improvement in handwriting, attention span, following direction skills and the critical fine motor connections to the brain in early childhood education. This program has been researched and the results will amaze teachers, parents and students alike. Teachers learn to draw along with their students. You will see a box of 64 crayons in a completely new light for a lifetime and so will your students. We teach to the tools. Come to this session and join us in “Unleashing the Happiness”. Come draw with Wendy and experience the magic.

L10 Targeting Learning Standards Through Play in the K Classroom
P • K
Brandi Bruley
Mollie Lively

Meaningful and enriching learning can occur through play in the PreK and K Classroom. Beyond observations, play should be comprised of deep questioning techniques in classroom interest areas while extending children’s learning through centers such as Makerspace, math, writing, and early literacy and free play.

L09 Building Social Skills with SEL Strategies
P • K • 1
Cathy Tantillo

This interactive session will provide participants with practical and effective strategies to create a structured, community-centered, pro-social classroom environment for early childhood students. Participants will be introduced to SEL stories/books, music and movement, and breathing activities that can be used throughout the school day in order to help students learn self-awareness, self-regulation and social skills.

L11 Reading for Bilingual Children-It Looks the Same But a Bit Different
P • K • 1
Jetsabel Alcala

We will touch on the differences between teaching just one language and teaching two at the same time. How do we help parents at home? What can we do in the classroom to build vocabulary in both languages? My background included special education for bilingual students k-5th (some of the techniques are specifically geared for teachers working directly with Spanish/English students in k-2nd). I have also taught Kinder, and I will be in first grade next year.
Friday, March 6th - SESSION L: 11:45 a.m. - 12:45 p.m.

L12 Addressing Challenging Behaviors
P • K • 1
Vanessa Cook
Attendees will learn more about the major causes of challenging behaviors in students and learn techniques for addressing these behaviors.

L13 50 Years of Earth Day
K • 1
Bradley Banning
Kevin Daugherty
Earth Day turns 50 this year! We’ll learn important lessons about taking care of our planet, from the food we eat to the waste we produce. These lessons and activities will inspire and prepare students to think about their impact on the environment from an early age.

L14 Sweet Home Chicago: Integrating Museums Into Your Curriculum
K
Tammy Haggerty Jones
How to create a thoughtful and mindful classroom while engaging students in authentic exploration using museum exhibits, inquiry-based discovery using artifacts from the institutions and lessons aligned with the Common Core Standards. I will share how my 15-year museum involvement has enriched the kindergarten experience.

L15 Given the Lead, Students Succeed-The Transformative Power of Student-Led Conferencing
K • 1 • A
Craig Gaska
Given the lead, students succeed! Student-led conferencing is a proven strategy to motivate students to higher levels of learning. It incorporates goal setting and metacognitive processes that allow students to take charge of their learning. Student-led conferencing increases parent attendance and involvement, creating a learning team that is synergistically powerful. Student-led conferencing is the culmination of effective and motivating classroom practices. Attendees will learn classroom practices and strategies that support the implementation of student-led conferencing that positively affect classrooms forever. This session will also address goal setting and assessments, which are critical for successful student-led conferences. Please bring materials from a unit you currently teach. Who should attend? Teachers, principals, and district administrators.

Conference confirmations will be emailed and session tickets will be picked up onsite.
Friday, March 6th - SESSION L: 11:45 a.m. - 12:45 p.m.

L16 Let’s Talk “Number Talks!”
K • 1
Mary Pat Larocca
Celine Hill

Repeat Session: D07
Come and hear how we start our Shared Math lesson each day with a ten minute “number talk!” We will share with you our daily routine which even includes songs! We focus on a different skill each day of the week: Counting, Shapes, Numbers, a day for the many different CCSS we work on, and we end the week with “Fast Eyes Friday” where we focus on subitizing. We will give you a handout which will include EVERYTHING you will need to try this “number talk routine” in your classroom. If you want engaged mathematicians, this is the presentation for you!

L17 Funding Your Classroom by Partnering with Donors Choose
P • K • 1
Kelly Webb

Whether you’re a veteran or brand new to DonorsChoose.org, we will learn how to easily create a new proposal and key tips to get projects funded! As a Donors Choose Ambassador for Illinois, I will share my success with Donors Choose and learn from you as we fund student-centered classrooms together!

