The Early Childhood Conference

A Spectacular Virtual Experience

Preliminary Session List

Subject to change.

"This was simply AWESOME!"

-Attendee

"I loved how the conference was remote and we have access to the sessions until May 24th! I was able to view all the sessions I wanted to and not miss out on any!"

-Attendee

Sessions that premiered on
WEDNESDAY, APRIL 21

KEYNOTE
Humanizing the Square: How to build Meaningful Connections in a Digital World
Premiered on
Wednesday, April 21, 7:00 - 8:00 pm
The move to digital learning during the pandemic produced one of the most significant disruptions in education in nearly a century. In a blink of an eye, educators were presented with challenges never before imagined. Steve Spangler, the guy who has been teaching engagement strategies for over 20 years, took on a new challenge… how to humanize the square… how to help the learner break free from the confines of the box on the screen. In this keynote, Steve Spangler shares some amazing discoveries that helped him teach, connect and engage at the highest level. Take home strategies you can use immediately as we learn to look at this new world of opportunities through a scientist's eyes.

Presented by: Steve Spangler
OA Approved

Sessions that premiered on
THURSDAY, APRIL 22

FEATURED SESSION
Now's the Time!
Premiered on Thursday, April 22, 8:00 - 9:00 am
Moving beyond the stress and challenges of the past year requires educators and leaders to be intentional and focused on all that is possible. This motivational presentation will guide participants in creating a vision focused action plan for effectively managing their time. New strategies and well-researched tools will inspire participants to incorporate new habits, rituals, and daily practices to enhance their well-being and reignite their passion for leading early childhood programs.

Presented by: Susan MacDonald
Main Topic: Professionalism & Leadership
OA Approved

PAX and Social Emotional Learning K-3
Thursday, April 22, 8:00 - 9:00 am
This session will detail how the strategies that comprise PAX GBG align with each of the Social Emotional Learning competencies identified by CASEL which allow teachers and classmates to develop and reinforce social emotional skills in the classroom, in their school, at home, and in the community. The strategies within PAX GBG allow teachers and classmates to reinforce growth.

Presented by: Jeanette Puskas
Main Topic: Social Emotional Development

Building Executive Function Skills of Infants & Toddlers
Premiered on Thursday, April 22, 8:00 - 9:00 am
How can we help infants and toddlers build executive function skills? Learn about executive function, ideas for building executive function skills with infants and toddlers, and creating activities for building these skills with infants and toddlers.

Presented by: William Mosier, Chad Nunamaker
Main Topic: Cognitive Development

FEATURED SESSION

So, Is this Problem Solving?

Premiered on Thursday, April 22, 8:00 - 9:30

Conflicts inevitably arise between children in the classroom, and these situations provide excellent learning opportunities to teach conflict resolution and problem solving. This session will help participants understand and recognize children's different perspectives in conflict situations and use HighScope©'s six steps of conflict resolution.

Presented by: Lance Reed

Main Topic: HighScope© Curriculum

FEATURED SESSION

Come on In! How Teachers and Administration can Build a Community of Kindness and Connection through Creating Rituals and Traditions

Premiered on Thursday, April 22, 8:00 - 9:30 am

As an author of the book Rituals and Traditions: Fostering a Sense of Community in Preschool, this interactive session will look at ways that administrators and lead teachers can create community centered on kindness and develop relationships with children, families and staff by rituals and traditions. Tangible ideas on how to start creating rituals and traditions that are daily, monthly, annual events, special days as well as connecting rituals.

Presented by: Jacky Howell

Main Topic: Social Emotional Development

OA Approved

Strengthening the Foundation: Building Children Up Using Their Strengths K-3 (Part 1)

Premiered on Thursday, April 22, 8:00 - 9:30 am

This training focuses on supporting school age children's social emotional development through the use of 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.

Presented by: Brittany Jackson

Main Topic: Social Emotional Development

OA Approved

Note: Must attend both parts to receive OA Credit.

Building a Strong Foundation

Premiered on Thursday, April 22, 8:00 - 9:30 am

The Director of Hamilton Local Preschool will outline how the school district established, implemented, and continues to support a strong academic preschool program. Our program infuses academic, social emotional, and literacy enrichments activities that earned a 5 Star rating from Ohio Department of Education and Ohio Department of Job and Family Services. Come and discover how you can enhance your current program or start a new one.

