



Session Descriptions (listed alphabetically by presenter's last name)

Connecting Motor To Math

Come learn exciting new ways to encourage math skills through movement. The KidBuilders Team will demonstrate energetic movement and music-oriented ways to introduce math in the preschool classroom. (Marilyn Bitsis & Margaret Schaeffer)

Core Competency: Supporting Skill Development (4.4)

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

Move Over Time-Out

If you use Time Out in your classroom, do you find that it is not always the best technique for helping children learn appropriate behavior? Let the KidBuilders team show you how to use movement and the 14 basic KidBuilders skills as alternatives to the traditional time-out. (Marilyn Bitsis & Margaret Schaeffer)

Core Competency: Responsive Interactions and Guidance (2.2)

Licensing Standard 746.1309 (b.2 – Guidance and Discipline; b.4 – Teacher-child Interaction)

Sensational Beginnings: Sensory And Motor Activities For Infants And Toddlers

What you do with infants and toddlers really does matter! In this session you will learn the importance of sensory stimulation not only for early brain development but also for motor skills. So come and learn simple, easy activities to enhance a young child's sensory experiences. (Marilyn Bitsis & Margaret Schaeffer)

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

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

5 Life Hacks To A Better Mind-Set

Some of our greatest disappointments in life come from the expectations that we have of others or opportunities that simply cannot be met. Come and participate in some fun activities to see how our minds work. Learn how shifting our mindset leads to greater confidence and better relationships both in our personal and professional lives. (Beth Cannon)

Core Competency: Professionalism and Ethics (9.2,3)

Licensing Standard 746.1309 (d.7 – Professional Development)

Release Your Stress To Be Your Best

An endless list of daily things happens that steals our joy and peace and sends our anxiety into overdrive. With 25 years of experience in education and ministry, Beth has learned some amazing ways to help redirect negative, stressful energy into productive, positive day-to-day success. (Beth Cannon)

Core Competency: Professionalism and Ethics (9.2,3)

Licensing Standard 746.1309 (d.7 – Professional Development)

Wonderfully Made

As a wife, women's ministry leader, and fitness instructor, Beth offers words of biblical truth that offer hope for our battle with body image. For too long, we've heard messages that make us feel foolish for worrying about or even thinking about how our physical bodies look. Come learn how to celebrate the many ways in which God "wonderfully made" YOU! (Beth Cannon)

Core Competency: Professionalism and Ethics (9.2,3)

Licensing Standard 746.1309 (d.7 – Professional Development)

This Big Bible Is Sitting In My Cabinet! How Do I Use It?

It's big, hard to understand and they cannot read anyway, so how do I use the Bible with preschoolers? Come learn fun and exciting ways to use the Bible in every center, during group time, and with all age groups – even infants and toddlers. (Stephanie Chase)

Core Competency: Learning Environments, Planning Framework, Curriculum and Standards (3.1,2); Supporting Skill Development (4.2,3)

Licensing Standard 746.1309 (d.10 – Planning developmentally appropriate learning activities)

Design Your Block Center On A Dime

Make the block area the most exciting place in your classroom! Learn how to design the area on a dime with new, creative, developmentally appropriate building and creating activities. (Stephanie Chase)

Core Competency: Supporting Skill Development (4.4,9)

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

Help! I'm All Stressed Out

Life got you going crazy? Are you worn out and can't figure out how to make it from day to day? Discover your stress level and practical ways to immediately eliminate what's got you all stressed out! You'll laugh and maybe cry as you discover the new you! (Stephanie Chase)

Core Competency: Professionalism and Ethics (9.2,3)

Licensing Standard 746.1309 (d.7 – Professional Development)

Q&A: Hot Topics

Did you come to this conference with specific questions about kids, classroom management, or teaching strategies? In this session you will be able to ask specific questions and hear from two experienced childhood educators. (Stephanie Chase)

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

Licensing Standard 746.1309 (b.2 – Guidance and Discipline); (d.10 – Planning Developmentally Appropriate Learning Activities)

Art Is More Than Crayons And Glue

Come explore the stages of art development and the kinds of art experiences every child needs to celebrate and develop his God-given creativity! (Elaine Clark)

Core Competencies: *Child Growth and Development (1.1,5); Supporting Skill Development (4.7)*

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

A-Z Dramatic Play

Need some new ideas for dramatic play? This session will provide at least 50 new ideas to use in your classroom beginning next week. (Elaine Clark)

Core Competencies: *Child Growth and Development (1.5); Supporting Skill Development (4.1,7)*

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

Outdoor Classroom Tour

If you are curious about the outdoor classroom concept and would like to see how to transform your play area, join this field trip to Tarrytown Children's Center. You will see a work in progress and hear how a greater emphasis on outdoor play has benefitted the children and teachers in this program.

Prior registration is required and space is limited. (Sally Condra)

Core Competencies: *Child Growth and Development (1.1,5); Supporting Skill Development (4.1,9)*

Licensing Standard 746.1309 (b.1 –Child Growth and Development); d.2 Child Health; d.10 – Planning developmentally appropriate learning activities)

Conflict Happens! How To Avoid The Battle

Believe it or not! Part of being a young child is to engage in conflict. The question is how to help children through these conflicts. This session will focus on a systematic approach to help young children work through conflicts and build social and emotional skills that will benefit them far beyond early childhood. (Jenice Dames)

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

Licensing Standard 746.1309 (b.2 – Guidance and Discipline)

Let's Play And Learn Together!

