



DCY/PD Topics Areas for Sessions

For further information on this, please visit [PD Topics Defined by DCY](#)

**Thursday, April 23, 2026**

Session Time	Presenting Author	Session Title	PD topic for DCY	Length of Hours approved for PD topic for DCY
8:30 AM-10:00 AM	Marlo Parlin	Coaching Through Challenging Behaviors: How Interactive Talk Supports Social-Emotional Development	Behavior/Classroom Management	1 Hour

8:30 AM-10:00 AM	Jessica Lane	Developmentally Appropriate Technology Use in Pre-K	Curriculum Assessment	1 hour
8:30 AM-10:00 AM	Heather Reister	Making the Home to School Connection: Building Family Strengths Through Play	Family Engagement	1 Hour
8:30 AM-10:00 AM	Alexa Nunnari	Pivotal Practices for Early Childhood: Creating Effective Practices to Support All Children	Inclusion	1Hour
8:30 AM-9:30 AM	Ben Gundersheimer (MISTER G)	Song to Story: Fostering Expansive Creativity in Early Learning Settings	Curriculum Assessment	1 Hour
Session Time	Presenting Author	Session Title	PD topic for DCY	Length of Hours approved for PD topic for DCY
8:30 AM-9:30 AM	Yunus Brevik	Supporting Muslim Children in an Early Childhood Setting	Family Engagement	1 Hour
8:30 AM-10:00 AM	Dr. Beth Trammell	Trauma-Informed Classroom Management: A Practical Application of Compassion with Boundaries	Trauma	1.5 Hours

8:30 AM-10:00 AM	Leah Anastasakis	You're Teaching Too Hard: Stop Rescuing, Start Observing	Curriculum Assessment	1 Hour
10:45 AM-11:45 AM	Rachel Giannini	KEYNOTE: Your Tuesday, Their Forever	Child Growth and Development	1 Hour
1:00 PM-2:30 PM	Melissa Adipietro	Beyond Buzzwords: Leading with Belonging, Consistency, and Coherence	Inclusion	1 hour
1:00 PM-2:30 PM	Carrie Shockey	Create Effective Teamwork By Navigating Work Styles	Critical Conversations	1 hour
Session Time	Presenting Author	Session Title	PD topic for DCY	Length of Hours approved for PD topic for DCY
1:00 PM-2:30 PM	Rachel Giannini	Stretching Creativity, Not Your Wallet	Curriculum Assessment	1.5 Hours
1:00 PM-2:30 PM	Patrick McKelvey	Cultivating Joyful Learning: Strategies to Spark Wonder, Bravery, and Belonging in Early Childhood (Part 1)	Classroom Management	3 Hours Total for Part One and Two

1:00 PM-2:00 PM	Tijana Coso	From Stress to Strength: Functional Tapping for Early Childhood Professionals	Classroom Management	1 hour
1:00 PM-2:00 PM	Marie Diniaco Economos	Respect: What, Why, and How	Classroom Management	1 Hour
1:00 PM-2:00 PM	Emily Gessner	The Communication L.A.B: Strengthening Co-Teacher Partnerships	Critical Conversations	1 Hour
1:00 PM-2:30 PM	Colleen Wallace	Tiny Bodies, Big Feelings: Trauma Support for Toddlers	Trauma	1 Hour
Session Time	Presenting Author	Session Title	PD topic for DCY	Length of Hours approved for PD topic for DCY
1:00 PM-2:30 PM	Latoria Marcellus	Under Construction: Finding Joy on Your Journey Through Conscious Discipline©	Classroom Management	1.5 Hours
3:00 PM-6:00 PM	Margeric Gonzalez	El Arte Como Herramienta De Afrontamiento Para Los Niños Pequeños En Duelo	Trauma, Curriculum & Assessment	1 Hour Trauma, 1.5 Hours Curriculum & Assessment

3:00 PM-5:00 PM	Tonya Byous	Creating the School Family: Using the T.E.A.C.H. Method in Your Classroom (Conscious Discipline©)	Behavior/Classroom Management	2 Hours
3:00 PM-4:30 PM	Patrick McKelvey	Cultivating Joyful Learning: Strategies to Spark Wonder, Bravery, and Belonging in Early Childhood (Part 2)	Classroom Management	3 Hours Total for Parts One and Two
3:00 PM-4:00 PM	Pamela Caruso	Navigating Tough Conversations: Addressing Developmental Concerns with Preschool Families	Family Engagement	1 Hour
3:00 PM-4:30 PM	Dr. Laura Kelley	Playing with Sounds: Using Rhythm, Rhyme, and Song to Build Phonological Awareness	Curriculum and Assessment	1 Hour
3:00 PM-5:00 PM	Malori McCloskey	Teaching with a BANG!	Classroom Management	1 Hour
3:00 PM-4:30 PM	Dani Svantner	The Power of Play — Living Your Why, Building Brains, and Bringing Joy	Curriculum and Assessment	1.5 Hours
3:00 PM-4:30 PM	Abby Bucher	Your Space Matters: A Look into Why Classroom Space and Design Matter	Classroom Management	1 Hour

