

## CURRICULUM CLINICS

Each Curriculum Clinic will focus on a particular area of your curriculum, providing a more in-depth exploration of the goals, learning experiences and documentation strategies for that area. Register for one or more, and transform your program!

Christy Harvey

Fee: \$30 per Clinic

EEC Core Competency: Learning Environments and Curriculum

**Celebrating History and Traditions**

**Location: Methodist Weekday School, 2600 Massachusetts Avenue, Lexington, MA**

**Monday, November 9, 2009 4:00-6:30 pm**

Each child comes to us with his or her own family and community history and traditions. We will focus on the meaningful ways in which children can learn about and connect with history and traditions – their own, as well as ones from all around the world, and how you can incorporate these into your curriculum. We will highlight a wonderful array of children's literature and share ideas for how to provide unique hands-on learning experiences that emphasize the importance of history, tradition and celebration in a person's life. You will learn how history and traditions impact children's social and emotional development, and specific strategies about how to introduce related concepts and activities to preschool children of all learning abilities.

**Blocks and Building Skills**

**Location: Kindercare Learning Center, 520 Lowell Street, Peabody, MA**

**Monday, January 25, 2010 4:00-6:30 pm**

It is time to rethink the block area!! This clinic will focus on a variety of wonderful ways to integrate rich learning activities into a well-designed and well-equipped block area. We will uncover the potential learning experiences that are hidden in the block area, such as language development, problem solving skills, social-emotional development, and imaginative play. You will also discover fun and easy ideas on how to strengthen your behavior management skills in this active part of your classroom. Specific examples of how the block area can be an accessible and positive learning experience for preschool children with varying needs and abilities will be shared.

*Christy Harvey has worked as an early childhood professional for over 20 years. She has a wealth of experience as a preschool teacher, program coordinator, center director, consultant and adult educator, as well as expertise in NAEYC Accreditation and environmental design.*

**What Happens If...Preschool Investigations**

**Location: Methodist Weekday School, 2600 Massachusetts Avenue, Lexington, MA**

**Monday, April 5, 2010, 4:00-6:30 pm**

Celebrate and support the natural curiosity and wonder in preschool-aged children. In this clinic we will discuss, explore, and experiment with how to create an environment that invites preschool children's explorations and investigations. You will learn how to work with the children to uncover their questions and ideas, and build activities and learning experiences that are meaningful to them and fun for all. Specific ideas will be shared about how to incorporate the learning needs of all preschool children into the investigative learning process.

**The Great Outdoors**

**Location: Kindercare Learning Center, 520 Lowell Street, Peabody, MA**

**Thursday, June 10, 2010 4:00-6:30 pm**

Discover the amazing learning experiences can take place outside the walls of your classroom! Whether playing a new game or lying on the ground gazing at the sky, the children in your program can become inspired by playing and learning outside. We will explore easy activities for small and large groups that can be used at the spur of the moment, or on that perfect puddle-jumping day. Learn how to bring the spirit of the outdoors back into the classroom for further investigation and fun. Specific ideas will be shared about how to incorporate the learning needs of all preschool children into outdoor activities.

**POPULAR ONSITE TRAINING TOPICS:**

- Team Building/Communicating Effectively with Co-Workers
- Promoting Young Children's Social Development
- Sensory Integration and Activities
- Promoting Positive Behavior
- Creativity, The Arts and Young Children
- Learning through Play

## SPECIAL PRESENTATIONS WITH JEANINE FITZGERALD

**Different Children, Different Needs\***

2 part

**Location: Peabody-Lynnfield YMCA, 259 Lynnfield Street, Peabody, MA**

**Mondays, October 26 and November 2, 2009 6:30-8:30 pm Fee: \$50**

EEC Core Competency: Guiding and Interacting

"Children are not things to be molded, but people to be unfolded." We will explore the unique pattern of influences upon a child's behavior and development, with particular focus on inherited temperament and "the dance of interaction" between the child and the adult caregiver. You will learn how to recognize and assess children's temperaments in relation to your own and discover how this awareness can help you to effectively and positively work with each child in your program.

**Mental Health Issues in Young Children\***

2 part

**Location: Whitney Place, 3 Vision Drive (Route 9 West), Natick, MA**

**Thursdays, February 4 & 11, 2010 7:00 – 9:00 pm Fee: \$50**

EEC Core Competency: Guiding and Interacting

When should I worry about a child's social-emotional development? How will I know when to refer a child? We will reflect on our own attitudes about mental health, examine "red flags" as warning signs, consider how to create a comprehensive system from prevention to intervention, learn about the process of referral and evaluation and share strategies for partnering with community resources.

