



Let the Children . . . Come.Play.Learn
Central State Conference
July 7-9 2016

Session Descriptions *(Listed alphabetically by presenter's last name.)*

Do This Not That: Alphabet Knowledge — No flash cards? No worksheets? No letter of the week themes? How do children learn letters? Through this session, you will learn exciting alternatives to inappropriate letter knowledge instruction and leave ready to throw out flashcards and worksheets and still be able to lay a strong foundation for literacy development. (Stacy Bengé)

Core Competency: Supporting Skill Development (4.3)

Licensing Standard 746.1309 (b.3 – Age-appropriate Curriculum); d.10 – Planning developmentally appropriate learning activities)

Physical Development and School Readiness— What does trunk stability, core strength, and strong muscles have to do with school readiness? Everything! This session will explore how proper physical development is essential for children to be successful when they enter school and provide developmentally appropriate activities to include in the classroom to ensure optimal physical development. (Stacy Bengé)

Core Competency: Supporting Skill Development (4.9)

Licensing Standard 746.1309 (b.1 – Child Growth and Development; d.10 – Planning developmentally appropriate activities)

Literacy and Reading with Babies and Toddlers — Literacy development with babies and toddlers? Yes! Discover the importance of everyday language experiences and how these will positively influence literacy development for infants and toddlers. Also learn how to select and share books to create the optimal reading experiences for these children. (Stacy Bengé)

Core Competency: Supporting Skill Development (4.1,2,3)

Licensing Standard 746.1309 (b.1 – Child Growth and Development; b.4 – Teacher-child interaction; d.10 – Planning developmentally appropriate activities)

The Power of Blank Paper and Crayons — Blank paper and crayons are simple, inexpensive, but powerful tools for the early learning classroom. Discover ways to elicit essential skills necessary for the child's development as well as school readiness through implementing these practical materials. (Stacy Bengel)

Core Competencies: Learning Environment, Planning Framework, Curriculum, and Standards (3.1,2); Supporting Skill Development (4.2,3,7)

Licensing Standard 746.1309 (b.3 – age-appropriate curriculum; d.10 – Planning developmentally appropriate learning activities)

Let the Children Come. Play. Learn. Using Dramatic Play — Research supports children's natural preference of learning through play as the best avenue for strong growth across the domains. This session will explore inexpensive props to turn your classroom environment into a child's paradise that supports curriculum, develops social, emotional, and language skills while allowing children to be creative. (Joyce Burger)

Core Competencies: Child Growth and Development (1.5); Supporting Skill Development (4.7)

Licensing Standard 746.1309 (b.3 – age-appropriate curriculum; d.10 – Planning developmentally appropriate learning activities)

Make and Take — Need ideas for learning center activities, games, and other tools for your classroom? This session will provide the opportunity to not only see ideas for activities, but allow time for you to make samples to take with you! (Joyce Burger)

Core Competencies: Learning Environment, Planning Framework, Curriculum, and Standards (3.1,2)

Licensing Standard 746.1309 (b.3 – age-appropriate curriculum; d.10 – Planning developmentally appropriate learning activities)

The Power of Touch: Fine Motor Skills at the Sensory Table — What is easily available, extremely enticing, flexible and fun? Hint: it is an area where much needed skill sets are developed and refined, *and* it is enjoyed by all children ... the sensory table! Come, play, and learn the many benefits of sensory bins, discover tricks and tips for success and compile ideas to support your class. (Joyce Burger)

Core Competencies: Child Growth and Development (1.5); Supporting Skill Development (4.9)

Licensing Standard 746.1309 (b.1 – Child Growth and Development; b.3 – age-appropriate curriculum; d.10 – Planning developmentally appropriate learning activities)

Lab School Tour — Want to see the outdoor classroom in action? This field trip to the University of Texas Lab School will be an opportunity to see the school's newly redesigned outdoor play area that allows children, ages 2-5 to enjoy nature while developing the essential readiness skills. The results of the effectiveness of free unstructured play exhibited by the children in the program will be shared in a debriefing session following the tour. **Tour is by pre-registration only.** (Amy Bryan)

Core Competency: Observation and Assessment (5.1,2)

Licensing Standard 746.1309 (b.3 – age-appropriate curriculum; d.10 – Planning developmentally appropriate learning activities; d.11 – Observation and Assessment)

An Emergent Curriculum: Blending the Art and Science of Teaching — This session will explain the key features and goals of an emergent curriculum and describe how an emergent curriculum benefits children developmentally. The importance of intentional and reflective teaching practices, such as those used in the Reggio Emilia approach, to an emergent curriculum as well as opportunity to practice emergent curriculum development using classroom vignettes will be covered in this intriguing session. (Amy Bryan)

Core Competency: Learning Environment, Planning Framework, Curriculum, and Standards (3.1,2)

Licensing Standard 746.1309 (b.3 – age-appropriate curriculum; b.10 – Planning developmentally appropriate learning activities)

Toddlers Need a Little More: Facilitative Play Skills to Use with Twos — Join this to session to learn the typical development of toddlers’ play skills and understand why and how plays skills should be assessed regularly. Learn how facilitating play promotes toddlers’ development across domains and see techniques to encourage toddlers’ play. (Amy Bryan)

Core Competency: Child Growth and Development (1.1,5)