L18 “I” Spy Best Practices for Teaching English Learners
P • K • 1
Monica White

I will present research based strategies and practices for engaging and involving ELs in learning. The following will be discussed in detail: scaffolding, differentiation, accessing background knowledge, developing academic vocabulary, front loading information, total physical response, and parent involvement.

L19 We “ECERED” Up, Now What?
P • A
Linda Housewright
Amy Fullerton

Repeat Session: E04
This session will focus on the learning toys/tools purchase for PFA/Expansion classrooms. We will take an intentional look at how we purchase materials, how they match our curriculum, where they fit into an ECERS friendly environment and how to authentically assess children as they play with these learning tools. Teachers will leave with lesson plan experiences built around specific learning standards/benchmarks and they connect to individual portfolio collections... AND there will be some give aways involved!
Friday, March 6th - SESSION L: 11:45 a.m. - 12:45 p.m.

L20 Shuffling into Math - Card Games  
P • K • 1 • A  
Carrie Brockway

Come prepared to play games that incorporate easily found playing cards. Great for centers, whole group, and home practice (great ideas for organizing a family math night). Concepts covered include comparing numbers, greater than/less than, counting and 1 to 1 correspondence, early addition and subtraction, place value to 100. Gameboards provided and student samples shared.

L21 Science Time  
P • K • 1  
Sherry Ann Wolfer

Repeat Session: F21
You don’t have to be a scientist to do or have science in your classroom. Learn how to incorporate science into all areas of the classroom. Explore this “hands-on” workshop that contains easy and inexpensive science experiments, science activities and science table top props that you can do with children from two years old through one hundred plus years old.

L22 Making Math Fun!  
K • 1  
Karen Graber  
Connie Boznos

Repeat Session: D22
Let’s make math fun and hands on! Come see many ideas and activities that will strengthen math skills and reinforce the standards! Activities shared can be used in whole group time or in math station/centers.

L23 Singable Songs & Fingerplays for Developing Early Literacy Skills, Attention & Community in PreK & K!  
P • K • 1  
Carole Stephens

Repeat Session: D23
To learn, children must engage. To get them engaged—get their attention. To get their attention—present content that is developmentally appropriate, interesting and FUN! Making music is a vital gateway to early learning. Teachers of all abilities will learn music to sing and DO with children of all abilities.

Session descriptions will also be available on our Kindergarten Conference app.
Friday, March 6th - SESSION M: 1:15 p.m. - 2:15 p.m.

M01 5 Essential Writers Workshop Steps to Success
K • 1
Deedee Wills

Learn how to create a curriculum pacing guide so you can plan your lessons confidently. Deedee will also help identify the best mentor texts to use in your writing instruction. She will share a writers workshop management plan and progress monitoring tips that will help your instructional time run smoothly.

M02 Hands-On Kindergarten Morning Work Bins
K
Marsha McGuire

Morning work has kicked worksheets to the curb. Learn how to revamp your morning work routine with morning work bins that are hands-on and engaging. You will gather ideas for starting your year out with morning work bins that focus on fine motor and basic first days of school skills that grow as your students are introduced to more complex skills in Math and ELA.

M03 A Culture of Error: Promoting Risk-Taking and Growth Mindset in the School Community
P • K • 1 • A
Kendrick Johnson

What is a culture of error and how can it support your efforts to develop your teachers into life-long learners? School leaders will leave this session with strategies that help establish a risk-taking culture within your school community and develop a plan to build and sustain collaboration and risk-taking in classrooms.

M04 Science Blasters!
P • K • 1
Kim Adsit

Repeat Session: L04
Enter into an exciting experience that will help you integrate Science into your own classroom! Kim will show you “explosive” ways to get Kindergartners motivated to learn. Hands-on science activities and experiments, interactive literature, tasty test-tubes, and magical messes will capture your children’s imagination! It’s something that’s OUT OF THIS WORLD!

M05 Maximum Math Instruction
K • 1
Shari Sloane

Integrate your curriculum by using math throughout the day. Join Shari to discover games, songs, and materials to help your students meet the math standards. You will explore fast and simple activities to make the standards fun.
Friday, March 6th - SESSION M: 1:15 p.m. - 2:15 p.m.

**M06 Digging Up Some Dollar Store Sensations**  
P • K • 1  
*K* Jordano

Keep the Kindergarten Standards engaging and fun for all learners. Kimberly will show you how to take your dollar store finds and turn them into creative standards based activities for Math and Literacy Centers!