*Jeanine Fitzgerald, a certified Human Behavior Specialist, has more than 30 years of experience as a certified teacher and licensed mental health professional. The owner of The Better Behavior Bureau and The Behavior Institute, Jeanine understands the promise of every child, as well as the diversity of their needs. She specializes in research-based strategies that help teachers implement positive interventions in "real world settings". As an author, speaker, consultant and trainer, Jeanine has worked with thousands of educators and parents across the country.*

**The World of Difference - Understanding and Appreciating Diversity**

**Location: First Steps, North Shore ARC, 6 Southside Road, Danvers, MA**

**Saturday, November 14, 2009 9:00 am – 3:00 pm**

OR

**Location: The Cottage Children's Center, 197 Union Street, Marlborough, MA**

**Saturday, April 10, 2010 9:00 am – 3:00 pm**

*Marlies Zammuto*

**Fee: \$80 (includes light lunch)**

EEC Core Competency: Professionalism and Leadership

"Diversity exists when two or more people see themselves as different from one another." Join us to reflect on how to value, manage and celebrate diversity. With a statewide focus on "cultural competence", this event will help you gain insight into your own identity and provide strategies to apply these insights to your work with children and families. Through active engagement in a variety of activities you will learn to look at yourself as an individual and identify your own unique diversity, as well as begin to understand how others define themselves. We will explore how biases and prejudices that individuals may not even be aware of impact their dealings with others. You will leave with a better understanding of how to empower children of many cultures, ethnicities, abilities and races.

*Marlies Zammuto has been an educator of infants through elders for over thirty five years, working with children, families, early education and school-age professionals, employers and health and human service professionals in many diverse settings and communities locally, statewide, nationally and internationally. She has conceptualized, developed and implemented a variety of innovative education and support models to enhance the work of parents and professionals.*

**Discovering the Power of Intentional Language with Scott Noyes**

**Location: Whitney Place, 3 Vision Drive (Route 9 West), Natick, MA**

**Saturday, March 13, 2010 9:00 am – 3:00 pm**

**Fee: \$80 (includes light lunch)**

EEC Core Competency: Guiding and Interacting

Sometimes without even realizing it, what we say to children and what we mean don't line up. Join dynamic guest presenter Scott Noyes to evaluate common phrases we use throughout the day with young children and gain a deeper understanding of the impact of our words. We will focus on many common expressions that adults use when talking with children (many of which came directly to us from our own parents). Explore how to change restrictive language to responsive language, word choice, open-ended questions, body language, tone and self-defeating patterns. You will come away with strategies to avoid common pitfalls and learn how we can find ways to better express ourselves to support healthy relationships.

*Scott Noyes has been professionally working, playing and talking about children for over 20 years. The founder of Empowering Programs, he has an extensive background in early childhood education, with experience as a lead teacher, primary care provider and center director. Currently, Scott teaches undergraduate and graduate courses, lectures throughout North America, and is known for his humor and the practical strategies he shares.*

**Special Mini-Conference: Sensory Integration and Activities\***

**Location: Kindercare Learning Center, 520 Lowell Street, Peabody, MA**

**Saturday, May 22, 2010 9:00 am – 12:30 pm**

**Fee: \$45**

*Cathy Parshley, Anne Marie Smith and Kathy Durland*

EEC Core Competency: Guiding and Interacting

Sensory integration and processing refers to how children take in, process, interpret, and respond to sensory input. This process has a major impact on children's feelings, interactions, ability to focus on activities and motor skill development. Disruption of this process can impede a child's functioning and is often a factor in social-emotional and behavioral issues. Join us as we identify sensory integration developmental milestones from birth to age 6, and examine how the different sensory systems contribute to everyday functioning. We will then work in age-related groups (infant, toddler, or preschooler) to explore the environmental considerations that teachers must make for children who respond differently to sensory input. Learn how to create and adapt sensory experiences with a variety of therapeutic materials and practical strategies that promote learning while respecting each child's unique sensory integration process. You will discover easy, inexpensive and engaging activities that can easily be incorporated into your curriculum to foster a child's ability to stay calm and enjoy learning.

*Cathy Parshley has worked in the Early Intervention field for over 30 years, providing diagnostic, assessment, therapeutic, programming and training services to children, families and professionals in the greater New England area.*

*Anne Marie Smith has over 20 years of extensive experience as a Certified Occupational Therapy Assistant in a variety of settings, including pediatric and early intervention. She is a college instructor and facilitates training for infant, toddler and preschool educators throughout Massachusetts.*

*Kathy Durland is an Occupational Therapist who has worked for over 25 years in a variety of medical and educational settings. Her work includes evaluating children and developing and implementing treatment programs, working with parents and consulting to other professionals.*

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