The word play has so many meanings! It can mean fun, learning, creativity, and social skills and the list goes on! This fun, interactive session will focus on the meaning of the word play and how important play is to young children! Come play and learn! (Jenice Dames)

Core Competencies: *Child Growth and Development (1.1,5); Supporting Skill Development (4.1,7,9)*

Licensing Standard 746.1309 (b.1 –Child Growth and Development; b.3 – Age-appropriate Curriculum)

The Child's Wonderfully Made Brain

How children learn and think is a very complex process! In this session, attendees will learn how the brain develops in young children! Come see how fun and easy it is to learn about the complexity that is our brain! (Jenice Dames)

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

Licensing Standard 746.1309 (b.1 –Child Growth and Development)

More Than Old McDonald's Farm: Farm To Table For Preschoolers

Children are quickly becoming more disconnected from their food source. Learn how teachers can bridge this gap using the preschool friendly topic of farming and gardening. This session will explore nutrition, science, nature, the Bible, and more. (Sarah Farris)

Core Competencies: *Supporting Skill Development (4.6); Health, Safety, and Nutrition (8.2,4)*
Licensing Standard 746.1309 (d.2 –Child Health; d.10 – Planning Developmentally Appropriate Learning Activities)

Wonderfully Made To Eat: Preschool Nutrition

This session will explore the nutritional needs of preschoolers and what can be harmful in their diet. Learn how to implement and encourage healthy eating. You will leave with activities for teaching nutrition, recipes for encouraging healthy eating, and tips on how to give your favorite classroom recipes a healthy make over. (Sarah Farris)

Core Competencies: *Supporting Skill Development (4.5,6); Health, Safety, and Nutrition (8.2,4)*
Licensing Standard 746.1309 (d.2 –Child Health; d.10 – Planning Developmentally Appropriate Learning Activities)

I Am A Child Of God – Keynote

Join Dr. Jean as we celebrate how “wonderfully made” all God’s children are! You will learn songs, rhymes, and activities that will nurture positive feelings and positive behaviors. Remembering that children are only little once, and they want to play and have fun is part of loving and teaching!

Highlights will include:

- we are all unique.
- we all have feelings
- how to connect to children’s hearts.
- how to instill a sense of gratitude.
- little things you can do each day to have FUN with your “little ones”.

(Dr. Jean Feldman)

Core Competencies: *Child Growth and Development (1.1,5); Responsive Interactions and Guidance (2.1,2,3)*
Licensing Standard 746.1309 (b.1 –Child Growth and Development); (b.2 – Guidance and Discipline)

The First Twelve Days Of School

You’ll be ready to GO back to school with all the great ideas you’ll see presented in this workshop. You will learn strategies to start the new school year, activities to win parents and children, classroom management tips, and songs, chants, and name games. (Dr. Jean Feldman)

Competencies: *Responsive Interactions and Guidance (2.1,2,3); Learning Environments, Planning Framework, Curriculum, and Standards (3.1)*
Licensing Standard 746.1309 (b.2 – Guidance and Discipline); (d. 10 – Planning Developmentally Appropriate Learning Activities)

Active Shooter Training

Are you up-to-date on what to do in the event an active shooter should show up at your school? This session will provide the latest information on what steps to take and how to be prepared for an active shooter emergency. (Mike Garcia)

Core Competency: *Health, Safety, and Nutrition (8.1,3)*
Licensing Standard 746.1309 (d.3 – Safety; d.4 – Risk Management)

Preparing To Think Fast In Emergency Situations

Do you feel prepared to handle children with food allergies and other kinds of emergencies that could happen in your classroom? This session will discuss and provide ways to handle some of these common emergencies. (Mike Garcia)

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

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

Health And Safety Training

This session will cover the Health and Safety training requirements from the Minimum Standards for Child-Care Centers. (Mike Garcia)

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

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

Together Everyone Achieves More (Team)

A fast-paced, interactive session that explores how teams can work together more effectively by understanding how to build trust, engage in constructive conflict, commit to a decision, accept accountability and get results. (Michelle Gooch)

Core Competency: Professionalism and Ethics (9.3,4)

Licensing Standard 746.1309 (d.7 – Professional Development)

The Power Of Dialogue

A unique, engaging session that uncovers, how to communicate best when it matters most by giving you the tools to handle life's most difficult and important conversations. (Michelle Gooch)

Core Competency: Professionalism and Ethics (9.3,4)

Licensing Standard 746.1309 (d.7 – Professional Development)

Why Do Babies Cry?