Licensing Standard 746.1309 (b.1 – Child Growth and Development; b.3 – age-appropriate curriculum; b.4 – Teacher-child Interaction; d.10 – Planning developmentally appropriate learning activities)

Come and Experience the Greatest Curriculum for Children to Learn and Play —

Come and explore how and why WEE Learn is the best curriculum for children as they learn and play. Be prepared to plan your daily & yearly schedules, set up your classroom, and create the best learning centers possible. We will even equip you to teach parents why WEE learn is meeting the developmental needs of their children. Don’t miss this action packed super session if you use WEE learn! (Stephanie Chase)

Core Competencies: Learning Environments, Planning Framework, Curriculum, and Standards (3.1,2)

Licensing Standard 746.1309 (b.3 – age-appropriate curriculum; b.10 – Planning developmentally appropriate learning activities)

Learning and Playing on the Go — Transition times can be crazy – moving from the playground to the classroom, group time to center time, and even waiting turns for the restroom. Learn songs, finger plays and games that will keep your preschoolers learning and playing while on the go. (Stephanie Chase)

Core Competency: Supporting Skill Development (4.1,9)

Licensing Standard 746.1309 (b.2 – Guidance and Discipline; b.3 – age-appropriate curriculum; b.10 – Planning developmentally appropriate learning activities)

Come and Learn to Be the BEST Teacher YOU Can Be — Children “get” a teacher each year, but this year will they get the “best” teacher? Come and learn simple steps that will catapult you into a new level of teaching – being the very best!

(Stephanie Chase)

Core Competencies: Professionalism and Ethics (9.2,3)

Licensing Standard 746.1309 (d.7 – Professional Development)

Understanding Gender Development in Boys (Girls) — In these sessions, you will gain a deeper understanding of why males and females can struggle with their sexual identity. This valuable information will assist you in helping teachers and parents in creating healthy gender formation in children. (Ricky Chelette)

(Core Competency: Child Growth and Development (1.1,2,4)

Licensing Standard 746.1309 (b.1 – Child Growth and Development; b.4 – Teacher-child Interaction; d.2 – Child Health)

Exploring Learning Styles in the Early Childhood Setting — How can teachers make sure they are meeting the learning needs of all the children in the classroom? This interactive session will focus on the different learning styles and give tips on how to ensure developmentally appropriate activities that will allow all children to be successful. (Jenice Dames)

Core Competencies: Child Growth and Development (1.); Learning Environments, Planning Framework, Curriculum, and Standards (3.1)

Licensing Standard 746.1309 (b.3 – Age-appropriate curriculum; b.10 – Planning developmentally appropriate learning activities)

Let's Talk Executive Functioning! — Wonder what executive functioning in the brain is all about? This session will explain what it is, how it develops, and why it is such an important skill. This will be an interactive, fun session that will give you great tools to create an environment that facilitates Executive Function. (Jenice Dames)

Core Competencies: Child Growth and Development (1.3,4); Observations and Assessment (5.2)

Licensing Standard 746.1309 (b.1 – Child Growth and Development; b.3 age-appropriate curriculum; b.10 – Planning developmentally appropriate learning activities)

Making the Minimum Standards Come Alive — No. This title is not a misprint. Ensuring that early childhood centers meet Minimum Standards can be fun! Participants in this session will learn about updates in standards along with strategies to ensure proper implementation of standards (Martha Garcia-Carson)

Core Competencies: Health, Safety, and Nutrition (8.1); Professionalism and Ethics (9.1); Core Competency for Administrators: Establishing and Maintaining an Effective Organization (1.2)

Licensing Standard 746.1309 (d.3 – Safety; d.13 – Minimum standards and how they apply to the caregiver)

Women Don't Age —Join this session to learn specific things you can do at home and work to stay young with each passing year. The principles of ageless living from rejecting processed foods to releasing frustrating emotions that come from being directors and teachers will be highlighted. Come and embrace your health and connect to God in a deeper way. (Martha Garcia-Carson)

Core Competency: Professionalism and Ethics (9.2,3)

Licensing Standard 746.1309 (d.7 – Professional Development)

Safe Centers, Safe Children —In this session, Directors will learn specific steps to create a safety plan for their child development center that exceeds the Minimum Standards. (Martha Garcia-Carson)

Core Competency: Health, Safety, and Nutrition (8.1,3)

Licensing Standard 746.1309 (d.3 – Safety; d.4 – Risk Management)

Write Out of the Box® —This fun, interactive workshop is designed to increase participants' knowledge of fine motor development as it relates to children's future handwriting abilities. After this super 3-hour session, teachers will be able to implement effective fine motor development activities and strategies in the classroom. (Marianne Gibbs)

Core Competencies: Child Growth and Development (1.1,2); Supporting Skill Development (4.9)

Licensing Standard 746.1309 (b.1 – Child Growth and Development; b.3 Age-appropriate curriculum; b.10 – Planning developmentally appropriate learning activities)

Sit Right, Walk Right, Hold it Right and Other Useless Commands — This 3-hour session will explore the dynamic developmental processes behind desired classroom behaviors. Take this opportunity to dig deeper into the development of the young child while broadening your implementation strategies. (Marianne Gibbs)

Core Competency: Core Competencies: Child Growth and Development (1.1,2); Supporting Skill Development (4.9)