**M07 Phonics Phun**  
K • 1  
*Mary Amoson*

Take advantage of research-supported ideas for developing an awareness of sounds and words in our language. Join Mary to learn how to meet the phonemic needs of your individual learners through movement, sensory activities, exciting technology, and interactive FUN. Plus, gather kinder-approved games to support and extend your phonics lessons. This session also has hands-on games to try and love! (This session is a hands-on make and take.)

**M08 I Can Read: Working with Beginning Readers**  
K • 1  
*Melissa Leach*

Repeat Session: K08  
Come examine why some students have a harder time than others. You’ll learn strategies for supporting student progress in phonemic awareness and alphabetic principles. Practice using strategic prompts to create independent readers and gain knowledge and strategies related to English Language Learners. This session will give plenty of classroom applications that will create a classroom full of students who say, “I can read!”

**M09 Math is Everywhere: Notice, Wonder & Connect!**  
K • 1  
*Emily Lech*  
*Andy Flodberg*

Join us to find out how to promote a conceptual understanding of math through curiosity, connectivity, and collaboration in a kindergarten & 1st grade setting. Through perplexing imagery & video, students are invited to engage in mathematical discourse. This productive struggle approach grows learners to become flexible mathematicians that are capable of utilizing their mental tool kits. Through a gradual release, hands-on approach, students grapple with small bits of information and build new knowledge by incorporating schema, failing forward, and differing approaches. This rigorous CCSS aligned approach can seamlessly fit into any math structure. Teachers and school leaders will walk away with simple resources and next steps that can be implemented by Monday!
Friday, March 6th - SESSION M: 1:15 p.m. - 2:15 p.m.

M10 No Cracks In The Foundation!
K • 1
Michelle Escapa
The KIDS Professional Learning Consultants

Are you ready to build the bridge? Learn how to create a system of alignment between Pre-K and Kindergarten. Join us in understanding the scaffolding of Learning Standards between Pre-K and Kindergarten. Building this bridge provides a pathway to meet students where they are to foster growth and development.

M11 Transition-Moving in a Positive Direction
P • K
Tara Marshall
Jessica Davison

Teaching movement activities to help children move from one activity to the next. This includes ideas for children with disabilities, social/emotional development needs, and non-verbal children. Teaching ways to help the move in a more positive direction to help them build confidence in themselves and working with others.

M12 Putting “Play” Back into PK-2 Classrooms
P • K • 1
Margeaux McReynolds
Meghan Rice

Research shows that young children learn through play. This workshop will help teachers and administrators see the value in PK-2 vertical alignment. Together we’ll explore and discuss the ways you can incorporate “play”, as a team, into your primary classroom, while meeting the CCSS. Come learn as you PLAY!

M13 PLAY Across the Domains
P • K
Dana Imlah
Ashely Passfield

How do you promote your early childhood learners’ education through the developmental domains? Join us as we explore the different developmental learning domains and how to use play to encourage age-appropriate learning through various stages of ECE.

Conference confirmations will be emailed and session tickets will be picked up onsite.
M15 You Can’t Nail that with a Hammer: Making the Most of Assessment Tools
P
Flora Gomez
Assessment tools can be scary when you don’t understand how they’re used or what they measure. They aren’t one-size-fits-all and should be used appropriately to make the best impact. Explore tools commonly used to evaluate preschool programs and how you can leverage them for program improvement and teacher professional development.

M16 Early Childhood Needs Men
P • K • A
Andrew Furth
Times are changing. Children are growing up without positive male role models in their lives. This dynamic, engaging session will examine the consequences of fatherlessness on our students as well as provide strategies to combat this societal issue in our schools and early childhood centers.

M17 The Bedtime Story Project: The Path to the Interactive Read-Aloud in the Balanced Literacy Classroom
P • K • 1 • A
Margaret Policastro
Sarah Sacuta
This session will highlight the results of a bedtime story project within an urban/suburban kindergarten setting — powerful strategies in preparing children for the interactive read-aloud within kindergarten classrooms. Audience participation and engagement will be incorporated.

M19 Yogapalooza With Bari Koral: Incorporate Yoga And Mindfulness Into Your Classroom
P • K • 1
Bari Koral
Repeat Session: G16
The most fun you can have learning Mindfulness and Yoga guaranteed! Relax with ocean breath, listen like a superhero, learn yoga with a dancing bear and much more. Top Kids Yoga expert Bari Koral is at the forefront of introducing and re-enforcing the incredible benefits of yoga and mindfulness.