Babies will cry! So what can you do to be a responsive teacher and caregiver? Come to this session to explore some of the reasons babies cry and the best ways to comfort and care for them. Opportunities to help parents understand Purple Crying and the cues they need to look for from their baby also will be discussed. (Kara Gore)

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

Licensing Standard 746.1309 (b.1 –Child Growth and Development); (d. 12 – Attachment and Responsive Care Giving)

Wonderfully Made Two Year Olds

Spend time in this session and you will experience an in-depth look at two year olds, their characteristics, their needs, and the importance of transitioning your teaching to meet their growing needs. (Kara Gore)

Core Competencies: Child Growth and Development (1.1,5); Learning Environments, Planning Framework, Curriculum, and Standards (3.1)

Licensing Standard 746.1309 (b.1 –Child Growth and Development); (b.3 – Age-appropriate Curriculum)

Wonderfully Made Three Year Olds

Spend time in this session and you will experience an in-depth look at three year olds, their characteristics, their needs, and the importance of transitioning your teaching to meet their growing needs. (Kara Gore)

Core Competencies: *Child Growth and Development (1.1,5); Learning Environments, Planning Framework, Curriculum, and Standards (3.1)*

Licensing Standard 746.1309 (*b.1 –Child Growth and Development); (b.3 – Age-appropriate Curriculum)*

After School Programs For Wonderfully Made School-Agers

If you are wondering what to do with school-age kids during the summer or after school, this session will explore the needs/characteristics of this age group and provide ideas on activities that fit the needs of these kids (Paula Hatley)

Competencies: *Child Growth and Development (1.1); Learning Environments, Planning Framework, Curriculum, and Standards (3.1)*

Licensing Standard 746.1309 (*b.1 –Child Growth and Development); (d.9 –Topics Relevant to Age Group)*

Bible Stories Aren't Just For Chapel Time

An age-appropriate, Bible-based preschool classroom is rich with opportunities to teach biblical truths. However, the teacher must be aware of these opportunities. This session will explore the teacher's role as an intentional Bible teacher. (Paula Hatley)

Core Competencies: *Responsive Interactions and Guidance (2.1); Learning Environments, Planning Framework, Curriculum, and Standards (3.1)*

Licensing Standard 746.1309 (*d.10 – Planning Developmentally Appropriate Learning Activities*)

New Directors...Moving From Fearful To Wonderful

Often new directors feel overwhelmed during the first years in their new position. During this session, key components and responsibilities of the director position will be discussed. Come and bring your questions! This session is design for Directors with less than three years of experience. (Paula Hatley)

Core Competency for Administrators: *Establishing and Maintaining an Effective Organization (1.1,2)*

Licensing Standard 746.1311 (*d. – Management Techniques, Leadership & Staff Supervision*)

SmartCare: Child Care Management Software

SmartCare and ChildCare Manager joined forces in early 2016, thus positioning itself as the leader in childcare management software. With decades of experience from ChildCare Manager and innovative technology from SmartCare, the company has a solution for child care centers of all sizes. SmartCare's product is focused on modern mobile and web solutions that connect child care center owners, directors, teachers, and parents in real-time. As a pioneering force in childcare management and accounting software since 1985, ChildCare Manager offers a desktop software solution that streamlines center administration, management, and recordkeeping. (Collette Hull)

Core Competencies for Administrators: *Establishing and Maintaining an Effective Organization (1.2); Business and Operations Management (2.1,2)*

Licensing Standard 746.1311 (*d. &e. – Management Techniques, Leadership & Staff Supervision*)

Sensory Integration: What Every Early Childhood Teacher Should Know!

In this compelling keynote, participants will learn how the brain processes and integrates sensory information, and how it is related to young children's development. Participants will receive simple, easy-to-use solutions to address the sensory needs of young children. Many of these ideas will improve the environment for ALL children, not just those who have sensory processing problems. Red flags for the identification of preschoolers who have sensory processing problems and are "sensory seekers" or "sensory avoiders" will be revealed. This presentation is based on the award-winning book, *Sensory Integration: A Guide for Preschool Teachers*. (Dr. Christy Isbell)

Core Competencies: *Child Growth and Development (1.1,2); Learning Environments, Planning Framework, Curriculum, and Standards (3.1)*

Licensing Standard 746.1309 *(b.1 – Child Growth and Development); (e.3 – Understanding Early Childhood Brain Development)*

Why Can't He Sit Still? A Sensory Integration Approach For The "Overactive" Preschooler

Participants will learn about the brain process, sensory integration, and how it is related to preschoolers who appear to be "overactive." Red flags for the identification of preschoolers who have Sensory Processing Disorder (SPD) and are "vestibular seekers" will be presented.

Participants will receive practical, easy-to-use solutions to address challenging behaviors such as impulsivity, risk-taking, and constant movement (for example, fidgeting, wiggling, or rolling around). Many of the evidence-based suggestions may be used to improve the learning environment for all young children. (Dr. Christy Isbell)

Core Competencies: *Child Growth and Development (1.1,2,3); Learning Environments, Planning Framework, Curriculum, and Standards (3.1)*

Licensing Standard 746.1309 *(b.1 – Child Growth and Development); (d.1 – Care of Children with Special Needs)*

Calm And Focused: Sensory Integration Techniques To Encourage Participation From Young Children Who Demonstrate Challenging Behaviors

Participants will learn how sensory integration is related to challenging behaviors that young children may demonstrate in learning environments. Sensory integration techniques for managing challenging behaviors including over-activity, inattentiveness, and physical aggression will be presented.

