

## Ohio Early Childhood Conference | April 23-25 | Sandusky, OH Thursday, April 23<sup>rd</sup>

### Sessions of Interest for K, K-3, & School Age Educators

7:30 – 10:30 AM, 1:00 – 2:30 PM & 3:00 – 4:45 PM- (FULL DAY - 6.5 hours)

#### **FLIP IT! Overview and Four Steps Strategy**

FLIP IT is a four-step behavior strategy rooted in developing emotional awareness in order to increase emotional control. This strategy works to reduce challenging behaviors in children ages 3-8. FLIP IT can be used with multiple children at the same time during minor challenges throughout a day or used as a targeted intervention that can support the emotional growth of a child displaying specific behavior concerns.

8:30 AM - 10:00 AM

#### **Activating the Mathematical Mind**

The mathematical mind is in every child. Offering children order, precision and exactness through the manipulation of materials allows them to better understand their environment which is built on a mathematical foundation. Encouraging a positive experience in mathematics lays a foundation to experience the satisfaction of learning through self-discovery. This session will provide a concrete way to teach math and walk away with ideas and resources to implement in your classroom.

#### **CQ CommUNITY CQ=Cultural Intelligence an Ongoing Journey of Growth**

This session looks at the journey of a district team as they commit to increasing the cultural intelligence (CQ) and equitable practices of the district staff, students and community. The CQ CommUNITY engages in ongoing work to ensure that all students' diverse experiences, backgrounds and talents are supported, valued and respected. During this session attendees will have the opportunity to engage in activities to reflect on their own cultural intelligence to consider areas for further exploration to support the children and families they work with in the early childhood setting.

#### **Early Childhood State and Federal Policy Update 2020**

Featured Strand

Explore resources to ensure you stay up-to-date on the latest early childhood policy news to best advocate for state and federal investments and policies that impact those working in Ohio's child-serving systems and the families and children impacted by those systems.

#### **Learn the Signs, Act Early: Supporting Children through Developmental Monitoring using Family Engagement**

Learn the Signs, Act Early is an initiative from the Center for Disease Prevention and Control. Educators know from birth to 5 years, children should reach milestones in how they play, learn, speak, act and move. This program aims to improve early identification of children with autism and other developmental disabilities so children and families can get the services and support they need. Tracking a child's development and acting early if there is a concern are key to early identification. Participants will learn to use these resources in combination with family engagement to utilize developmental monitoring to celebrate milestones and help link children to the support they need.

### **Music, Movement and Science: Wow, this is Fun!**

Featured Speaker

Science experiences for young children should be and can be exciting and meaningful! Music, movement and science are perfect companions based on a young child's interest, curiosity and natural love to move. Discover how to integrate music and movement activities to promote meaningful experiences that will develop science concepts and vocabulary. Take back ideas to create neural pathways in young brains and foster interest in the world of science.

### **Supporting Children Who Color Outside of the Lines – How Do We Ignite Children's Creativity?**

Featured Speaker

How do we ignite children's creativity? This presentation will discuss what discourages children from being creative and identify practices that support environmental and curriculum ingredients to nurture creative development.

10:45 AM - 11:45 AM KEYNOTE

### **Power and Excellence through Resilience**

Deshauna has made it her life goal to encourage, inspire, and strengthen the people around her! She will inspire you never to lose sight of the impact you have on the children in your care. Discover the influence one teacher had on her ability to develop resiliency strategies, tenacity, and to never give up while reaching for her goals. You will leave empowered to focus on developing your resilience to achieve balance in your professional and personal life.

1:00 PM - 2:30 PM

### **Essential Elements for Designing an Inclusive Classroom**

Does your early childhood environment meet the needs of ALL children? Through engaging activities, discussion, and knowledge sharing, participants will explore the various components of a high-quality early learning environment, including characteristics of a high-quality inclusive environment, DAP, the importance of play, Universal Design, Universal Design for learning, and least restrictive environments. Additionally, participants will explore specific strategies and supports to enhance the classroom environment.

### **Exploring Gender and Gender Expression in Young Children (Part 1)**

Participants in this session will explore the definitions and concepts of gender, gender identification and gender development, while examining the child's perspective in the development of gender identity. The concept of gender identity and expression from the perspective of parents, who may be having difficulty with their child's gender choices will also be addressed. Take back strategies to support children in the classroom in the area of gender identity and development.

