



Workshops held at: Cole-Harrington Children's Center and Family Childcare System, 605 Neponset Street, Canton, MA

### SPECIAL LITERACY SERIES: BOOKS, STORIES, AND PUPPETS, OH MY!

We all know that play helps young children figure out their world. Through books, storytelling, and puppets, we have the ability to introduce concepts and ideas to children in safe and fun ways. Join us for one session, or attend all three sessions to explore in depth how children learn the foundation of values, literacy, comprehension, and creativity.

Nina Dickerman **Fee: \$25 per session**  
EEC Core Competency: Learning Environments and Curriculum

#### Children's Books: The Right Book for the Right Child at the Right Time

Tuesday, November 10, 2009 7:00 – 9:00 pm

Have you read the same book over and over and over again and forgotten why it is so important? Are you looking for new books to add to your collection? Are you interested in ideas for how to use books differently in your classroom? Examine the many benefits of reading to help young children with their feelings, content themes, and explorations into the unknown. You will learn criteria on how to choose great books for your program and leave with a checklist to ensure your collection is diverse.

#### The Power of Telling Stories

Tuesday, December 8, 2009 7:00 – 9:00 pm

"Tell me a story" is an often-repeated request of young children. Stories are accessible to all ages and abilities, they require no special equipment, and they encourage children to use their imaginations to construct personal values. We will identify the impact storytelling has in early childhood, discuss how to tell a great meaningful story, and share strategies on where to fit storytelling into your curriculum.

#### Playing with Puppets\*

Tuesday, January 12, 2010 7:00 – 9:00 pm

Have you ever wondered why children will respond more comfortably to a puppet than to you, or what to do with puppets? Puppets can help unlock a journey of imagination or take the brunt of a topic area that is challenging for young children to open up to. Explore the benefits of using puppets with children of diverse learning styles and learn how to choose puppets that are appropriate to a variety of situations, as well as whether some puppets better than others. You will also have a chance to make your own puppet!

#### Understanding and Handling Parent-Teacher Conflicts

2 part

Mondays, January 25 & February 8, 2010 7:00 – 9:00 pm **Fee: \$50**  
Suzanne Wildman

EEC Core Competency: Partnering with Families and Communities

Early childhood and school-age educators generally focus on the children in their programs, and realize that healthy parent-teacher partnerships support their ability to be successful in nurturing the "whole child". However, teachers are often faced with tensions around communicating sensitive issues or resolving conflicts with parents. In this 2 part series we will examine the dynamics of parent/teacher conflicts, consider how our communication styles impact interactions, learn and practice effective communication and conflict resolution techniques, and share experiences.

#### Planning for School-Age Vacation Weeks

Monday, March 15, 2010 7:00 – 9:00 pm **Fee: \$25**  
Marie Enochty

EEC Core Competency: Program Planning and Development

Think outside the box as you plan programs for school-age vacation weeks. We will explore strategies to expand programming during vacations and share a variety of resources. Out of school time programs have opportunities to offer experiences that will excite the children who participate, as well as the staff. Discussion will include funding, staffing and marketing.

#### Infant and Toddler Motor Development\*

Thursday, April 15, 2010 7:00 – 9:00 pm **Fee: \$25**  
Marion Sitomer

EEC Core Competency: Growth and Development

It seems mysterious to many of us that babies learn to roll over, sit, manipulate objects with their hands, crawl, and eventually walk. We will explore some key experiences, starting before birth, that support the development of muscle groups, sense of balance and movement, and body in space awareness. You will learn how to assist infants and toddlers to meet their motor milestones through positioning, play and stimulation. You will gain a better understanding of the forces behind early motor development, as well as strategies you can use to promote it.

#### Understanding and Working with Autism Spectrum Disorders\*

Wednesday, May 12, 2010 7:00 – 9:00 pm **Fee: \$25**  
Anita Preble

EEC Core Competency: Growth and Development

Autism spectrum disorders (Autism, Asperger's Syndrome and Pervasive Developmental Disorder) are becoming increasingly prevalent, yet still broad and confusing, diagnoses for young children. We will examine and identify "red flags" and diagnostic criteria for Autism Spectrum Disorders, and specific information on subtypes of Autism. We will discuss the challenges in working with young children with Autism Spectrum diagnoses, and you will learn specific strategies to improve attention and behavior, as well as techniques to facilitate the development of speech and language.

#### Team and Program Building: Communicating Effectively with Colleagues

Tuesday, June 8, 2010 7:00 – 9:00 pm **Fee: \$25**  
Adam Mintz

EEC Core Competency: Professionalism and Leadership

When staff members work together effectively as a team the whole program benefits. Learn skills for communicating respectfully and assertively with colleagues, and look at the key elements of collaborative teamwork. Issues to be addressed include understanding the roles of various team and staff members, listening to others, expressing yourself effectively, coping with criticism, and problem solving within an early childhood program community.

#### Fostering Young Children's Friendships and Social Skills\*

Tuesday, August 10, 2010 7:00 – 9:00 pm **Fee: \$25**  
Rita Rzezuski

EEC Core Competency: Guiding and Interacting

Do you know children who seem to struggle with basic skills related to peer relationships, such as approaching other children or groups, early empathy or voice modulation? We will identify specific social challenges faced by young children and explore strategies to help children learn how to make friends and interact appropriately with others.

"This was a productive, highly-useful and informative workshop."