Presented by: Jan Strahm, Emily King

Main Topic: Language & Literacy

New Opioid Crisis: How Did We Get Here?
Premiered on Thursday, April 22, 8:00 - 9:30 am
Participants in this session will examine the contributing factors to the current opiate epidemic. Not a day goes by in social media, television reporting or newsprint, which is not peppered by the impact of the opiate epidemic. Participants will be challenged to think about their systems of care and how to approach this issue from a transdisciplinary approach.

Presented by: Kelly Pack
Main Topic: Trauma Informed Care
OA Approved

Essential Elements for Designing an Inclusive Classroom
Premiered on Thursday, April 22, 8:00 - 9:30 am
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.

Presented by: Lynnette Klejka
Main Topic: Children with Disabilities/Early Intervention/Inclusion
OA Approved

Peak Professionalism and Peace Only a TAP Away!
Premiered on Thursday, April 22, 8:00 - 9:30 am
Ok, so you're probably wondering what these things have to do with each other. Researchers have discovered that how you show up at work, home or in life has much to do with your unconscious stressors and that these stressors, not only cause physical ailments, but they also hinder your performance at work. In this session you will learn Emotional Freedom Technique (Tapping) which will uncover unconscious stressors that create our personal biases and societal stereotypes that may adversely impact engagement with staff, children and families.

Presented by: Tijana Coso
Main Topic: Educator Self-Care
OA Approved

Early-Career Child Care Teachers Training Needs: Lessons Learned from a Doctoral Study
Premiered on Thursday, April 22, 8:00 - 9:30 am
A recent doctoral study explored the needs of child care teachers as they begin their careers. Child care administrators will learn the results of the Ohio study in this presentation. The lessons learned during the study will provide insight directly from the field. Administrators will gain new ideas to help orient new child care teachers which could positively impact staff retention.

Presented by: Dr. Teri M. Peasley
Main Topic: Research

FEATURED SESSION
Diversity: It Is More Then Flesh Colored Markers
Premiered on Thursday, April 22, 8:00 -9:00 am
How can stereotypes influence classroom practices? How do you recognize biases? Are there developmental stages of children's understanding of race and/or culture? Many individuals who work with young children assume that posters, books, and markers promote diversity. This presentation demonstrates how developing a philosophy, that celebrates differences, supports diversity.

Presented by: Dan Hodgins
Main Topic: Equity/Anti-bias
OA Approved

FEATURED SESSION
Different is Not Dangerous - A Musical Trip Around the World
Premiered on Thursday, April 22, 8:00 -9:30 am
Using simple songs, stories and games with age appropriate applications and variety for learning styles, this workshop provides teachers hands-on tools to help children build friendships and a welcoming community. Participants will take back a collection of songs from around the world that emphasize friendship, compassion, and inclusion of people from different backgrounds. Material presented is applicable for children in preschool and early elementary.

Presented by: Joanie Calem
Main Topic: Music & Movement
OA Approved

FEATURED SESSION
Tender Toddler Moments that Support Spiritual Growth in Developmentally Appropriate Ways
Premiered on
Thursday, April 22, 10:00 - 11:00 am
Excellent early childhood education is intentional, developmentally appropriate, and organic. It takes the lead from children's interests and developmental needs, expanding learning with five senses and hands-on experiences. Using music, picture books, rituals, contemplative practices, and personal memories, the workshop will share the importance of welcoming toddlers into your life and discuss the importance of parental relationships, social-emotional literacy, and expanding on language by following each child's needs and interests

Presented by: Kathleen Harris
Main Topic: Social Emotional Development
OA Approved

FEATURED SESSION
Fine Motor Skills...Write Out of the Box!
Premiered on
Thursday, April 22, 10:00 - 11:00 am
Join NAEYC presenter and national early childhood speaker, Dr. Marianne Gibbs, for a fun and fast paced presentation on the fine motor development of young children 3-6 years old. This session contains essential, rarely addressed, information for educators of ALL young children, which supports pencil grasp and pre-writing development across the curriculum. Activities and techniques provided are ready to use in the classroom or home tomorrow!

Presented by: Marianne Gibbs
Main Topic: Language & Literacy
OA Approved

How a Shift in Culture Betters Your Outcomes
Premiered on
Thursday, April 22, 10:00 - 11:00 am
How can programs implement data driven decisions, share their narrative, and create innovative changes (as expected) when there is missing data? This session will examine the challenges an Early Head Start Partnership Program faced when attempting to receive data from multiple partnering sites. Participants will discover practical systems and practices to support gathering quality data and walk away with an understanding of how to apply a positive psychology theory that will better their outcomes.