5:00 PM-6:00 PM	Eric Litwin	Mindfulness in 5 Songs!	Classroom Management	1 Hour
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**Friday, April 24, 2026**

Session Time	Presenting Author	Session Title	PD topic for DCY	Length of Hours approved for PD topic for DCY
8:00 AM-10:00 AM	Garri Davis	From Rules to Relationships: Emotional Intelligence and Compliance for Childcare Leaders	Critical Conversations	2 Hours
8:30 AM-9:30 AM	Dr. Jenni Jacobs	Count Me In: Encouraging Number Sense in Preschool	Curriculum and Assessment	1 Hour
8:30 AM-10:00 AM	Carrie Shockey	FLIP IT® Overview	Classroom Management	1 Hour

8:30 AM-10:00 AM	Troy Hunter	From Possible to Practical: Supporting Children with Disabilities and Their Families in Child Care	Family Engagement	1 Hour
8:30 AM-10:00 AM	Eric Litwin	Joyful & Engaging Early Reading!	Curriculum & Assessment	1.5 Hours
8:30 AM-10:00 AM	Latoria Marcellus	Legacy Work: Using Conscious Discipline to Build a Legacy That Inspires and Builds Others Up (Conscious Discipline©)	Classroom Management	1.5 Hours
Session Time	Presenting Author	Session Title	PD topic for DCY	Length of Hours approved for PD topic for DCY
8:30 AM-10:00 AM	Gigi Schweikert	Prime Time for Infants and Toddlers: Giving Children Individual Attention	Curriculum & Assessment	1 Hour
1:00 PM-2:30 PM	Latoria Marcellus	Are the Children Well? Moving Our Children from Surviving to Thriving (Conscious Discipline©)	Classroom Management	1.5 Hours
1:00 PM-2:30 PM	Dr. Beth Trammell	Challenging Behaviors in the Classroom (Biting, Running, Throwing, Hitting, Oh My!)	Behavior/Classroom Management	1.5 Hours

1:00 PM-2:30 PM	Jamie Taylor	From Pebbles to Potential, Inspiring Early Learners through Loose Parts Play	Curriculum & Assessment	1 Hour
1:00 PM-2:30 PM	Joanie Calem	It's Cool to be Kind, Teaching Compassion Through Songs, Stories and Music Games	Inclusion	1.5 Hours
1:00 PM-2:30 PM	Julia Babcock	Ohio's ASQ Online and Sparkler	Developmental Milestones	1.5 Hours
Session Time	Presenting Author	Session Title	PD topic for DCY	Length of Hours approved for PD topic for DCY
1:00 PM-2:30 PM	Mandy Young	Mischief Managed!- A Conversation About Addressing Post-Pandemic Behavior!	Classroom Management	1 Hour
1:00 PM-2:30 PM	Dani Svantner	Process over Product Art: Creative Expression for Regulation, Release, and Joy	Curriculum and Assessment	1.5 Hours
1:00 PM-2:30 PM	Red Grammer	Singing Our Way Outside	Curriculum & Assessment	1.5 Hours

1:00 PM-2:30 PM	Sherry Roush	Teaching and Afraid	Classroom Management	1.5 Hours
1:00 PM-2:30 PM	Katie Scott	Teaching PLAY: Engagement and Fun to Support Autistic Students in the Classroom	Developmental Milestones	1 Hour
Session Time	Presenting Author	Session Title	PD topic for DCY	Length of Hours approved for PD topic for DCY
3:00 PM-6:00 PM	Dr. Maria Sargent	Enhancing Memory Retention and Learning Rates for STEAM Concepts: A Neurodevelopmental Approach (K-3)	Curriculum & Assessment	2 Hours
3:00 PM-5:00 PM	Patrick McKelvey	(Not) Waiting to Exhale: Emotional Management Skills for Leaders	Critical Conversations	1.5 Hours
3:00 PM-4:30 PM	MaryBeth Bush	Storytime Techniques for Early Childhood Programs	Curriculum & Assessment	1 Hour
3:00 PM-4:30 PM	Heather Knoble	Supporting a Child's Unique Developmental Journey	Developmental Milestones	1.5 Hours