Participants will learn simple, easy-to-use ways to support young children's development of self-regulation, an important life skill related to attention, behavior and social- emotional development. Suggestions for practical ways to modify the environment to help young children be more actively engaged in the learning process will also be described. This will include information on how to design and implement a unique learning center. (Dr. Christy Isbell)

Core Competencies: *Child Growth and Development (1.3); Learning Environments, Planning Framework, Curriculum, and Standards (3.1); Supporting Skill Development (4.1)*

Licensing Standard 746.1309 *(b.1 – Child Growth and Development); (d.10 – Planning Developmentally Appropriate Learning Activities)*

Gender Identity/Transgender Issue In Preschoolers

A parent's decision to change their child's gender will affect the church of the future. What will you do when this happens in your preschool class? Discover where you can go in the Bible to help you understand and formulate your own perspective. Learn helpful tips of how to handle the family, what to say, and explore practical solutions for impractical practices. (Linda R. Jacobs)

Core Competencies: *Child Growth and Development (1.4); Families and Community Relationships (7.2,4)*

Licensing Standard 746.1309 *(b.1 – Child Growth and Development); (d.7 – Professional Development)*

Understanding How Divorce Affects Preschoolers And What You Can Do To Help

This session will help teachers and directors become aware of the signs of distress preschoolers exhibit when there is a disruption of the family. Tips for helping parents to make the transition easier on their child and practical tools to help the child in the classroom will be presented. (Linda R. Jacobs)

Core Competencies: Families and Community Relationships (7.1,2,3,5; Licensing Standard 746.1309 (b.4 –Teacher-child Interaction); (d.7 – Professional Development)

Benefiting The Wonderfully Made Employee

Ensure you are up-to-date on health care reform and explore some ideas on low-cost benefits and perks that just might entice current employees to stay longer and provide a competitive edge for future stars. Updates on ACA insurance requirements and benefit ideas for attracting and retaining star employees will be presented. (Melissa Machemehl)

Core Competencies for Administrators: Business and Operations Management (2.1,2); Human Resource Leadership and Development (3.3,4)
Licensing Standard 746.1311 (dew. – Management Techniques, Leadership & Staff Supervision)

Dynamic Interviewing

Interviews begin from the first email or phone call communication. Do you know what to look for and how to read between the lines? Join us for a session on interview questions, information on what you can and can't ask, and ideas for enhancing your recruiting process. These interview skills will help you detect the best, weed out the worst, and stay legal in the process. (Melissa Machemehl)

Core Competencies for Administrators: Human Resource Leadership and Development (3.2,4)
Licensing Standard 746.1311 (dew. – Management Techniques, Leadership & Staff Supervision)

Motivating And Engaging Your Wonderful Team

Are your performance reviews outdated? Does your team feel more inspired or deflated after the review process? Join us for a discussion on positively assessing your staff and motivating them throughout the year. (Melissa Machemehl)

Core Competencies for Administrators: Human Resource Leadership and Development (3.2,3,4)
Licensing Standard 746.1311 (dew. – Management Techniques, Leadership & Staff Supervision)

Wonderfully Made For Active Playground Experiences

Find out how to develop a stimulating outdoor space for young children. See how creating a playground rich in opportunities for exploration becomes a vital ingredient for social and emotional development. Learn about equipment and activities that encourage the children to explore, take risks, and have a playful experience. (Susan MacHugh)

Core Competencies: Child Growth and Development (1.5); Learning Environments, Planning Framework, Curriculum, and Standards (3.1); Supporting Skill Development (4.9)
Licensing Standard 746.1309 (b.1 – Child Growth and Development); (d.10 – Planning Developmentally Appropriate Learning Activities)

Wonderfully Made For Purposeful Puppet Play

Find out how to create and use puppets in your early childhood classroom. Discover how a singing bag filled with hand puppets provides the important ingredient for language and faith development. Learn how puppets and music become the necessary tools needed to enhance the joy of learning for young children. You will even get to make 'n take a puppet! (Susan MacHugh)

Core Competencies: Responsive Interactions and Guidance 2.3); Supporting Skill Development (4.2,7)

Licensing Standard 746.1309 (b.4 –Teacher-child Interaction); (d.10 – Planning Developmentally Appropriate Learning Activities)

Wonderfully Made For Together Time Success

Come and discover the importance of creating an age-appropriate setting for God's youngest children. See how you can engage these children by designing an inviting and tranquil setting where infant and toddlers can gather together to explore and learn. (Susan MacHugh)

Core Competencies: Learning Environments, Planning Framework, Curriculum, and Standards (3.1); Supporting Skill Development (4.1)

Licensing Standard 746.1309 (d.10 – Planning Developmentally Appropriate Learning Activities)

Interacting With Parents – Making A Wonderful Connection

Just as every child is unique and wonderfully made by God, so is every parent. As Early Childhood Educators, we must be deliberate in our efforts to reach out to the parents/families of the children in our care. This workshop helps educators appreciate a parent's perspective as well as understand effective ways to communicate and connect with parents. (Melissa McKenzie)

Core Competencies: Families and Community Relationships (7.1,2,3,5)

Licensing Standard 746.1309 (d.7 – Professional Development)

Make Some Music, Add Some Movement, And Have Some Fun!