Presented by: Jessica Woodruff
Main Topic: Program Administration/Evaluation

Early Learning Goes Digital
Premiered on
Thursday, April 22, 10:00 - 11:00 am
Blended, flipped, hybrid, remote? Teaching and learning has evolved in the 21st century. In this session, discover quality digital resources that provide a foundation for learning using a variety of media to support learners ages 3-5. INFOhio's Early Learning Portal, BookFlix, and World Book Early Learning contain content aligned with Ohio Learning Standards and are available at no cost to Ohio teachers, students, and parents. Join us to discover how learning can happen in the classroom or at the kitchen table with shared strategies and practices for literacy instruction and parent support.

Presented by: Emily W Rozmus
Main Topic: Technology & Digital Media

Creating a Collaborative Preschool Environment with Speech and Language Push-In Services During COVID-19
Premiered on
Thursday, April 22, 10:00 - 11:00 am
This session will demonstrate the effective nature of collaborative and inclusive therapies within the preschool setting; the importance of embedded and explicit instruction and how to plan your day to maximize interactions. As well as explorations of various service delivery options and how to minimize COVID impacts while increase student safety.

Presented by: Kate Wenninger
Main Topic: Children with Disabilities/Early Intervention/Inclusion

The Elephant in the Room: Trauma in the Workplace
Premiered on
Thursday, April 22, 10:00 - 11:30 am
Whether from tragic life events, surviving on a next-to-nothing salary, or inequitable workspaces, many early childhood educators are silently suffering. It doesn't have to be this way! This skills-based session equips participants with the tools to cultivate safe, equitable, trauma-informed workspaces. Greater job satisfaction and lower staff turnover await those who dare to register!

Presented by: Arianna Howard
Main Topic: Equity/Trauma Informed
OA Approved

PBIS: Easy Ways for Better Days (Supporting Infants and Toddlers)
Premiered on
Thursday, April 22, 10:00 - 11:30 am
This session will discuss evidence based practices needed to prevent challenging behaviors within early childhood settings by creating nurturing and responsive relationships between staff and children, supportive environments and embedding social supports within classroom routines. Challenging behaviors such as biting, stealing toys and tantrums will be discussed.

Presented by: Alleiah Keeley
Main Topic: Guidance/Challenging Behavior

Circle Time Makeover- Creative Spins on Classic Favorites!
Premiered on
Thursday, April 22, 10:00 - 11:30 am
Feel inspired with innovative ideas for circle time! Leave this session with practical, creative ideas to easily move and learn together to classic circle time favorites! Come ready to MOVE!

Presented by: Amy Schlessman
Main Topic: Music & Movement
OA Approved

Strengthening the Foundation: Building Children Up Using Their Strengths (K-3) (Part 2)
Premiered on
Thursday, April 22, 10:00 - 11:30 am
This training focuses on supporting school age children's social emotional development through the use of 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.
Presented by: Brittany Jackson
Main Topic: Social Emotional Development
OA Approved (must attend both parts to receive credit)

Exploring Gender and Gender Expression in Young Children (Part 1)
Premiered on
Thursday, April 22, 10:00 - 11:30 am
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. Take back strategies to support children in the classroom in the area of gender identity and development.

Presented by: James Flynn
Main Topic: Child Development & Gender
OA Approved

Note: Must attend both parts to receive OA Credit.

This Child, Each Child will Grow and Learn
Premiered on
Thursday, April 22, 10:00 - 11:30 am
Gaps in development tend to appear in children before the age of two which means as early childhood educators we can influence positive outcomes for children. This session is designed to help attendees understand the importance of early identification through monitoring and screening which leads to connecting families with local, state, and national resources. Participants will be provided an overview of developmental milestones and evidence based approaches to communicate with families and

professionals about concerns that may arise.

Presented by: Meledy Dawson, Maggie Gons
Main Topic: Family Engagement & Support
OA Approved

Listening and Speaking with Infants
Premiered on
Thursday, April 22, 10:00 - 11:30 am
Through demonstration and example and a guided thought process, participants will gain an understanding of the research regarding the importance of listening to infants and speaking with them. The different states of baby alertness will be shared. Together we will brainstorm listening to and conversing with infants, through interaction in the chat box. Participants may want to watch with an actual infant, real or imaginary. It will add to the fun and their understanding!