Licensing Standard 746.1309 (b.1 – Child Growth and Development; b.3 Age-appropriate curriculum; b.10 – Planning developmentally appropriate learning activities)

Building Connections with Parents — Parents are the child’s first teachers! Therefore, it is vitally important to build positive relationships with them. This session will provide practical ideas for communicating with parents about everyday as well as sensitive issues. (Julie Hamilton)

Core Competency: Families and Community Relationships (7.1,2,3,4)

Licensing Standard 746.1309 (d.7 – Professional Development)

Fixer Upper: Preschool Classroom Edition — Room arrangement can make or break the flow of your classroom. You may need to “gut” your classroom or maybe you only need minor repairs or improvements. Come and learn how to “fix up” your classroom to provide the optimal learning environment! (Julie Hamilton)

Core Competency: Learning Environments, Planning Framework, Curriculum, and Standards (3.1)

Licensing Standard 746.1309 (b.3 – Age-appropriate curriculum; b.10 – Planning developmentally appropriate learning activities)

Learning Math Through Play — In this 3-hour session you will learn ways to intentionally incorporate math concepts into your day in ways that will be fun and enjoyable. The children will be so busy playing that they will not realize that they are learning. And you will have the opportunity to “make and take” a few of the ideas presented! (Julie Hamilton)

Core Competency: Supporting Skill Development (4.4)

Licensing Standard 746.1309 (b.3 – Age-appropriate curriculum; b.10 – Planning developmentally appropriate learning activities)

Core Competencies for Administrators and Teachers: What’s That? — The idea of “Core Competencies” may be new to you, but these are guidelines that all directors/administrators and teachers need to know. Come and learn how this assessment tool can be used to provide quality early childhood experiences in your program. (Paula Hatley)

Core Competency: Professionalism and Ethics (9.1,2); Core Competency for Administrators: Maintaining a healthy and Safe Environment (4.1)

Licensing Standard 746.1309 (d.7 Professional Development)

Finding Your Own Recipe for Success (New Directors) — This session designed for Directors with three years or less of experience will cover the many facets of being a director. Licensing, ministering, supervising, and serving as a liaison between the church and weekday program will be discussed. There will be time for questions, discussion, and networking with other new directors. (Paula Hatley)

Core Competencies for Administrators: Establishing and Maintaining an Effective Organization (1.2,3); Business and Operations Management (2.1,3)

Licensing Standard 746.13011 (d – Director with five or fewer years)

Planning a “Mom Don’t Pick Me Up Early” After School Program — Need help with planning what to do with those “after school” kids? This session will explore curriculum, activity, snack, and field trip ideas. Special attention will be given to transportation safety. (Paula Hatley)

Core Competency: Learning Environments, Planning Framework, Curriculum, and Standards (3.1)

Licensing Standard 746.1309 (b.3 – Age-appropriate curriculum; b.10 – Planning developmentally appropriate learning activities)

Sharing Space and Setting Up a Resource Room — Learning to share space and resources is often a difficult issue. This session will provide help and guidelines on how programs in the church came together to share classrooms and resources, and manage equipment in order to minister to families. (Paula Hatley)

Core Competencies: Learning Environments, Planning Framework, Curriculum, and Standards (3.1); Professionalism and Ethics (9.4)

Licensing Standard 746.1309 (d.7 – Professional Development)

Attachment and the Infant/Toddler Classroom — Attachment is the crucial bond between the child and caregiver. The infant and toddler classroom is the perfect setting for encouraging attachment while also fostering independence in the young child. This session will uncover the important role of attachment, discuss ways to honor a child’s attachment to their caregivers and provide practical strategies for creating secure bonds with infants and toddlers. (Dawn Herman)

Core Competency: Child Growth and Development (1.1,4)

Licensing Standard 746.1309 (b.1 - Child Growth and Development; b.4 - Teacher-child Interaction; d.9 – Topic relevant to age group; d.12 – Attachment and responsive care giving)

Including the Child with Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD) in the Preschool Classroom — Having a child with ASD (or concerns for ASD) in your classroom can be challenging, but rewarding. Inclusion is the best practice and can successfully implemented when teachers have the tools to support learners. Participants in this session will discuss the benefits of having a child with ASD in the classroom as well as the struggles these children face. This training also will provide practical strategies for helping teachers make their classrooms a place of inclusion and learning for all children. (Dawn Herman)

Core Competencies: Child Growth and Development (1.3; Observation and Assessment (5.2)

Licensing Standard 746.1309 (d.1 – Care of children with special needs; d.10 – Planning developmentally appropriate learning activities)

Don’t Burn the Bacon! — Participants In this session will learn the benefits of cooking with young children and to implement cooking projects in the classroom. They will also explore safety issues involved and how TEKS (Texas Essential Kindergarten Skills) can be fostered through cooking. (Marlyn Kramer)

Core Competency: Supporting Skill Development (4.1,2,3,4,5)

Licensing Standard 746.1309 (b.3 – Age-appropriate curriculum; d.10 – Planning developmentally appropriate learning activities)

Nursery Rhyme Time — Remember those nursery rhymes from your childhood? This session will provide fun activities that use those often forgotten nursery rhymes to teach language, reading, writing, math, and creative drama. This fast-paced session is aimed for teachers of ages 3-kindergarten. (Marlyn Kramer)

