

TRI-COMMUNITY EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATORS
OF
BELMONT, WALTHAM, & WATERTOWN
2019-2020

All meetings will be held at **St. Luke's Church Parish Hall:**
132 Lexington St.
Belmont, MA 02478
From 6:30pm-8:30pm
Feel free to call us with any questions at: (617) 484-2005
All workshops meet the PDPS and CEU requirements.

September 9, 2019 Monday Topic: Learning with Loose Parts
Presenter: David Ramsey
Time: 6:30-8:30 PM

This workshop addresses the following key questions:

1. What are loose parts and where can they be sourced?
2. What are the benefits of loose parts play for child development and learning?
3. What does loose parts play look like, both in classrooms and outdoors?
4. How can adults support children's play and learning with loose parts?
5. What are safety and logistical considerations that should be kept in mind?

Participants will play with and explore loose parts materials themselves in order to better understand how these materials might be used with children.

October 7, 2019 Monday Topic: Creativity, Motivation, and Play
Presenter: David Ramsey
Time: 6:30-8:30 PM

This workshop addresses the following key questions:

1. What is creativity? How do definitions of creativity, the creative process, and related concepts such as 'flow' impact our understanding of early childhood development?
2. What is motivation? How does an understanding of intrinsic motivation, autonomy, and self-determination theory help us become stronger early childhood practitioners?
3. What is play? How can we unpack this term and understand the relationship between play, creativity, and motivation to create a truly child-centered experience for our youngest learners?

November 4, 2019 Monday Topic: Adventure Playgrounds, Play work, and Loose Parts
Presenter: David Ramsey
Time: 6:30-8:30 PM

This workshop addresses the history and theory of adventure playgrounds, beginning in Scandinavia in the 1940s, moving to the United Kingdom, and then examining the current North American adventure playground renaissance.

United Kingdom playwork theory will be explored and participants will learn about connections between playwork, loose parts, and early childhood education.

December 2, 2019 Monday Topic: Autistic Spectrum; what does it mean to be on the spectrum? part 1
Presenter: Cynthia Parker, M.ED.
Time: 6:30-8:30 PM

With 15% of the children diagnosed with Autism, educators must learn the characteristics of this disorder to best support their changing population. We will focus on behaviors to be aware of related to autism, what a child with autism may need in your classroom, and the range of abilities based on where the child's diagnosis falls on the spectrum. Like other children, those diagnosed with autism need compassion, understanding and the adults in their lives to meet their individual needs.

January 6, 2020 Monday Topic: Autistic Spectrum Resources and Help part 2
Presenter: Cynthia Parker, M.ED.
Time: 6:30-8:30 PM

Meeting the needs of a child with autism in your classroom must include collaborating with families. We must remember that families go through their own adjustments when their child receives this diagnosis. We will focus on building relationships with families and collaborating on support plans for a child.

February 3, 2020 Monday Topic: Lakeshore Workshop
Presenter: TBD
Time: 6:30-8:30 PM

Math is all around us each and every day. Using the EEC Learning Guidelines and MA Pre-K Frameworks, we will explore numbers, shapes, patterns and measurement through the eyes of young children. Hands-on opportunities will be provided to learn how to connect math to other areas of the curriculum and classroom materials.

March 2, 2020

Monday

Topic: Music-Developmental Skills Learned

Presenter: Cynthia Parker, M.ED.

Time: 6:30-8:30

Did you know that rhyming is an essential skill for young children to be successful readers? Literacy begins at birth. There are a number of skills within the realm of literacy that are essential for early childhood educators to support before children go off to kindergarten. Our focus must be on areas of vocabulary building, print awareness, fine motor development and other key pre-literacy skills before introducing the ABCs. Come ready to read, sing and play and leave with new ideas for your classroom.

April 6, 2020

Monday

Topic: S.T.E.A.M in the classroom

Presenter: Cynthia Parker, M.ED.

Time: 6:30-8:30 PM

Science and Art are everywhere! We often overlook opportunities that are right in front of us, thinking STEAM as a complicated subject. We will take a "walk" through a child's day to discover where STEAM exists and how we can build upon these moments in our curriculum.

May 4, 2020

Monday

Topic: Child Development; Overview of Behavior Modification and Self-Regulation

Presenter: Cynthia Parker, M.ED.

Time: 6:30-8:30 PM

No magic wand here. Guiding children's behavior requires time, consistency, creativity and the ability to identify children's individual needs. It requires us to recognize development stages around behavior and support children in building the skills that they need to become more self-aware, socially aware and self-regulated. We will use the Pyramid Model to discuss how to establish a solid foundation to support positive behavior in your classroom.

June 1, 2020

Monday

Topic: Child Development; Techniques for Behavior Modification and Self-Regulation

Presenter: Cynthia Parker, M.ED.

Time: 6:30PM--8:30 PM

Exploring the Pyramid Model further, this session will focus in on supporting those children who need additional support, beyond your general classroom plan. We will focus on the function of behaviors to identify individual interventions children in our classrooms need to succeed. By viewing challenging behaviors as a lack of skills rather than intentional reactions, we are able to approach children with greater compassion and understanding.

Teacher calendar workshops 2019-2020