Presented by: Wendy Ferkany
Main Topic: Child Development & Learning Through Play

Self Care- It's more than an indulgence
Premiered on
Thursday, April 22, 10:00 - 11:00 am
Self- care, we know it's important, but who has time for that? Learn what is self care, why it's important, how to prevent compassion fatigue, and practical strategies for making time for you.

Presented by: Kaleena Wiseman
Main Topic: Educator Self-Care
OA Approved

The SEVEN Essentials for Transformative Family Engagement
Premiered on
Thursday, April 22, 10:00 - 11:30 am
Schools and programs can no longer just check the "family engagement box" because they conducted a parent conference or hosted a family event. Schools and programs are aware that our partnerships with families have to be transformative, meaning they have to change child outcomes. But how can schools and programs create transformational family engagement strategies and build positive and reciprocal relationships with families? This session will address the top seven research-based and field-tested ways of doing just that

Presented by: Teaching Strategies
Main Topic: Teaching Strategies Curriculum

FEATURED SESSION
Your Profession! Your Voice!: A Bold Vision for Our Future!
Premiered on
Thursday, April 22, 10:00AM – 11:00AM
Join Rhian Evans Allvin, CEO of the National Association for the Education of Young Children to learn about the bold vision of the "Unifying Framework of Power to the Profession" and opportunities for you to engage in making the recommendations a reality.

Presented by: Rhian Evans Allvin
Main Topic: Professionalism & Leadership
OA Approved

KEYNOTE
LISA MURPHY ON….. PLAY!
Premiered on
Thursday, April 22, 1:00 - 2:30 pm
Lisa Murphy will guide participants through reflecting on developmentally appropriate practice and the importance of play. Participants will explore the foundations of play supports and the house of higher learning. The session will guide participants to reflect and think about building insight into what happens when you build with no foundation?

Presented by: Lisa Murphy
Main Topic: Child Development & Learning Through Play
OA Approved

FEATURED SESSION
Music, Movement, and Learning: Building Muscles in Young Brains!
Premiered on
Thursday, April 22, 2:30 - 3:30 pm
Music and movement are powerful tools that can positively impact a child's physical, cognitive, language, and social-emotional development. Join Dr. Mike in exploring how strategies such as singing, chanting, clapping, signing, and dancing will support early reading skills, science knowledge, and other critical school readiness skills. This multi-sensory approach builds strong connections in young children's developing brains while meeting ALL children's needs.

Presented by: Mike Longoria
Main Topic: Cognitive Development/Music & Movement
OA Approved

FEATURED SESSION
Giggles & Wiggles! It's Circle Time
Premiered on Thursday, April 22, 2:30 - 3:30 pm
Join in this energetic and participatory workshop demonstrating various techniques and props for presenting music, movement, songs, fingerplays, name games, stories, puppets, and creative activities. Learn about the benefits of group time and discover tips for conducting a successful circle time. Have fun, get inspired, and acquire lots of new ideas to make your group time more active and enjoyable for the children and you!

Presented by: Sharron Krull
Main Topic: Music & Movement
OA Approved

8 Financial Strategies for Every Woman
Premiered on Thursday, April 22, 2:30 - 3:30 pm
90% of women will manage their finances at some point in their life. Women often have the best of intentions when it comes to managing their wealth, but often put themselves last. That's why every woman should have a plan.

Presented by: Buddy Farmer
Main Topic: Program Administration/Evaluation

May There Always Be Shrimp and Grits: Interactive Books and Songs as Culturally Responsive Practice
Premiered on Thursday, April 22, 2:30 - 3:30 pm
A core consideration of culturally responsive practice is to develop relationships with children based on an understanding of their personal, cultural, and developmental assets. In this session, participants will engage with interactive books and songs that provide young children with the opportunity to express ideas important to them, their families, and their home culture.

Presented by: Maggie Spangler
Main Topic: Language & Literacy

Generation YouTube: How Digital Media Affects the Development of Young Children
Premiered on Thursday, April 22, 2:30 - 4:00 pm
With today's digital age, from the young to the old, you'll find someone connected to a digital media device. In this session, participants will dive into a discussion about digital media and the effects on the development of young children. We will discuss several topics such as overexposure to media, the effects of media on

the developing brain, and how to bring awareness to parents.