Core Competency: Supporting Skill Development (4.2,3,7)

Licensing Standard 746.1309 (b.3 – Age-appropriate curriculum; d.10 – Planning developmentally appropriate learning activities)

Motivating Staff: Working Together to Build a Team — Need help in bringing your staff together as a team? Come to this session and experience fun effective ways to bridge the gap of differences, personalities, and skills to create a professional positive workplace! (Gloria Mansfield)

Core Competency for Administrators: Human Resource Leadership and Development (3. 3,4)

Licensing Standard 746.13011 (d,e – Management techniques, leadership, staff supervision)

Risk Management — This session will help identify and manage the risks that are inherent early childhood programs. Come examine how to keep your center safe, plan or review your risk management plan and strengthen your center with effective tips for managing the major sources of risk. (Gloria Mansfield)

Core Competency for Administrators: Maintaining a Healthy and Safe Environment (4.1,3)
Licensing Standard 746.1309 (d.4 – Risk Management)

SIDS and Shaken Baby Syndrome and Early Brain Development — This training topic may be required annually for all caregivers of infants & toddlers, but that doesn't mean it has to be boring or monotonous. Let's talk "REAL" about these subjects and how they impact our lives and learn how to prevent them from happening. (Gloria Mansfield)

Core Competencies: Child Growth and Development (1.2,4); Health Safety, and Nutrition (8.12,3)

Licensing Standard 746.1309 (e.1,2,3 – Recognizing and Preventing sudden infant death and shaken baby syndrome; understanding early childhood brain development)

When Wild Kids Show Up — Have you experienced kids who bounce off the walls, are aggressive and disruptive, and who seem to constantly be out of control? Here's the change to turn refreshing effective ways to create a positive classroom environment. Learn how to develop a plan of procedures and guidelines that will enable you to be proactive and set-up fun learning activities that redirect behavior and encourage kindness and self-control. (Gloria Mansfield)

Core Competencies: Child Growth and Development (1.2); Responsive Interactions and Guidance (2.1,2)

Licensing Standard 746.1309 (b.2 – Guidance and discipline; b.3 – Age-appropriate curriculum; d.10 – Planning developmentally appropriate learning activities)

Creating a Sensory Friendly Classroom — Learn about the "Sensory Players" and the difference understanding them can make in your classroom. Walk away with sensory solutions for sensitive kids and larger-than-life seekers. Learn to use a sensory survey, a sensory behavior log, a "safe place"/sensory corner and plan a classroom "sensory diet". Come, play and learn how to make your classroom a more welcoming place for EVERY student. (Kristin Mathis)

Core Competencies: Child Growth and Development (1.2); Responsive Interactions and Guidance (2.1,2)

Licensing Standard 746.1309 (b.3 – Age-appropriate curriculum; d.10 – Planning developmentally appropriate learning activities; d.1 – Care of children with special needs)

Dealing with Difficult Behaviors — Do you deal with biters, hitters, runners, or whiners? Do you know children who can't sit still, can't wait their turn, can't separate from mom, or can't keep their hands to themselves? At the root of these behaviors is often anxiety and lack of developing self-regulation skills. This session will provide tools for your behavior management toolbox and help you guide these children to more adaptive behavior. (Kristin Mathis)

Core Competency: Responsive Interactions and Guidance (2.1,2,3)

Licensing Standard 746.1309 (b.2 – Guidance and discipline; b.3 – Age-appropriate curriculum; d.10 – Planning developmentally appropriate learning activities)

Little Hands, Big Work — Hand development is an important task of early childhood! Come learn tips and tricks to make fine motor skills easier and more fun. You will sample activities and tools to add to the things you are probably already doing. Fun sensory recipes, easy sensory tables, and how to handle “sensitive” and “grabby” hands will also be explored. This session will focus on fine motor skills for kids eighteen months and older. (Kristin Mathis)

Core Competency: Child Growth and Development (1.1,5); Supporting Skill Development (4.9)

Licensing Standard 746.1309 (b.1 –Child growth and development; b.3 – Age-appropriate curriculum; d.10 – Planning developmentally appropriate learning activities)

Helping Children Understand Traumatic Events — The world in which children are living is full of events that can be frightening and be sources of anxiety. Even though, adults would like to shield children from these, it is often difficult to do. So how do we talk to children about traumatic events and what tools can we give to cope and to feel safe in our uncertain world? Come and find out. (Dr. Shelly Melia)

Core Competency: Responsive Interactions and Guidance (2.1,2)

Licensing Standard 746.1309 (b.2 – Guidance and discipline; b.3 – Age-appropriate curriculum; d.10 – Planning developmentally appropriate learning activities)

Understanding Children and Salvation: If you have an after school program and are concerned about helping school-age children know Christ, this session is especially for you! This conference will explore the biblical, historical, and philosophical issues related to developing an understanding of the theology of children and salvation. Current trends and statistics will be shared in addition to practical tools to help teachers and parents lead children to Christ. (Dr. Shelly Melia)

Core Competency: Child Growth and Development (1.14)

Licensing Standard 746.1309 (b.1 –Child growth and development; b.3 – Age-appropriate curriculum; d.10 – Planning developmentally appropriate learning activities)

More Music Exploration for Infants and Toddlers — Babies respond instinctively to music! Learn ways of experiencing music with infants and toddlers through songs, rhymes, and exploration activities that can both soothe and stimulate cognitive, emotional, and motor development. Ages: Infants - 3 years (Devora Miller)