Join us at the conference!
CLICK here TO REGISTER NOW online
Friday, March 6th - SESSION M: 1:15 p.m. - 2:15 p.m.

**M20 Introducing STEM to your Pre K-2 Classroom**
P • K • 1 • A
Amber Gunner

Using the 5E instructional model, and based in hands-on inquiry, the integration of literacy and building on conceptual math, STEM is the foundation for future success in Science and Math in the elementary classroom. Join us for some fun and engaging activities that are K-2 STEM ready!

**M21 Coding with Kinders**
K • 1 • A
Terrie Schmoldt

At a very basic level, come see what CODING can look like with young students. Bring a device so you can play and explore. Try some resources, get some ideas and have some fun. No technology degree required!

**M23 Dancing and Movement to Encourage Physical Skills, Appropriate Touch, and Rhythm, Pattern and Sequence**
P • K • 1
Carole Stephens

Repeat Session: E23
Children arrive wired for music at birth, learning by moving in their environment within seconds. Research shows that children who can find and keep a steady beat, follow verbal instructions, interpret visual images and participate in communal activities become engaged learners. Active music is for everyone: singers, dancers, head-boppers and eye-blinkers!

Future Annual Conferences!

**MARK YOUR CALENDAR**

40th Annual - March 3 – 5, 2021
Renaissance Hotel - Schaumburg, IL

41st Annual - March 2 – 4, 2022
Renaissance Hotel - Schaumburg, IL
Friday, March 6th - SESSION N: 2:30 p.m. - 3:30 p.m.

N01 5 Essential Writers
Workshop Steps to Success
K • 1
Deedee Wills
Repeat Session: M01
Learn how to create a curriculum pacing guide so you can plan your lessons confidently. Deedee will also help identify the best mentor texts to use in your writing instruction. She will share a writers workshop management plan and progress monitoring tips that will help your instructional time run smoothly.

N02 Hands-On
Kindergarten Morning
Work Bins
K
Marsha McGuire
Repeat Session: M02
Morning work has kicked worksheets to the curb. Learn how to revamp your morning work routine with morning work bins that are hands-on and engaging. You will gather ideas for starting your year out with morning work bins that focus on fine motor and basic first days of school skills that grow as your students are introduced to more complex skills in Math and ELA.

N03 Foundations of
Reading
K • 1
Donna Whyte
Repeat Session: E03
Continuum Ladders, Donna will share unique classroom-tested strategies for creating a classroom of motivated readers. Gain instructional ideas that aid in addressing the needs of individual readers in your room. Leave with a better understanding of how to teach at a higher level by focusing what you choose to teach. Learn to target imperative elements of learning to read – focused teaching will equal MORE learning.

N04 Model, Motivate,
Write, Repeat!
K • 1
Adam Peterson
Repeat Session: A04 & C07
Do your students complain and whine when it’s time to sit and write? No more! Attend this session to explore how to change writing time into one of the most positive, exciting times of your day. Get your students excited by allowing them to tell stories, see their stories come to life in the classroom, and turn their writing into published books!

N05 Maximum Math
Instruction
K • 1
Shari Sloane
Repeat Session: M05
Integrate your curriculum by using math throughout the day. Join Shari to discover games, songs, and materials to help your students meet the math standards. You will explore fast and simple activities to make the standards fun.
Friday, March 6th - SESSION N: 2:30 p.m. - 3:30 p.m.

N06 Retelling Strategies that Stick
P • K • 1
Kim Jordano

Re-telling is a great comprehension strategy. Kim introduces strategies to get your kindergartners sequencing and re-telling and presenting popular fairy tales, old-time favorite books, and new popular stories. Engage your children through hands-on techniques that are creative, inspiring, and lots of fun to boot!

N07 Phonics Phun
K • 1
Mary Amoson

Repeat Session: M07
Take advantage of research-supported ideas for developing an awareness of sounds and words in our language. Join Mary to learn how to meet the phonemic needs of your individual learners through movement, sensory activities, exciting technology, and interactive FUN. Plus, gather kinder-approved games to support and extend your phonics lessons. This session also has hands-on games to try and love! (This session is a hands-on make and take.)

N08 Making Work Stations…WORK
K • 1
Melissa Leach

Do you need fresh ideas for your current literacy centers? Join Melissa to gain new ideas for innovative and EASY ideas to help you manage and maintain Literacy Work Stations in the 2020 school year. Leave with ideas that are practical and easy for teachers, while being engaging and meaningful for students.

