

State Support
Team



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Northern Ohio's 5th Annual Early Learners Institute



Creating Connections for Kids

August 13 & 14, 2015

FREE Preconference

August 12, 2015

General Information

Dear Educator:

At the Educational Service Center (ESC) of Cuyahoga County, we believe that the early learning years for a child are critical in developing and building a solid foundation that will support a child all the way through adulthood. I hope you will consider joining us at our “5th Annual Early Learners Institute,” *Creating Connections for Kids* where participants will hear from national experts, learn about the latest research-based early learning strategies and be provided with opportunities to explore proven practices that create and support a successful early learning environment.

Sincerely,
Dr. Robert A. Mengerink
Superintendent
Educational Service Center of Cuyahoga County



Dates/Times **FREE Preconference—August 12, 2015.**
Early Learners Institute —August 13-14, 2015.
Registration 8:00 AM. Sessions begin at 8:30 a.m. daily.

Institute Location: ESC of Cuyahoga County, Essex Place
6393 Oak Tree Blvd., Independence, OH 44131

Audience: Paraprofessionals, Preschool & Kindergarten Teachers, Related Services, and Administrators/Directors/Coordinators for Early Childhood Programs and Services.

Registration: **Register online at www.esc-cc.org**
Click on Professional Development
then Calendar of Events OR
Utilize the QR code/url ➡



Preconference
<https://goo.gl/PGLAFA>



Full Conference
<https://goo.gl/Pf1NSn>

Conference Cost: **Preconference: FREE (lunch on your own)**
Early Learners Institute:
\$65.00 Individual Registration
\$100.00 Team Registration (must include one teacher *and* one paraprofessional)
(Includes all materials, a light breakfast and lunch.)

Contact Hours: **A maximum of 6 hours is available for the August 12 Preconference.**
12.5 hours for full Institute August 13 and 14.
Ohio approved /SUTQ credit pending.

Graduate Credit: One semester hour of graduate credit will be available, at a reduced rate, from Ashland University for participants attending the 2-day Institute on August 13 and 14. The cost of graduate credit is separate and information will be available at the Institute.

Contact: For registration questions please contact:
Theresa Richardson at: (216) 446-3818 or theresa.richardson@esc-cc.org

Early Learners Institute **FREE** Preconference August 12, 2015

Registration 8:00 a.m.—8:30 a.m.

Morning Sessions 8:30 a.m.-11:30 a.m. (lunch on your own 11:30 a.m.—1:00 p.m.)

August 12,
2015

Location:

ESC of Cuyahoga
County, Essex Place
6393 Oak Tree Blvd.
Independence, OH
44131
Phone: 216-524-3000
www.esc-cc.org

Registration:

To register go to
www.esc-cc.org.
Click on Calendar of
Events, select
Early Learners
Preconference



<https://goo.gl/PGIAfA>

For assistance contact
Theresa Richardson at
theresa.richardson@
esc-cc.org or
216-446-3818

**Professional
Development
Contact Hours:
3 hours per session
Ohio approved/SUTQ
pending.**

Morning Sessions

Connecting to Program Standards to Ensure Quality Services for Kids: Step Up to Quality Panel Discussion



Moderator: Jackie Plantner, Coordinator ELSR, SST2

Panel: Sue Bell, Intervention Specialist, Berea City School District
Linda Coad, Special Education Supervisor, Lorain City School District
Nancy Sabath, Consultant, ODE
Tippi Foley, Director of Early Childhood, Lake County ESC

This panel discussion is designed to provide participants and opportunity to hear first-hand experiences with the Step Up To Quality process. Participants will have ample opportunity to ask questions of the panelists.

Connecting Art and Literacy Using Regional Community Resources



Presenters: Sue Kirschner, Youth Literacy and Outreach Supervisor,
Cuyahoga County Public Library

Liz Clay, Pre-K Program Administrator and Kate Hoffmeyer, Master Teacher,
Cleveland Museum of Art

Participants will learn how to connect student learning and instructional practices to community resources. Enjoy the presentations from two major community partners as they provide rich ideas to support all domains of student learning.