Core Competency: Responsive Interactions and Guidance (2.2,4): Supporting Skill Development (4.1,7,9)

Licensing Standard 746.1309 (b.1 – Child growth and development; b.3 – Age-appropriate curriculum; d.10 – Planning developmentally appropriate learning activities)

Cantar y Jugar! (Sing and Play) — Learn new and traditional Spanish language songs and games that teach colors, math concepts, parts of the body, and much more! ¡Vamos amigos a cantar y jugar! Ages: 3 years - 5 years (Devora Miller)

Core Competencies: Supporting Skill Development (4.1,2,3,4,7); Diversity and Dual Language Learners (6.2)

Licensing Standard 746.1309 (b.3 – Age-appropriate curriculum; d.6 – Cultural diversity for children and families; d.10 – Planning developmentally appropriate learning activities)

Sing Across Texas with Me: Greatest Hits — Celebrate the great state of Texas with songs and games that embrace our diverse culture. Rodeo, farm, and bilingual songs and activities will be included. Curriculum connections to reading, math, and social studies will be demonstrated. Come a ki yi yippy yippy yay! Ages: 3 years – 5 years (Devora Miller)

Core Competency: Supporting Skill Development (4.3,4,6)

Licensing Standard 746.1309 (b.3 – Age-appropriate curriculum; d.6 – Cultural diversity for children and families; d.10 – Planning developmentally appropriate learning activities)

Handwriting Without Tears® —Handwriting Without Tears curriculum combines developmentally appropriate practices, multisensory manipulatives and research-based strategies to help children learn handwriting. This active, hands-on session will overview the practical ways to use HWT in an early childhood classroom. (Melissa McKenzie)

Core Competency: Child Growth and Development (1.1); Supporting Skill Development (4.9)

Licensing Standard 746.1309 (b.1 – Child growth and development; b.3 – Age-appropriate curriculum; d.10 – Planning developmentally appropriate learning activities)

Making God Real to Young Children: DAP Chapel Ideas —God seeks to make Himself known to all persons and children are no exception. However, young children do not learn about God the same way adults do. This session will give you an understanding of how young children see God and give you some developmentally appropriate ways to teach them about God in chapel settings or in the classroom. (Melissa McKenzie)

Core Competency: Supporting Skill Development (4.1,2); Core Competency for Administrators: Establishing and Maintaining an Effective Organization (1.1); Implementing a Developmentally Appropriate Curriculum and Environment (5.1,2)

Licensing Standard 746.1309 (b.3 – Age-appropriate curriculum; d.10 – Planning developmentally appropriate learning activities)

Not Your Grandma's Bible Songs — Music activates the whole brain, which ensures better retention. What could be more important for young children to retain than God's Truth? This session will help you expand your "Bible Song Library", learn some simple sign language and refuel your passion for sharing God's Message with preschoolers. (Melissa McKenzie)

Core Competency: Supporting Skill Development (4.1,7)

Licensing Standard 746.1309 (b.3 – Age-appropriate curriculum; d.10 – Planning developmentally appropriate learning activities)

How to Design Outdoor Spaces — This extended session will introduce ten guidelines for outdoor classroom design. It will include how to organize and design activity areas in a play yard to best support children's development. Photographs will be used as examples to show how play yards can be designed and activities set up whatever kind of environment you have to work with! (Eric Nelson)

Core Competencies: Child Growth and Development (1.5); Learning Environments, Planning Framework, Curriculum, and Standards (3.1)

Licensing Standard 746.1309 (b.3 – Age-appropriate curriculum; d.10 – Planning developmentally appropriate learning activities)

Teacher Engagement in the Outdoor Classroom — Teachers are the single most critical element needed for successful implementation of an outdoor classroom. This extended session describes fifteen steps in the teacher engagement process and provides keys to getting teachers invested and involved in the outdoor classroom. Photos will be used to demonstrate effective teacher engagements in action! (Eric Nelson)

Core Competencies: Child Growth and Development (1.5); Learning Environments, Planning Framework, Curriculum, and Standards (3.1)

Licensing Standard 746.1309 (b.3 – Age-appropriate curriculum; b.4 – Teacher and child interaction; d.10 – Planning developmentally appropriate learning activities)

Child Abuse/Neglect Identification & Reporting — This session will provide the essentials of identifying the signs and symptoms of abuse. What to do if a child discloses abuse, how and when to report abuse, and what happens during the investigation also will be discussed. (Kate Nyquist)

Core Competency: Health, Safety, and Nutrition (8.1); Core Competency for Administrators: Maintaining a Healthy and Safe Environment (4.1,3)

Licensing Standard 746.1309 (c – Prevention, recognition, and reporting of child abuse and neglect)

Child Sexual Abuse: What Every Adult Should Know —Every early childhood educator needs to be informed about child sexual abuse and ways to prevent it from happening. Objectives covered in this 3-hour session include: Identifying behaviors and activities that perpetrators use to gain the trust of children and adults, developing skills to recognize risks, and learning to respond appropriately. (Kate Nyquist)

Core Competency: Health, Safety, and Nutrition (8.1); Core Competency for Administrators: Maintaining a Healthy and Safe Environment (4.1,3)