N09 Toolbox for Teaching Executive Function Skills in PK/K
P • K • 1 • A
Julie Kallenbach

Children’s executive functioning skills develop rapidly during the 3- to 6-year-old window of opportunity. Working memory, inhibitory control and cognitive flexibility are the foundation of learning and life skills. Learn ideas for adding pretend play, games, movement challenges and storytelling into any curriculum to support self-regulation, focus and social skills.

N10 Rain, Rain, Go Away?
K • 1
Laura Vollmer
Brad Banning

The phenomena created by the weather can be boggling to curious young minds. But these events are vital to our lives and the Earth. In this session, we’ll break down some of these forces of nature through lessons and activities highlighting rain, snow, seasons and more!
Friday, March 6th - SESSION N: 2:30 p.m. - 3:30 p.m.

N11 Supporting Students Optimal Development Through Community Collaborations
P • K • 1 • A
FaKelia Guyton
Grace Araya

Community Systems Development Leaders in partnership with Erikson Institute will provide an overview and discussion so that educators and administrators will be able to identify the purpose of community collaborations, how to get connected to a local collaboration, and the benefits of connecting with collaborations that can provide holistic supports for their students and families.

N12 Developmentally Appropriate Learning in Dual Language
K • 1
Marry Valladolid
Michelle Eggarter Lewis

How to incorporate playful learning into the Dual Language classroom.

N13 A Curriculum Journey: Our Play-Based Thematic Units of Study
P
Amanda Dunakin
Ashtar Nahhas

Hear how we developed our play-based, standards-aligned preschool curriculum. Learn how we incorporate play and assessment as we share unit resources and lesson plans. You will get the opportunity to think about a unit of study for your class, including read-alouds, questions for discussion, small group activities, and art projects.

N14 Next Generation Kindergarten: Teaching Next Generation Science in the K-1 Classroom
K • 1
Erica Hicks

Dive deep into the concepts of NGSS and learn how to create a student-led learning environment, full of rich conversation and the ability to complete tasks independently! Topics to be discussed, with lessons incorporated throughout the presentation, will include Science and Engineering Practices, Crosscutting Concepts, and Disciplinary Core Ideas.

Follow and share your 2020 Kindergarten experiences and pictures using our official Twitter, Instagram and Facebook accounts. @ILASCD
N15 Let Your STEM Grow- Literacy Links  
P • K  
Laura McCoy

Are you “stumped” on how to fit more science into your day? “Branch” out from books as you “tap” into Project Learning Tree’s Early Childhood Guide. Learn how to apply NGSS standards to your lessons that get to the “root” of how learning can be fun. Stretch out your “branches” as we participate in activities that will “plant the seeds” of learning in your students.

N16 Talk to Me Mama  
P  
Talmage Steele  
Tracey Young

Recent national tests show educators are skilled at teaching phonics, but we need to improve our teaching of language comprehension. This session focuses on ways professionals and parents can improve childrens’ language comprehension skills.

N17 Supporting Inclusion in a Full-Day Pre-K Classroom  
P • K  
Elizabeth Williams

Inclusion has many twists and turns. Visuals and differentiation are what will make the world go around! Visuals are an excellent tool for students who need extra accommodations, but visuals can also be used with “typically developing” students.

N18 Storybooks and STEAM  
P • K • 1 • A  
Amy Wylie

Storybooks come alive with creative and fun Kindergarten STEAM activities and projects. What could be better than activities that engage students in the areas of Science, Technology, Engineering, Art, and Mathematics? I will share storybooks, lesson plans, handouts, and show examples of what each completed project looks like for every month of the school year!

N19 No More Tattling  
P • K • 1 • A  
Julie Lingl

Learn how to create an atmosphere that empowers kids with the skills needed to have productive conversations, problem solve independently, and show a mutual respect for each other.

Conference confirmations will be emailed and session tickets will be picked up onsite.
N20 Integrated Therapy: Increase Student Learning in an Early Childhood Blended Classroom

P  Sheryl Pauwels
    Jodie Iddings

Attendees will obtain realistic, easy-to-implement ideas and strategies for integrated therapy that meets all learners needs and abilities. The focus will be on social work, speech and language, and occupational therapy in a blended classroom. This session will integrate technology and engage attendees in activities and collaboration.