Presented by: Ashley Hood, Cile Partlow
Main Topic: Technology & Digital Media
OA Approved

Family Engagement: A Five Protective Factor Approach
Premiered on Thursday, April 22, 2:30 - 4:00 pm
The Strengthening Families framework is a research-informed approach to increase family strengths, enhance child development, and reduce the likelihood of child abuse and neglect. This session explores the protective factors of the framework and how to implement them in an early childhood program. We know family engagement is important but how do we do it? Participants will discover how to build meaningful family engagement and how to ensure each family event aligns to the five protective factors from the framework.

Presented by: Brittany Kinstler, Megan Ballard
Main Topic: Family Engagement & Support
OA Approved

Exploring Gender and Gender Expression in Young Children (Part 2)
Premiered on Thursday, April 22, 2:30 - 4:00 pm
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

Presented by: James Flynn
Main Topic: Child Development & Gender
OA Approved (must attend both parts to receive credit)

Young Learners who are Deaf/Hard of Hearing or Blind/Visually Impaired
Premiered on Thursday, April 22, 2:30 - 4:00 pm
In this session you will learn what a child who is blind/visually impaired or deaf/hard of hearing needs to fully participate at home, in school, and in the community. Discover specific evidence-based strategies and supports to increase access to learning, including educational and assistive technologies.

Presented by: Christine Croyle
Main Topic: Children with Disabilities/Early Intervention/Inclusion

This Could Have Been An Email: How To Create A Staff Meeting Teachers Can't Wait To Attend
Premiered on Thursday, April 22, 2:30 - 4:00 pm
When announcing another staff meeting, do you receive cheers of excitement or eye rolls? Learn tips to plan and organize your staff meeting so your adult learners are just as engaged as the children; through hands on activities that get them out of their seats and critically thinking! This session, for center directors and administrators, will require you to move around the room, actively participate, and even get a little silly. You will leave this session with fun new ways to engage your staff and meet learning standards.

Presented by: Joanna Kelley
Main Topic: Program Administration/Evaluation
OA Approved

Math Around the Room
Premiered on Thursday, April 22, 2:30 - 4:00 pm
Participants will be able to identify and discuss the importance of incorporating math through every day activities. Participants will also gain the knowledge to implement strategies for a creating a math rich environment. Participants will engage in hands on activities to support and build math skills for young children.

Presented by: MaryBeth Bush
Main Topic: Math
OA Approved

Dual Language Learners: Support Strategies for Birth to 5
Premiered on Thursday, April 22, 2:30 - 4:00 pm
Using the Planned Language Approach Model, participants will learn about evidence based strategies that support Birth to five dual language learners and debunk myths related to DLL. Participants will acquire and apply new knowledge on how to transfer instructional strategies for Birth to 5 DLL children.

Presented by: Melissa Romero
Main Topic: Dual Language Learners
OA Approved

Becoming the Best You — Starting Today
Premiered on Thursday, April 22, 2:30 - 4:00 pm
In this engaging, motivating, hands-on presentation, you'll gain a great process and set of tools to use throughout life! We'll create a mini-blueprint with a vision, goal and action steps. We'll focus on WHAT you want to do and WHO you want to be. We'll discover how you trip yourself up — and what to do about it. Along the way, you'll gain "Power Challenges" — useful activities that you can adopt to develop yourself and become a stronger person and leader. The presentation will inspire you to want to do these challenge — so that you can be more effective leading, working and living. So you can become the best version of you, starting today!

Presented by: Carla S. Rogg
Main Topic: Educator Self-Care

Using GOLD® Data to Improve Outcomes for Children and Families (90)
Premiered on Thursday, April 22, 2:30 - 4:00 pm
The practice of using GOLD® data to inform planning, caregiving, instruction, professional development, and teacher reflection is not isolated to any one age-group or grade. Rather, it is vital that teachers in all settings understand how to collect quality data, interpret that information accurately, and then use it to plan routines, experiences, instruction, and the learning environment.