Licensing Standard 746.1309 (c – Prevention, recognition, and reporting of child abuse and neglect)

Children Love to Play! — The children ran to Jesus and He blessed them. Join this session to learn how to meet the developmental needs of children from birth—kindergarten through play. Children can learn about relationships, the world, and God by engaging them in meaningful play. (Courtney Osborne)

Core Competency: Child Growth and Development (1.1,5)

Licensing Standard 746.1309 (b.3 – Age-appropriate curriculum; b.4 – Teacher and child interaction; d.10 – Planning developmentally appropriate learning activities)

“Come!” He Wants to Talk with the Children —Join this session to learn practical ways to make prayer come alive for children. Through various activities and strategies, young children can learn this powerful spiritual discipline. (Courtney Osborne)

Core Competency: Child Growth and Development (1.4); Supporting Skill Development (4.1,2)

Licensing Standard 746.1309 (b.3 – Age-appropriate curriculum; b.4 – Teacher and child interaction; d.10 – Planning developmentally appropriate learning activities)

The Cuddle Chemical — Do you want children to be at their best? If so, they must have the cuddle chemical! This chemical is absolutely necessary for a child to be their best, physically and emotionally. Discover this supernatural phenomenon and how it is changing kids. (Lauren Osborne)

Core Competencies: Child Growth and Development (1.1,4); Responsive Interactions and Guidance (2.1,2)

Licensing Standard 746.1309 (b.1 - Child Growth and Development; b.4 - Teacher-child Interaction; d.9 – Topic relevant to age group; d.12 – Attachment and responsive care giving)

Let the Children Come...Unless They are Screaming — When tantrums and other intense emotions (sadness, anger, anxiety, fear) come out in the classroom or we teaching children what “to do”? This session will guide you to teach children how to go from “out of control” to self-control! (Lauren Osborne)

Core Competencies: Responsive Interactions and Guidance (2.1,2); Supporting Skill Development (4.1)

Licensing Standard 746.1309 (b.1 - Child Growth and Development; b.2 – Guidance and discipline; b.4 - Teacher-child Interaction)

When Children Ran to Jesus, They Were Outside — In a recent study, 70% of mothers reported that they played outside as children, but only 31% of their children do. Our brains are changing drastically due to a lack of NATURE. Explore in this session the effects God's creation has on the brain and what we can do to help children experience God through nature. (Lauren Osborne)

Core Competencies: Child Growth and Development (1.4) Responsive Interactions and Guidance (2.1,3)

Licensing Standard 746.1309 (b.3 – Age-appropriate curriculum; d.10 – Planning developmentally appropriate learning activities)

Adults Even Have Trouble Getting Along — Do you have a co-worker that is hard to work with? Do you have a director that is hard to follow? What about the parents of the children? Join the session to look at some brain-based and biblically based strategies that might help you lead and work with adults. If Jesus had challenges . . . we will too! (Peggy Osborne)

Core Competency: Professionalism and Ethics: (9.1,2); Core Competency for Administrators: Human Resource Leadership and Development (3.2,3,4)

Licensing Standard 746.1309 (d.7 – Professional development)

Can They Count on You? — Babies learn to trust or distrust by the way their needs are met or unmet. Often adults think a baby will be spoiled if his needs are met right away. Join this session to learn what research is saying about this topic and what strategies to use in the classroom. Children can count on Jesus, but can they count on you to meet their needs? (Peggy Osborne)

Core Competency: Child Growth and Development (1.1,4)

Licensing Standard 746.1309 (b.1 - Child Growth and Development; b.4 - Teacher-child Interaction; d.9 – Topic relevant to age group; d.12 – Attachment and responsive care giving)

I'm Sorry or I Was Wrong: Which is the Best? — This session will explore conflict resolution with young children and what is the best way to lay a foundation for children to have deeper, long-lasting relationships. Learning the right words to say early can make a difference for a lifetime. Jesus rebuked the disciples. What should their response have been? (Peggy Osborne)

Core Competencies: Child Growth and Development (1.1,4); Responsive Interactions and Guidance (2.1)

Licensing Standard 746.1309 (b.1 - Child Growth and Development; b.2 – Guidance and discipline; b.4 - Teacher-child Interaction; d.12 – Attachment and responsive care giving)

Jesus Called the Children...How Can We Make Bible Stories Come Alive! — How can you tell a Bible story to make it "stick"? This session will explore how music, activities, movement, tone and expression work together in making a Bible story come alive. (Peggy Osborne)

Core Competencies: Responsive Interactions and Guidance (2.1); Supporting Skill Development (4.1,2)

Licensing Standard 746.1309 (b.3 – Age-appropriate curriculum; d.10 – Planning developmentally appropriate learning activities)

Messy Play — Rediscover the joy of learning through multisensory activities! Sensory Play can promote learning in language, science, motor coordination, and social skills. This session will provide information on brain development and allow some hands-on messy play. So come and rediscover the joy of learning through multisensory activities (Melissa Ply)

Core Competency: Supporting Skill Development (4.1,2,5,7,9)

Licensing Standard 746.1309 (b.3 – Age-appropriate curriculum; d.10 – Planning developmentally appropriate learning activities)

Playful Pre-reading Activities: No Worksheets — Discover what is critically important in developing proficient reading and ideas on how to provide age-appropriate activities for phonological awareness, letter knowledge, and reading comprehension. (Melissa Ply)