### **Hip-Hop to Rock and Literacy: That's Exciting!**

Featured Speaker

In this interactive session participants will discover how to use songs, music and movement to support literacy development. By incorporating kinesthetic activities with sing-along songs children develop auditory discrimination, vocabulary, fluency, and coordination. Most important of all, it promotes the natural love for reading. Take back strategies to integrate text through song-card, chart tablet, or pocket-chart phrases to nurture confidence in your young readers.

### **Strengthening the Foundation: Building Children Up Using Their Strengths 3 hours (Part 1)**

This session focuses on supporting school age children's social emotional development using the 40 Developmental Assets. A connection will also be made between how ACEs impacts children and their education, as well as how the 40 Developmental Assets can help support those children. Participants will be able to take away practical strategies that they can use to support and help their children build these skills.

### **The Elephant in the Room: Trauma in the Workplace**

Whether from tragic life events, trying to survive on a next-to-nothing salary, or compassion fatigue many early childhood educators are silently suffering from trauma. It doesn't have to be this way! This session equips participants with the tools to identify trauma in adults and create "trauma-informed workplaces", resulting in lower staff turnover and greater job satisfaction.

### **Working Together for Benefit of our Children**

This session will provide participants an opportunity to analyze and better understand the value of cultivating empathy for families and children they serve. Techniques to improve communication with families and promote healthy environments that support acceptance over tolerance will be discussed. Leave with an improved ability to understand and share the feelings of another.

3:00 PM -4:30 PM

### **Communication is a Two-Way Street: Helping Children Become Effective Communicators**

Communication is a two-way street! Effective communication is one of the most important social skills. Communication is more than just talking. Participants will discuss the three aspects of communication: talking, listening and body language. Interactive activities will be presented to help the participants understand their own communication style. A discussion on how to use strategies and specific activities when designing the temporal, physical and interpersonal environments and how they will support children in becoming effective communicators.

### **Creating A Climate of Composure: Using the Five Steps of Self-Regulations and the Safe Place (Conscious Discipline®)**

Featured Strand

This session will help participants identify brain states, triggers and how to help children self-regulate using the five steps of self-regulation (I Feel, I Calm, I Choose, I Connect, I Solve) and the Safe Place. Leave with a plan to use these strategies in your classroom, with parents and coworkers.

### **Exploring Gender and Gender Expression in Young Children (Part 2)**

### **Ohio Early Childhood Race & Rural Equity 2020**

Featured Strand

Attendees will be given a briefing on the 2020 Ohio Early Childhood Race and Rural Equity follow-up report, "Drafting a New Blueprint for Success." This will include county-specific data on young children, new statewide data disaggregated by race and geography, and more. Participants will have the opportunity to share personal and community experiences reflected in the data and brainstorm program-level, community, and statewide solutions to address inequities for young children.

**Sing and Sign: Bring Joy to Education!****Featured Speaker**

Singing and signing engage young children in meaningful and exciting multi-language experiences. Singing songs is a powerful way to be introduced to a language while developing confidence and fluency. Signing (ASL) serves as the bridge that connects the three languages within our brain. Research findings state that integrating ASL into your literacy component accelerates letter and sound identification while promoting and motivating the natural love for reading. Music—and movement—bring JOY to education!

**Strengthening the Foundation: Building Children Up Using Their Strengths (part 2)**

3:00 PM -5:00 PM

**Common Ground: A Bridges out of Poverty Workshop**

Bridges out of Poverty is a nationally recognized program with the goal of helping agencies fight the long-term effects of poverty in a meaningful way. By building relationships based on understanding the real experiences of people in poverty, agencies can begin to address barriers in a manner that improves outcomes and sustained self-sufficiency. In this workshop, participants will examine how to make connections and build relationships with the families they serve in order to provide the best early care and learning experience possible.

5:00 PM -6:30 PM

**Preventing the Extinction of Childhood****Featured Speaker**

Do you remember playing “hide go seek” as a young child? Did you take a class to learn how to play this game? In this session we will identify the benefits of play and discuss why it is disappearing. Come and learn how to play again!