You do not have to be a singer to lead music and movement activities. Whether you want to sing songs and get active in your classroom or include music in large group, there are tons of songs/ activities that let your kiddos have fun while they learn, sing, dance, and play! (Melissa McKenzie)

Core Competencies: Learning Environments, Planning Framework, Curriculum, and Standards (3.1); Supporting Skill Development (4.7,9)

Licensing Standard 746.1309 (b.3 – Age-appropriate Curriculum)

Wonderfully Created Classrooms For Wonderfully Created Children

Learning centers are just one piece of a wonderfully created classroom. This session will explore the physical and emotional components as well. A well-designed classroom environment promotes learning, reduces stress for children (and teachers!), encourages positive behavior choices, and communicates responsiveness. (Melissa McKenzie)

Core Competencies: Learning Environments, Planning Framework, Curriculum, and Standards (3.1); Supporting Skill Development (4.1); Observations and Assessment (5.3)

Licensing Standard 746.1309 (d.10 – Planning Developmentally Appropriate Learning Activities)

Bringing More Movement Into The Classroom

Children were wonderfully made with active bodies that learn by moving. This session will cover ways to increase learning and decrease behavior issues by using movement all throughout the curriculum and day. Come and learn the best movements to calm, to energize, and to supercharge memory.

(Kristin Mathis)

Core Competencies: *Responsive Interactions and Guidance (2.2,3); Learning Environments, Planning Framework, Curriculum, and Standards (3.1); Supporting Skill Development (4.9)*
Licensing Standard 746.1309 (d.10 – Planning Developmentally Appropriate Learning Activities)

Turning A Not-So-Great Day Into A Wonderful One

Have you had a day you had rather not repeat? This session will provide tools to turn that not-so-good-day around. So come ready to participate and leave wishing for a bad day so you can try out the new tricks. (Kristin Mathis)

Core Competencies: *Learning Environments, Planning Framework, Curriculum, and Standards (3.1); Supporting Skill Development (4.1)*
Licensing Standard 746.1309 (b. 3 – Planning Developmentally Appropriate Learning Activities)

Untapping The Hidden Potential Of Circle Time

Circle Time is an important part of the educational day and a great way to increase learning. But it can be so much more! This session will explore how to use circle time for classroom management and building self-regulatory and social skills. It will also cover how to do Mini-Circle times for babies/toddlers and throughout the day with twos and older. (Kristin Mathis)

Core Competencies: *Responsive Interactions and Guidance (2.2,3); Learning Environments, Planning Framework, Curriculum, and Standards (3.1); Supporting Skill Development (4.1)*
Licensing Standard 746.1309 (b.2 – Guidance and Discipline); (d.10 – Planning Developmentally Appropriate Learning Activities)

Wonderful Little Hands

Come and explore how children develop fine motor skills, why they are important and how you can maximize the development of these skills in your classroom. You will leave with practical gained through hands-on fine motor center activities, add-ins for other centers. This session will focus on two year olds through Kindergarten. (Kristin Mathis)

Core Competency: *Supporting Skill Development (4.9)*
Licensing Standard 746.1309 (d.10 – Planning Developmentally Appropriate Learning Activities)

Let Them Eat Dirt!

Is it possible to over-sanitize and over-protect our children from dirt and the difficulties of life? Healthy, resilient children often have more exposure and experience with dirt and difficulty than unhealthy, fragile children. Come learn why it may be important to “Let them eat dirt”. (Dr. Shelly Melia)

Core Competencies: *Child Growth and Development (1.4); Health, Safety, and Nutrition (8.2)*
Licensing Standard 746.1309 (b.1 – Child Growth and Development)

Millennials: 5 Things You Need To Know (Teacher Session)

This conference will give an overview of the traits of the millennial generation with specific information related to communicating with the millennial. Recent research will be shared related to the attitude millennials have towards parenting, family, and their employment. (Dr. Shelly Melia)

Core Competencies: *Families and Community Relationships (7.1,2,3,4)*
Licensing Standard 746.1309 (d.7 – Professional Development)

Millennials: 5 Things You Need To Know (Director Session)

This conference will give an overview of the traits of the millennial generation with specific information related to recruiting, hiring, and managing the millennial. Recent research will be shared related to the attitude millennials have towards parenting, family, and their employment. (Dr. Shelly Melia)

Core Competencies for Administrators: Human Resource Leadership and Development (3.1,2,4)
Licensing Standard 746.1311 (d. &e. – Management Techniques, Leadership & Staff Supervision)

Start With The Why!

The days are long and the pay is never enough! There has to be a deep connection to the “why” of weekday ministry in order to survive the rigor, the regulations, and the responsibilities. Come be introduced or reminded of the greatest “why” imaginable! (Dr. Shelly Melia)

Core Competencies: Professionalism and Ethics (9.3)
Licensing Standard 746.1309 (d.7 –Professional Development)

Hooked On Books!