Core Competency: Supporting Skill Development (4.3)

Licensing Standard 746.1309 (b.3 – Age-appropriate curriculum; d.10 – Planning developmentally appropriate learning activities)

Big Math for Little People — Participants in this session will learn about the Math Domain area in the Texas PreK Guidelines and see examples for introducing math concepts intentionally with hands-on playful activities for use in learning centers, games, and small groups. (Melissa Ply)

Core Competency: Supporting Skill Development (4.4)

Licensing Standard 746.1309 (b.3 – Age-appropriate curriculum; d.10 – Planning developmentally appropriate learning activities)

Developing a Child's Multi-Sensory Intelligence: Unstructured, Outdoor Play and Character Development (3-hour session) — The Liink Project has developed a way to incorporate unstructured, outdoor play and character development back into the school day and develop all aspects of the child's intelligences. This 3-hour presentation will outline programming considerations and challenges when implementing play and character development into your program. Different ways to use Bible stories to teach character development effectively also will be outlined. (Dr. Debbie Rhea)

Core Competencies: Child Growth and Development (1.5); Learning Environment, Planning Framework, Curriculum, and Standards (3.1,2); Supporting Skill Development (4.1,9)

Licensing Standard 746.1309 (b.3 – Age-appropriate curriculum; d.10 – Planning developmentally appropriate learning activities)

Are You a Super Supervisor? You Can Be! —At times directors feel overwhelmed and unappreciated! This humorous and informational session for Directors will renew your spirit and commitment. Learn how to develop strong, professional relationships with your staff. Create a school culture that demands performance excellence and exceptional customer service. A director is the most powerful influence in any program. Learn how to use that influence effectively. (Gigi Schweikert)

Core Competencies for Administrators: (Establishing and Maintaining an Effective Organization (1.1); Human Resource Leadership and Development (3.1,2,3,4)

Licensing Standard 746.13011 (d,e – Management techniques, leadership, staff supervision)

Exploring States of Matter (3-hour Super Session) — This 3-hour Super Session is designed to help educators introduce kids to solids, liquids, and gasses. Participants in this session will build Hero engines, play with dry ice, explore surface tension, be underwater engineers, and play with polymers. Activities in this session will not be repeated in other sessions. *(Alan Small)*

Core Competency: Supporting Skill Development (4.5)

Licensing Standard 746.1309 (b.3 – Age-appropriate curriculum; d.10 – Planning developmentally appropriate learning activities)

States of Matter Investigation: Round Robin — This fast-paced session is full of labs that are easily implemented in the classroom. Explore buoyancy, density, and volume by building a Floating Friend, piloting a carrot submarine, and constructing your own boats. Activities will not repeat in other sessions. *(Alan Small)*

Core Competency: Supporting Skill Development (4.5)

Licensing Standard 746.1309 (b.3 – Age-appropriate curriculum; d.10 – Planning developmentally appropriate learning activities)

High Flying Science — This fast-paced, make and take session is full of easy and effective flight projects to help children explore the physics of planes, rockets, and “Super-Loopers.” Activities will not be repeated in other sessions. *(Alan Small)*

Core Competency: Supporting Skill Development (4.5)

Licensing Standard 746.1309 (b.3 – Age-appropriate curriculum; d.10 – Planning developmentally appropriate learning activities)

Healthy Snacks and a Good Nutrition Environment — Healthy snacks are critically important in a child’s diet. The nutrition environment that early childhood programs create can influence young children’s food preferences, which also can influence their home nutrition environment. Come and learn ways you can create a healthy nutrition environment. *(Dr. Sara Sweitzer)*

Core Competency: Health, Safety, and Nutrition (8.4)

Licensing Standard 746.1309 (d.2 – Child health)

Classroom Strategies for Children with Special Needs — This session will allow participants to learn more about disabilities that could impact a young child’s learning and behavior. We will overview several disabilities, ranging from early warning signs of ADHD and autism, to hearing or visual impairments. We will then identify ways to structure the classroom environment that will best support the children with different learning, social, or physical needs. Participants will feel more comfortable in identifying differences, accommodating those differences, and ultimately accepting all of God’s children into their care *(Paula B. Tinker)*

Core Competencies: Learning Environments, Planning and Framework, Curriculum and Standards (3.2); Supporting Skill Development (4.2,3)

Licensing Standard 746.1309 (d.1 – Care of children with special needs; d.10 – Planning developmentally appropriate learning activities)

The Write Way — Learning to write actually begins in play during infancy. This session will engage you in the process of how to prepare children for writing and the dynamics of teaching young children to write. Typical problems with writing along with remedies for common writing difficulties in early childhood will be explored. At the end of the session, you will be able to pinpoint eight areas of readiness for writing simply by watching a young child color! *(Paula B. Tinker)*

Core Competency: Supporting Skill Development (4.3)

Licensing Standard 746.1309 (b.3 – Age-appropriate curriculum; d.10 – Planning developmentally appropriate learning activities)

Ages and Stages: Birth—Twos — Need to gain a deeper understanding of infants, toddlers, and twos? This 3-hour session is for you! In this workshop will you learn the developmental milestones and how to use that information when designing activities in the classroom. (Jerri Ann Thompson)

Core Competency: Child Growth and Development (1.1,5)

Licensing Standard 746.1309 (b.1 – Child growth and development; d.10 – Planning developmentally appropriate learning activities)

Ages and Stages: 3-5 years — This two-hour plus session is designed to give participants a deeper understanding of the developmental milestones of 3-5 year-olds and how to use that information to design activities for the classroom.