N21 The Best of Budapest

P  Amy Sussna Klein

I will describe my experiences at the Pikler Institute, a Budapest orphanage/teaching institute. Some examples:

- Respecting children as competent and capable individuals.
- Providing children with a predictable environment in which they feel safe and develop independence and self-regulation.
- Treating caring times (e.g. feeding) as purposeful bonding opportunities.

N22 Put a Bit of Sunshine in Someone’s Day by Showing KINDNESS the Kindergarten Way!

P  K  1

Karen Graber

Repeat Session: F22
Join me as I share simple ideas, resources and books that promote kindness in the classroom, school and community! Making someone feel appreciated or just sharing a smile can be easy and FUN!

Click the play button to watch a video about Pikler’s impact.
Don’t Miss A Beat! Use our App on your phone or tablet to stay up-to-the minute throughout the conference!

Download the ILASCD app to access all of our events. Get instant notifications, an agenda list, chats and photos, along with a conference map... all at your fingertips!

Search for “ILASCD” in the Google Play Store for Android and in the App Store for iPhones or iPads.

Please call Illinois State University Conference Services at 309-438-2160 or 800-877-1478 if you have any questions regarding the conference registration.

2020 Pre-K & Kindergarten Conference Reminders

- Administrators attend FREE (with a team of 2 or more teachers.)
- Download session handouts before the Conference at illinoisascd.org or from our app.
- Download the app and follow us on social media for some GREAT PRIZES.
Sessions Fill Quickly, Register Early!

Registrations can be completed by mail, fax or online.

- **Faxes must be accompanied by** a credit card or signed copy of the purchase order (P.O.). **Payment or signed P.O. must be included** with mailed registration in order to be considered for registration.

- Conference registrations will be processed in order of **postmark or fax date** with preference given to Illinois ASCD members.

- Registration will be accepted until the conference is full or through **February 15, 2020**, whichever comes first. After February 15, please call to see if registrations are still being accepted.

- Study the session descriptions and **choose your preferred topics by letter and number for each day.**

- Complete the **Conference Registration Form on the next page** and mail or fax as soon as possible.

- Include payment by credit card, check, or purchase order **made payable to Illinois State University** with each registration form.

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**Registration Fees Include:**

- Morning continental breakfast (each of the two days of the conference)
- Three Yummy Coupons with a total value of $15 (each day for Thursday and Friday) that can be used for purchase of your lunch within the hotel restaurants
- Access to all featured, concurrent session speakers, and access to the conference exhibitors

***Breakfast is served from 7:00 a.m. - 9:30 a.m. and Lunch is served from 9:45 a.m. - 1:15 p.m.***

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**Group Registration Discount:**

A “Group Registration” option is available again this year. **Those attendees requesting the group rate MUST meet all three conditions below:**

- 3 or more attendees from the same school or district
- Separate form used for each person in the group
- All group forms MUST be mailed or faxed together with payment.
Online Registration Available!

Registration for the conference may be completed online using credit card payment only.

Join us at the conference! CLICK here TO REGISTER NOW online

Graduate Credit Available!

Participants at the 39th Annual Illinois ASCD Conference for Pre-Kindergarten and Kindergarten can receive graduate credit for their attendance at this event. Educators can receive one hour of graduate credit through the University of St. Francis. Registration will take place on-site, with payment due during the registration process. (Note: the University of St. Francis does not accept VISA credit cards for payment).

Interested in Being a Volunteer?

Please indicate such interest on the conference registration form. Each year, a number of volunteers are needed to collect session tickets, give directions, and help with conference procedures for participants.

- Volunteers must be willing to work both days of the conference (March 5-6, 2020).
- Volunteers will have their total conference registration refunded.
- Volunteers will be selected on a first-come, first-serve basis.
- As a volunteer, every attempt will be made to assign you your first-choice sessions. However, if selected, your session schedule may be altered to fit the needs of the conference. Please do not volunteer if this will become a problem.

NOTE: Participants requesting to be volunteers must submit registration payment which will be refunded if they are selected as a volunteer.

Conference confirmations will be emailed and session tickets will be picked up onsite.
Renaissance Schaumburg Convention Center Hotel

Please visit https://book.passkey.com/go/ILASCD2020 to make your hotel reservations or to reserve by phone please call (877) 303-0104 or fax to (847) 303-4323.