Children love picture books! This session will present supplemental music and game activities that coordinate with age appropriate picture books, featuring familiar and new book authors. (Devora Miller)

Core Competencies: Supporting Skill Development (4.2,3,7)
Licensing Standard 746.1309 (d.10 – Age-appropriate Curriculum)

Music Magic For 2s and 3s

Need some new song and game ideas to “get the wiggles out” of your children? Join this active session of music activities appropriate for 2 and 3 year olds. (Devora Miller)

Core Competencies: Supporting Skill Development (4.2,3,7)
Licensing Standard 746.1309 (d.10 – Age-appropriate Curriculum)

Songs And Games Children Love!

This session will be filled with songs, chants, and games that will keep your kids singing and playing throughout the year! Suggestions for using instruments and simple props will be included. (Devora Miller)

Core Competencies: Supporting Skill Development (4.2,3,7)
Licensing Standard 746.1309 (d.10 – Age-appropriate Curriculum)

Automate Your Center With Child Care Management Software: By Procure

Discover how technology streamlines daily administrative tasks! Generate enrollment reports, manage immunizations, bill third-parties, produce receipts, statements, and attendance records. Increase enrollment and revenue with online registration, wait lists, and automated tuition processing. Enhance communication with parents through email, texting, and an online parent portal. (Shelley Moore)

Core Competencies for Administrators: Business and Operations Management (2.1,2)
Licensing Standard 746.1311 (d. &e. – Management Techniques, Leadership & Staff Supervision)

Procure Software Users: What's New Plus Tips & Tricks For Successful Centers

Already a Procure user? Learn what's new in ProCare as well as our top tips and tricks to make your center even more successful! You'll also have the opportunity to ask questions about how to take full advantage of your ProCare system. (Shelley A. Moore)

Core Competencies for Administrators: Business and Operations Management (2.1,2)
Licensing Standard 746.1311 (d. &e. – Management Techniques, Leadership & Staff Supervision)

Help! I'm From Outer Space: Teach Me Your Language

Need help on how to promote language development in infants and toddlers? In this session you will learn the milestones of language development, early brain development of language centers, and tips and techniques to develop language in this young age group. (Kristin Omo)

Core Competencies: Child Growth and Development (1.1.4); Supporting Skill Development (4.2)
Licensing Standard 746.1309 (b.1 – Child Growth and Development); (e.3- Understanding Early Childhood Brain Development)

The Early Years: Sids, Shaken Baby And Early Brain Development

This workshop presents the annual training under the minimum standards for SIDS, shaken baby and the latest information on early brain development. (Kristin Omo)

Core Competencies: Child Growth and Development (1.1.4)
Licensing Standard 746.1309 (b.1 – Child Growth and Development); (e.3- Understanding Early Childhood Brain Development)

The Many Hats We Wear On The Road To Success: Minimum Standards

This workshop teaches the minimum standards, including the most current updates. This workshop also addresses how to properly supervise children and keep them safe in most childcare situations. (Kristin Omo)

Core Competencies: Learning Environments, Planning Framework, Curriculum, and Standards (3.2); Professionalism and Ethics (9.1)
Licensing Standard 746.1309 (d.13 – Minimum Standards and How They Apply to the Caregiver)

Nutrition Impacts Behavior!

Some challenging behaviors from children could be the result of what they are eating or not eating. Learn how nutrition impacts the way children behave and ways to help these issues. (Kristin Omo)

Core Competencies: Child Growth and Development (1.1.4); Health, Safety, and Nutrition (8.2,4)
Licensing Standard 746.1309 (b.1 – Child Growth and Development); (d.2 – Child Health)

Instructional Strategies For School Readiness Skills

We can maximize book reading with children to target skills that will assist them as they continue through elementary school and beyond. Specific instructional strategies will be discussed and modeled to illustrate how we can intentionally plan to support vocabulary, oral language, comprehension and math skills in fun, playful ways! (Melissa Ply)

Core Competencies: Supporting Skill Development (4.2,3,4)
Licensing Standard 746.1309 (d.10 – Planning Developmentally Appropriate Learning Activities)

Parent Talks

Parents are often concerned on how school performance affects future chances for their child's success in school. Sometimes the toughest part of the day comes towards the end when the parents arrive and the teacher is involved in a conversation about their child's school readiness skills or behavior. We will discuss some common situations and then consider ideas and strategies for professional conversations. (Melissa Ply)

Core Competency: Families and Community Relationships (7.2,3,4)

Licensing Standard 746.1309 (d.7 – Professional Development – Effective Communication with Families)

Beyond The Rolodex®: Bringing Your Administrative Procedures Into The 21st Century

Efficient administrative practices can greatly enhance the overall functioning of your program. This session will provide an outlook and discussion on using online tools for your center and utilizing technology to expedite and free up your time. (Claire Pulfer)

Core Competencies for Administrators: Business and Operations Management (2.1)

Licensing Standard 746.1311 (d. & e. – Management Techniques, Leadership & Staff Supervision)

Life Lessons From Children's Literature (Keynote)

Dr. Raines will present a humorous and inspiring collection of "life Lessons from Children's Literature." From Aesop to Winnie the Pooh, from native tales to family, from laughter to teacher, she speaks from the heart and challenges the mind. (Dr. Shirley Raines)