Early Learning & Development Standards Overview



Presenters: Teresa Brown and Krista Dickens, Consultants, SST4

The Early Learning & Development Standards training provides a three-hour overview of Ohio's Birth to Kindergarten Entry Early Learning and Development Standards and their purpose in early care and education environments. This session provides a brief history of standards-based education, school readiness factors, and the linkage between standards and practice in early care and education settings. The session will address the structure of Ohio Early Learning and Development Standards and provides an overview of each domain within the standards. Completion of this overview session fulfills the requirement for completion of the Level 1 training prior to taking Level 2 and Level 3 modules within this series.

Early Learners Institute Free Preconference

August 12, 2015

Afternoon Sessions 1:00 p.m.—4:00 p.m.

Linking Early Childhood Initiatives to Action

Presenters: Kathy Jillson, Candace Muetzel, and Bev Metzger, Consultants, SST3
Jackie Plantner, Coordinator, SST2

ATTENTION Administrators and Teacher Leaders!

What do TBT, KRA, ELA, PBIS, ECO, LRE and SUTQ have in common? SST 2, 3, and 4 Consultants will help you to understand the linkages between these and other early childhood initiatives and requirements. They will also direct you to opportunities for professional and programmatic growth.

Connecting to Regional Community Resources

Minimum of 30 participants is required to offer this session. Maximum capacity: 40

Presenters: Jamila Smith, Educational Specialist, Cleveland Metroparks Zoo

Participants will be transported to the Cleveland Metroparks Zoo where they will connect student learning and instructional practices to community resources. *Nurture the Wonder* at Cleveland Metroparks Zoo is a series of workshops designed specifically to teach early childhood educators how to effectively and comfortably teach age-appropriate science lessons to young students. Different areas of the Zoo are explored at each workshop as participants learn how to capture children's natural curiosity about the world around them. Please click the link for additional offerings that are offered via the Cleveland Metroparks Zoo to Educators.

<http://www.clevelandmetroparks.com/Zoo/Educators.aspx>

Overview of Early Childhood Assessment Practices, Screening and Assessment Module 1

Presenters: Teresa Brown, and Krista Dickens, Consultants, SST4

Assessment is a key part of our work with young children. However, at times, we can find ourselves struggling with terms, using tools that may not provide the information we need, and searching for more efficient and effective options. Overview of Early Childhood Assessment Practices Screening and Assessment Module 1 contains information regarding key terms associated with the main purposes of early childhood assessment and provides examples of assessment tools used across purposes. More importantly, the module contains information on recommended assessment practice standards and offers guidelines for selecting the right tool for the desired purpose. **(This is not the Early Learning Assessment Training.)**



Agenda—Day One

August 13, 2015

8:00 a.m.—8:30 a.m. Registration and Welcome

8:30 a.m.—11:45 p.m. Featured Presenter from Social Thinking



Nancy Tarshis, MA, MS, CCC-SLP

***Teaching Social Thinking
Through Stories and Play for Early Learners***

This workshop, based on Michelle Garcia-Winner’s Social Thinking, introduces professionals and parents to the many important facets of development that underlie social learning in preschool and early elementary aged children. What looks like pure fun to us has important social consequences for the developing mind. The ability to participate in collaborative pretend play depends upon having a flexible brain, competent language ability, self regulation, and solid social-emotional development as well the executive function skills to multi-task the use of all of the above! The new common core standards highlight the importance of “listening and collaboration” in the classroom, which are hallmarks of developmental learning in preschool and during the early elementary years.

Nancy Tarshis is a speech-language pathologist whose prolific career includes extensive experience working with children and their parents. Currently, she maintains a clinical practice, seeing patients birth to 21 for diagnoses and therapeutic treatment, supervises ten speech pathologists, lectures to medical residents and psychology interns, participates in research projects, and serves as adjunct clinical instructor at Teachers College, Columbia, Hunter College, NYU, and Hofstra University. She is deeply experienced in a wide variety of treatment methodologies, including Social Thinking, and is a frequent speaker across the U.S. on its concepts and strategy.