**Please note: Reservations submitted via mail are no longer accepted**

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**Please note: to ensure credit card security reservations submitted via mail are no longer accepted**

<table>
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<tr>
<th># of Rooms</th>
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<th># Guests</th>
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<tr>
<td>2 Double</td>
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**Four (4) people maximum per room. Rates are subject to state and local taxes, currently 15%.**
REGISTRATION MUST BE RECEIVED BY FEBRUARY 15, 2020

Please print clearly and use a separate form for each participant.

First Name: (for badge) ___________________________ Last Name: ________________________

School Name: ____________________________________ County: ________________________

School Address: ____________________________________ IL ASCD #: ______________________

City, State, Zip: ____________________________________ IEIN #: ________________________

School Phone: ___________________________ School Fax: ___________________________ Home Phone: ___________________________

E-Mail Address: ____________________________________

---

**FEES**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Conference Dates</th>
<th>IL ASCD Member</th>
<th>Non-Member</th>
<th>Group of 3+ Per Registration</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Thursday March 5 (only)</td>
<td>$130</td>
<td>$160</td>
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<tr>
<td>Friday March 6 (only)</td>
<td>$130</td>
<td>$160</td>
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<tr>
<td>Thursday &amp; Friday March 5-6</td>
<td>$220</td>
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**SPECIAL CONFERENCE PROGRAMS (optional)**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Program</th>
<th>Fee</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>March 4 Greg Smedley-Warren</td>
<td>$59</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>March 5 Happy Hour</td>
<td>$20</td>
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</table>

* Includes MEMBERSHIP for Greg Smedley-Warren event only.

**TOTAL FEES**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Program</th>
<th>Fee</th>
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<tr>
<td>March 4 Greg Smedley-Warren</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>March 5: Happy Hour</td>
<td>$20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>March 5: (only)</td>
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<tr>
<td>March 6: (only)</td>
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<td>March 5-6</td>
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<td>TOTAL</td>
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**PAYMENT INFORMATION**

- Check payable to Illinois State University
- Purchase Order Enclosed

Charge: ☐ Mastercard ☐ Visa ☐ Discover ☐ Am. Express

Card Number: _____________________________ 3 digit CVV Code

Expiration: Month/Year: __________ Signature: _____________________________

Name on Card (Print): _____________________________

(Note: Payment or Purchase Order MUST accompany registration.)

MAIL TO: Illinois State University    Phone: 309-438-2160 or 800-877-1478
Conference Services    Fax: 309-438-5364
Campus Box 8610
Normal, IL 61790-8610

A service fee of $25 will be charged on all cancellations. Cancellations must be made in writing. Registrations may be transferred by notifying Conference Services in writing, or fax at 309-438-5364. NO REFUNDS will be made for cancellations after February 15, 2020. Conference confirmations will be emailed to participants. Please call 800-877-1478 if you have any questions.
Please enjoy browsing products during the Conference from THESE VENDORS

- Anderson Books  www.andersonsbookshop.com
- Barefoot Books  www.shirinsbooks.com
- Bee Reading Company  www.beereadingco.com
- Bella’s Boutique  www.bellasboutique.com
- Box Cars and One-Eyed Jacks  www.boxcarsandoneeyedjacks.com
- Can You Read It: Yes We Can!  www.canyoureadityeswecan.com
- Center for the Collaborative Classroom  www.collaborativeclassroom.org
- Donna Whyte  www.thesmartiezone.com
- Drawing Children Into Reading  www.drawingchildrenintoreading.com
- Discount School Supply  www.discountschoolsupply.com
- GAME-SET-MATH LLC  www.game-set-math.com
- ESGI  www.esgisoftware.com
- The I Feel... Children’s Series  www.ifeelbook.com
- Illinois Agriculture in the Classroom  agintheclassroom.org
- Illinois Early Learning Project  illinoisearlylearning.org
- Illinois Department of Natural Resources  www.dnr.illinois.gov/education
- Illinois Reading Council  illinoisreadingcouncil.org
- Illinois State University College of Education  education.ilstu.edu
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<td>kindergals.blogspot.com</td>
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<td>Kim Jordano</td>
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<td>Kodo Kids</td>
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<td><a href="http://www.letears.com">www.letears.com</a></td>
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<td>Let’s Dig In</td>
<td><a href="http://www.letsdigin.com">www.letsdigin.com</a></td>
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<td>Mike Lockett The Normal Story Teller</td>
<td><a href="http://www.mikelockett.com">www.mikelockett.com</a></td>
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