Core Competencies: Supporting Skill Development (4.2,3)

Licensing Standard 746.1309 (d.4 – Age-appropriate Curriculum)

From Pink Purse To Briefcase (Directors)

In this session, Directors will learn how to take the leadership skills they already have in their background, ("pink purse"), develop and add to them and create a well-packed briefcase to handle the demands of their present leadership roles or the roles to which they aspire. (Dr. Shirley Raines)

Core Competencies for Administrators: Human Resource Leadership and Development (3.1)

Licensing Standard 746.1311 (d. & e. – Management Techniques, Leadership & Staff Supervision)

Never, Ever-Words Of Advice, Wit And Wisdom (Keynote)

This closing keynote will be delivered in words and beautiful photography. The goal is for teachers to value what they have learned, celebrate their joyful jobs and with wisdom and humor appreciate their children and themselves. (Dr. Shirley Raines)

Core Competencies: Professionalism and Ethics (9.2,3)

Licensing Standard 746.1309 (d.7 – Professional Development)

Creating Engaging Spaces For Infants And Toddlers

Infants need a space to explore and learn about the world around them. This session will give the participants best practices, ideas, and examples of great spaces for babies. We will focus on quality teacher/child interactions and teacher/parent communication, as well as practical solutions for environments. (Audrey Rowland)

Core Competencies: Responsive Interactions and Guidance (2.1); Learning Environments, Planning Framework, Curriculum, and Standards (3.1)

Licensing Standard 746.1309 (b.3 – Teacher-child Interaction); (d.10 – Planning Developmentally Appropriate Learning Activities)

Fundamentals Of Emergent Curriculum For Infants – School-Age

The interests and developing skills of children drive emergent curriculum. Although it is typically understood in concept, it can be challenging to implement – particularly due to dependency on theme-based lesson plans. This workshop designed for teachers of infants - school-age children will discuss the importance of emergent curriculum, why it works so well, and best practices for implementation. (Audrey Rowland)

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

Licensing Standard 746.1309 (d.10 – Planning Developmentally Appropriate Learning Activities)

Making The Most Of Math

This training is designed to help preschool teachers enrich their math curriculum through play-based, emergent activities. We will discuss math skill development in the Preschool and Pre-k classrooms, design math activities from the children's emerging interests and everyday classroom events, identify a variety of materials that foster hands-on math activities and learning about numbers in all the classroom interest centers, and interpret for parents how the math activities woven throughout the curriculum support their child's developing math skills and interest. This training includes hands-on activities and small group discussion. (Audrey Rowland)

Core Competencies: Supporting Skill Development (4.4)

Licensing Standard 746.1309 (d.4 – Age-appropriate Curriculum)

Rhythmic Chants, Songs, & Short Stories For The Early Childhood Classroom

Take home new transition activities for your classroom! Well-planned transitions help decrease behavior issues and help make well-planned schedules even more effective. During this session we will tell the

TRUE story of Bear Pancakes, practice finger plays to get your group times started, and plan out five transitions we can ALL do in a pinch! (Audrey Rowland)

Core Competencies: Responsive Interactions and Guidance (2.1); Learning Environments, Planning Framework, Curriculum, and Standards (3.1)

Licensing Standard 746.1309 (b.3 – Teacher-child Interaction); (d.10 – Planning Developmentally Appropriate Learning Activities)

All Natural Time Travel Field Trip

Brave students will learn how to receive messages from the past, and send their own artifacts into the future in a hands-on plant preservation lab. Attending time travelers will leave with their own time travel messaging device, along with the information needed to clone their devices so their students can take advantage of time and space to study natural environments of the past, present, and future. (Alan Small)

Core Competencies: Supporting Skill Development (4.5)

Licensing Standard 746.1309 (d.4 – Age-appropriate Curriculum)

Teacher Makeover: Awesome Engineering Edition

Do you wish you had a collection of fun challenges to make children think? Then come and explore the “E” in STEM. Ease the pain of a boring classroom by learning how engineering activities can thrill students, impress parents, and wow the teachers down the hall. Disclaimer: Engineering activities can be addictive. You may have trouble getting kids to leave at the end of the day. (Alan Small)

Core Competencies: Supporting Skill Development (4.5)

Licensing Standard 746.1309 (d.4 – Age-appropriate Curriculum)

Teacher Makeover: Scientist Edition

Are you buried by the Arts and Crafts blues? Are you suffering from a drab lab? You need a Science makeover! Come learn how a few easy tricks can easily transform your class into a happy hoard of investigating scientists! Disclaimer: Hands-on science labs can be messy and loud; so do not come to this class in search of a quiet PowerPoint nap. (Alan Small)

Core Competencies: Supporting Skill Development (4.5)

Licensing Standard 746.1309 (d.4 - Age-appropriate Curriculum)

The Outdoor Classroom On A Shoestring Budget

Do you like the idea of creating an outdoor classroom, but funds are limited? This session will explore ways to create an effective outdoor classroom with inexpensive materials that your children will love.

(Dr. Eric Strickland)

Core Competencies: Learning Environments, Planning Framework, Curriculum, and Standards (3.1) Supporting Skill Development (4.9);

Licensing Standard 746.1309 (d.10 – Planning Developmentally Appropriate Learning Activities)

What's In Your Playground?