(Jerri Ann Thompson)

Core Competency: Child Growth and Development (1.1,5)

Licensing Standard 746.1309 (b.1 – Child growth and development; d.10 – Planning developmentally appropriate learning activities)

Assessment Tools for Infants and Toddlers (3 months – 29 months)

Assessment Tools for Preschoolers (Ages 2 ½ - Kindergarten) — Learn how to use the Assessment Tools now being offered by TBCWEA. Participants will learn how to use write anecdotal observations to fill out the tools and how to use them to talk with parents.

(Jerri Ann Thompson)

Core Competency: Observation and Assessment (5.1); Core Competency for Administrators: Implementing a Developmentally Appropriate Curriculum and Environment (5.3)

Licensing Standard 746.1309 (b.1 – Child growth and development; d.11 – Observation and Assessment)

Tricks of the Trade – Organization if a key element to successful teaching. This session will focus on some of the stumbling blocks for teachers when preparing for a new school year and how to overcome them. The process of planning, a developmentally appropriate learning environment, and recognizing the value of a balanced daily schedule are a few of the ideas that will be explored. (Jerri Ann Thompson)

Core Competency: Learning Environments, Planning Framework, Curriculum, and Standards: (3.1)

Licensing Standard 746.1309 (b.3 – Age-appropriate curriculum; d.10 – Planning developmentally appropriate learning activities)

Intentionally Teaching God's Word — All church weekday education programs should purpose to teach God's Word. Without this emphasis, ministry to kids and their families becomes anemic. This session will remind each of us about the importance of teaching God's word precept upon precept. During this session, you will also learn about a resource to help you be an intentional teacher of biblical truths. (Jerry Vogel)

Core Competencies: Child Growth and Development (1.4); Learning Environments, Planning Framework, Curriculum and Standards (3.1);

Core Competencies for Administrators: Implementing a Developmentally Appropriate Curriculum and Environment (5.1,2)

Licensing Standard 746.1309 (b.3 – Age-appropriate curriculum; d.10 – Planning developmentally appropriate learning activities)

Ways to Use the Bible/Bible Activities Throughout the Day — How do you include Bible-learning activities throughout the day in the weekday classroom? This session will give you tools to better anchor your teaching in Bible-based activities. Teaching the Bible should be throughout the day, not just in chapel! (Jerry Vogel)

Core Competencies: Child Growth and Development (1.4); Learning Environments, Planning Framework, Curriculum and Standards (3.1);

Licensing Standard 746.1309 (b.3 – Age-appropriate curriculum; d.10 – Planning developmentally appropriate learning activities)

Different Brains — Different Learners: How Do Children Learn? — The best teaching begins with the brain so join this session for “Brain Anatomy 101” and a closer look at the learning process for individual learners. You may learn a little about yourself and be reminded that everyone is “fearfully and wonderfully made.” (Jaime Warren)

Core Competency: Child Growth and Development (1.1,2)

Licensing Standard 746.1309 (b.1 – Child growth and development; b.3 – Age-appropriate curriculum; d.10 – Planning developmentally appropriate learning activities)

It’s Just a Hop, Skip, and a Jump — Celebrate the child within thought a creative movement workout. In this session, you will move to lively music, explore ideas for incorporating creative movement activities into your classroom, and put your head, hands, and feet together to create a fun routine or two! (Jaime Warren)

Core Competency: Child Growth and Development (1.4); Supporting Skill Development (4.9)

Licensing Standard 746.1309 (b.3 – Age-appropriate curriculum; d.2 – Child health; d.10 – Planning developmentally appropriate learning activities)

Encouraging the Heart — The secret to teaching children is the intentional and effective encouragement of the TEACHERS. Based on the book *Encouraging the Heart: A Leader’s Guide to Rewarding and Recognizing Others* by James Kouzes and Barry Posner, this session is designed for directors. (Ken Warren)

Core Competency: Professionalism and Ethics (9.2,3)

Licensing Standard 746.1311 (d. 7- (d,e – Management techniques, leadership, staff supervision)

Leading with a Limp — The strongest and most effective leaders (directors and teachers) are those who recognize and celebrate their own weaknesses. Come, discover, and celebrate your great weakness and learn to use it to be an effective director or teachers. This session will highlight the book *Take Advantage of Your Most Powerful Weakness* by Dan Allender. (Ken Warren)

Core Competency: Professionalism and Ethics (9.2,3)

Licensing Standard 746.1309 (d. 7- Professional Development)

What’s Love Got to Do with It? — Every person receives and communicates love in a very personal and unique way – including the children in your classroom. “The Five Love Languages of Children,” based on the book by Gary Chapman and Ross Campbell, M.D., describes how we can learn to intentionally speak each child’s love language. (Ken Warren)

Core Competencies: Responsive Interactions and Guidance (2.1,2); Supporting Skill Development (4.1)

Licensing Standard 746.1309 (b.3 – Age-appropriate curriculum; d.10 – Planning developmentally appropriate learning activities)