11:45 a.m.—12:30 p.m. Lunch (included) and Networking

**12:30 p.m.—4:00 p.m. Teaching Social Thinking
through Stories and Play for Early Learners
Resumes**



Agenda—Day Two

August 14, 2015

8:00 a.m.—8:30 a.m.

Registration

All Breakout Sessions Repeated at 8:30 a.m., 10:30 a.m., 1:15 p.m.

12:00 p.m.—1:15 p.m. Lunch provided, Networking & Vendors

Team Connections for All Children It Takes Talent to Team.

Presenters: Jackie Lawson, Adjunct Professor Cuyahoga Community College

This training is targeted to preschool teachers and paraprofessionals to strengthen their shared practice as they work together to educate young children. The training offers thoughts on children, a new definition of family, a look at diversity and cultural differences, and skills that are necessary for effective teaming. All of these areas enhance the relationships and strengthen connections between the paras, teachers, other school personnel, parents, and the children that they serve.

Mind in the Making Connecting Children's Learning to Brain Research.

Presenters: Kyle G. Priestly, Early Childhood Program Specialist
Cleveland Heights-University Heights City School District
Jackie Plantner, Coordinator ELSR, SST2

Participants will receive an overview of the seven essential life skills as outlined in the book, *Mind in the Making* by Ellen Galinsky. The seven essential life skills are grouped as : 1) focus and self control, 2) perspective taking, 3) communicating, 4) making connections, 5) critical thinking, 6) taking on challenges and 7) self-directed, engaged learning. An opportunity for further investigation of the book using online tools in a book study format will be discussed based upon interest.

CSEFEL: Social Emotional Foundations for Early Learning—OVERVIEW Connecting Social-Emotional Development to Relationships, Environment, and Activities.

Presenters: Krista Dickens, Consultant, SST4

CSEFEL is a free and valuable resource every early childhood educator should know about! CSEFEL's evidenced-based strategies and ready-made resources help teachers teach and promote young children's social-emotional and behavioral development. This overview will highlight information included in the four modules of CSEFEL including: building relationships, creating supportive environments, teaching social-emotional strategies, assessing challenging behavior, and developing behavior support plans. Participants will leave this overview with information and resources to return to their classroom and immediately start teaching social-emotional skills and concepts to preschoolers. They will know how to access free, ready-made resources from the CSEFEL website and receive information about upcoming full-length CSEFEL trainings which offer 18 Ohio approved/SUTQ hours.

Agenda—Day Two

August 14, 2015

All Breakout Sessions Repeated at 8:30 a.m., 10:30 a.m., 1:15 p.m.

4-1-1 SUTQ

Connecting Quality Program Standards to Practice for Kids!

Presenters: Cleveland Metropolitan School District, Tremont Montessori Team:
Susan Conrad, Kaia Abdur-Raheed, Mary McDonnell-Crupa, Pre-K/Kindergarten Teachers
Mary Celeste DiZinno, ECSE Teacher

Participants will benefit from the experience of a five-star program team who completed the SUTQ process. Learn about the importance of SUTQ along with the nuts and bolts, forms, organization, supports and more. Allow their experience to inform your SUTQ journey. Expect humor and a positive message from a five-star team!

Family Engagement

“If You Build It, They Will Come: Creating a Parent & Community Engagement Framework for Success”

Presenters: Dr. Anthony Pizzuti, Consultant, SST4

Participants will examine various aspects of Family & community partnerships as related to the field of Early Childhood. This session will look at how early childhood programs can engage parents, families, and the community as well as understanding of why family and community engagement plays a vital roles in a child’s education.



Connecting the Beginning to the End

3:00 p.m.—4:15 p.m.

The final link of the Early Learners Institute will be an interactive group session where we will pause for reflection and celebrate connections. Our goal is to equip participants with the appropriate tools to maintain and *Create Connection for Kids*.

Door prizes will be awarded during the final session.

This is a required session for full Institute credit.