Does your playground need improvements but you don't know where to begin? This session shows you how evaluate your playground and start where you are to make changes. Plus you will gain ideas from a 35-year playground design veteran. (Dr. Eric Strickland)

Core Competencies: Child Growth and Development (1.1,5); Supporting Skill Development (4.1,9) Licensing Standard 746.1309 (b.1 –Child Growth and Development); d.10 – Planning developmentally appropriate learning activities)

Routines + Rituals = Responsibility

Classroom routines help young children develop a sense of security while classroom rituals help them feel a part of a family. When you combine routines and rituals, young children gain independence and responsibility. In addition, incorporating routines and rituals help transition your classroom into one where learning is child-centered. (Paula Tinker)

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

Licensing Standard 746.1309 (b.3 – Teacher-child Interaction); (d.10 – Planning Developmentally Appropriate Learning Activities)

Sensory Sensations: Tools And Tips

Come discover what “sensory” means and how it impacts the children in your classroom. Learn simple and inexpensive tricks that can help most children be more successful in the learning environment. You will leave the session with numerous ideas that can be incorporated into your classroom almost immediately! (Paula Tinker)

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

Licensing Standard 746.1309 (d.1-Care of Children with Special Needs); (d.4 – Age-appropriate Curriculum)

When To Worry And What To Do: Understanding Preschoolers With Signs Of Autism

As the prevalence of Autism diagnosis increases, teachers need to be prepared to understand what autism is and is not. This session will explore the signs of autism, as well as how teachers can relate, understand, and offer in-class interventions that will help children with suspected autism be more successful and comfortable in your class. (Paula Tinker)

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

Licensing Standard 746.1309 (d.1-Care of Children with Special Needs); (d.4 – Age-appropriate Curriculum)

New TBCWEA Assessment Tools

Wondering what the TBCWEA Early Childhood Assessment Tools are about? Come and learn from the developer of the tools what they are and how to use them to do authentic assessments of the children in your classroom. How to use the tools before, during, and after parent conferences also will be discussed.

This two-hour training is offered for directors and teachers so attend the session designed for your role. A free training DVD will be given to each program that purchases the Assessment Tools and attends a training session. (Jerri Thompson)

Core Competencies: *Observation and Assessment (5.1)*

Licensing Standard 746.1309 (d.11 – Observation and Assessment)

Toileting Training

Designing a policy regarding toileting training for your classroom is important, but it should be rooted in a clear understanding of the key element to successful toilet training. Come discover that key element. (Jerri Thompson)

Core Competencies: *Child Growth and Development (1.1,4)*

Licensing Standard 746.1309 (d.9 – Toilet Training)

Understanding Biting Behaviors

Biting can be a BIG problem in the toddler classroom. Come explore the reasons young children engage in this behavior and steps you can take to help the child through this stage of development. (Jerri Thompson)

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

Licensing Standard 746.1309 (d.9 – Biting)

See Dick. See Jane. See Dick And Jane Read.

Where are Dick and Jane now? They made reading look so simple, but is it really? Let's navigate the pathways of the magnificent and wonderfully made brain as we discover the intricacies of what it takes for children to learn to read. (Jaime Warren)

Core Competencies: *Child Growth and Development (1.2); Supporting Skill Development (4.3)*

Licensing Standard 746.1309 (d.10 – Planning Developmentally Appropriate Learning Activities)

That Just Doesn't Add Up! Turning Number Nonsense Into Number Sense

According to Howard Gardner, Ph.D., we all have 8 ways of being smart, but is math your #1 "smart"? Or do numbers and math just seem like a lot of nonsense. This session will explore current research on what children need to become math savvy and discover ways to help them develop number sense for greater mathematical success. (Jaime Warren)

Core Competencies: *Supporting Skill Development (4.4)*

Licensing Standard 746.1309 (d.10 – Planning Developmentally Appropriate Learning Activities)

Child Abuse Identification & Reporting

This training provides professionals 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. (Mollyanne Vasquez & Tara Garvey)

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

Licensing Standard 746.1309 (c – Prevention, Recognition, and Reporting of Child Abuse and Neglect)

Finish Strong (Keynote)

Does the thought of finishing strong make your heart beat faster? Instead of huffing and puffing, run this race with endurance and finish strong. God plunked you right in the middle of children every single day to make a difference in their lives. When you focus on the soul, it opens your eyes to the beauty of how God sees each and every one of us. You are all wonderfully made---even if you have quirks. (Tammy Whitehurst)

Core Competencies: Professionalism and Ethics (9.1,2,3)

Licensing Standard 746.1309 (d.7 – Professional Development)

Man Overboard: Dealing With That Difficult Person

There are very few things that are certain in this world. Having to deal with difficult people is on of them. These people seem to make everything more difficult because they are salted with sarcasm and peppered with drama. Instead of pole-vaulting into drama with them, learn how to effectively handle the situation. (Tammy Whitehurst)

Core Competencies: Professionalism and Ethics (9.1,2,3)

Licensing Standard 746.1309 (d.7 – Professional Development)