3:00 PM-4:30 PM	Pam Perrino	The H.O.P.E (Healthy, Opportunities, Partnerships, Empowerment) of Family Engagement	Family Engagement	1.5 Hours
5:00 PM-6:30 PM	Dani Svantner	Taming the Tiger — Understanding and Nurturing Big Emotions	Classroom Management	1.5 Hours

**Saturday, April 25, 2026**

Session Time	Presenting Author	Session Title	PD topic for DCY	Session Time
8:00 AM-10:00 AM	Margerit Gonzalez	Haz Que Esos Dedos Se Muevan Con Pompones	Curriculum & Assessment	1 Hour
8:30 AM-9:30 AM	Megan Arnold	Belonging in the Circle: Creating an Engaging and Inclusive Circle Time	Inclusion	1 Hour
8:30 AM-10:00 AM	Patrick McKelvey	Big Feelings, Little Teeth: Exploring Safe Ways to Express	Developmental Milestones	1 Hour
8:30 AM-10:00 AM	MaryBeth Bush	Family Child Care Homes: Creative Spaces for Children to Learn	Developmental Milestones	1 Hour

8:30 AM-10:00 AM	Lori Kowit	Math- It All Adds Up!	Curriculum and Assessment	1 Hour
8:30 AM-10:00 AM	Dr. Kathleen Harris	Nature Play with Fairy Gardens	Developmental Milestones	1.5 Hours
Session Time	Presenting Author	Session Title	PD topic for DCY	Session Time
8:30 AM-10:00 AM	Risa Cohen	Songs for Encouraging Social-Emotional Development in Early Childhood	Classroom Management	1.5 Hours
8:30 AM-9:30 AM	Lisa Baker	Supporting Curriculum Implementation through a Comprehensive Approach	Curriculum and Assessment	1 Hour
8:30 AM-9:30 AM	Pam Perrino	Virtues For Little Disciples-Connecting School with Home	Family Engagement	1 Hour
1:00 PM-2:30 PM	Cara Tyrrell	How to Talk to Infants & Toddlers While They Play: Language that Fosters Connection, Confidence and Creativity	Developmental Milestones	1 Hour

1:00 PM-2:00 PM	Dr. Kathleen Harris	I Like You Just The Way You Are!" Reflecting on Fred Rogers' Six Fundamentals of Learning and Growing to Awaken Essential Life Skills in Early Childhood Settings	Developmental Milestones	1 Hour
1:00 PM-2:30 PM	Barbara Pedigo	It's What You "NO"! The Importance of a YES-Driven Environment	Classroom Management	1.5 Hours
Session Time	Presenting Author	Session Title	PD topic for DCY	Session Time
1:00 PM-2:30 PM	Dr. Nefertiti Poyner	Lights On, Joy Up: Reframing Challenging Behaviors and Reigniting Your Purpose	Behavior/Classroom Management	1.5 Hours
1:00 PM-2:30 PM	Erin Finley	Preventing, Approaching, & Responding to Typical and Challenging Behavior (Part 1)	Behavior and Classroom Management, Trauma	1 Hour Classroom Management and 1 Hour Trauma
1:00 PM-3:00 PM	Corriene Dippel	Ramps and Pathways	Developmental Milestones	1 Hour
1:00 PM-2:30 PM	Nancy Secrest	Supporting Young Minds: Creating Balance in the Classroom	Classroom Management	1.5 Hours

1:00 PM-2:30 PM	Mr. Jeff Klemm	Wonderful Play! Using Music to Support Early Childhood Development (Part 1)	Developmental Milestones, Classroom Management	1.5 Developmental Milestones and 1.5 Classroom Management
1:00 PM-2:00 PM	Jessica Burchett	Working with Multilingual Families	Family Engagement	1 Hour
Session Time	Presenting Author	Session Title	PD topic for DCY	Session Time
3:00 PM-4:30 PM	Pamela Caruso	Introducing Puppets in Your Classroom	Classroom Management	1.5 Hours
3:00 PM-4:30 PM	Risa Cohen	Keeping Joy at the Core: Singing Our Way Through DAP's Three Core Considerations	Developmental Milestones	1.5 Hours
3:00 PM-4:30 PM	Erin Finley	Preventing, Approaching, & Responding to Typical and Challenging Behavior (Part 2)	Behavior and Classroom Management, Trauma	1 Hour Classroom Management and 1 Hour Trauma
3:00 PM-4:30 PM	Mr. Jeff Klemm	Wonderful Play! Using Music to Support Early Childhood Development (Part 2)	Developmental Milestones, Classroom Management	1.5 Developmental Milestones and 1.5 Classroom Management