Presented by: Teaching Strategies
Main Topic: Teaching Strategies Curriculum
OA Approved

KEYNOTE
You Can't Talk About Play Without Talking About Risky Play!
Premiered on Thursday, April 22, 5:30 - 6:30 pm
It's impossible to talk about play without addressing "risky play." Physical, intellectual, and social-emotional risk-taking are a central aspect for preschoolers learning through play. Yet our increasing litigiousness, a culture of "helicopter parenting," and our mainstream perception of children as incapable, make risky play...well, risky. In this session, Teacher Tom shares research and anecdotes to define risky play (with an emphasis on physical risk taking), why it is important, and how educators can support risk-taking in their settings. Participants will come away with a framework for thinking about the role risk can, and should, play within the healthy development process of young children. Tom will discuss strategies for introducing parents and others to the theories

and practices behind permitting children to explore failure, mistakes, heart-break, and even occasional physical injury as part of their learning journey.

Presented by: Teacher Tom
Main Topic: Child Development & Learning Through Play
OA Approved

KEYNOTE
LISA MURPHY ON…… BEING CHILD CENTERED!
Premiered on Thursday, April 22, 7:00 - 8:30 pm
Lisa Murphy believes in developmentally sound, play-based, child-centered, hands-on early childhood environments that are grounded in best practice. Early childhood is defined as birth through age 8. Explore with Lisa the nine basic DAP principles and how to best implement those strategies into your classroom environment and routines.

Presented by: Lisa Murphy
Main Topic: Child Development & Learning Through Play
OA Approved

Sessions that premiered on
FRIDAY, APRIL 23

FEATURED SESSION
Building Compassion in Early Childhood Communities
Premiered on Friday, April 23, 8:00 - 9:00 am
The pandemic has hit everyone in our early childhood communities hard and tested our relationships. Now more than ever, we need to strengthen our skills in understanding the unique perspectives of the children, parents, colleagues, and administrators with whom we work. In this session, we will discuss the brain science of threat and why people respond in difficult ways when they feel vulnerable. We will discuss common situations of vulnerability in our communities and share compassion strategies for supporting others in challenging situations. Finally, we will discover why self-compassion is key to our work.

Presented by: Cori Berg
Main Topic: Equity/Antibias/Ethics
OA Approved

Top 10 strategies/resources for virtual learning in early childhood
Premiered on Friday, April 23, 8:00 - 9:00 am
In this session we will discuss ten strategies to improve student learning in early childhood during virtual instruction. Resources and strategies will be discussed. Together we will explore following programs: Edpuzzle, SeeSaw, Boom learning, virtual classrooms, go noodle, PBS, Sesame street, local alternative/virtual libraries and virtual field trips and more!

Presented by: Kerry Giles
Main Topic: Technology & Digital Media
OA Approved

How to Open a Child Care Center in Ohio Without Debt
Premiered on Friday, April 23, 8:00 - 9:00 am
This session will cover how to open a child care center in Ohio from start to finish without taking out any loans.

Presented by: Stacy Corll
Main Topic: Program Administration/Evaluation

The Growth of ABA in Ohio: Considerations for Parents, Advocates, and Stakeholders
Premiered on Friday, April 23, 8:00 - 9:00 am
The field of Applied Behavior Analysis (ABA) is rapidly growing in the state of Ohio. This presentation will examine the growth rate of ABA professionals compared to professionals that serve children with autism. While ABA is growing, there continues to be a need for more professionals to serve children with autism based on the recommended caseloads from the Behavior Analyst Certification Board (BACB). Looking at this data will help parents, providers, and non behavior analysts understand the role of ABA in each building a multi-disciplinary team.

Presented by: Jennifer Sweeney and Jennifer Gonda
Main Topic: Guidance/Challenging Behavior

You're NOT My Friend: Understanding, Addressing and Preventing Bullying Behavior
Premiered on Friday, April 23, 8:00 - 9:00 am
Bullying behaviors can begin at an early age, disguised as targeted meanness, name-calling, teasing or various types of aggression. When these behaviors are overlooked or dismissed, they can become habitual and damaging to children who are involved as well as those who observe the behaviors. This session will focus on understanding bullying behavior in order to recognize its signals, intervene quickly and teach children the social skills that will support healthy, respectful relationships.

Presented by: Cheryl S Turner
Main Topic: Social Emotional Development

FEATURED SESSION
Social-Emotional Support Through Challenging Times
Premiered on Friday, April 23, 8:00 - 9:30 am
During this time of great uncertainty, many children and families are experiencing trauma and toxic stress. We will discuss how to support children and families. We will learn how to prepare children for changes in routines and procedures and explain why changes had to occur. We will also learn how to make these changes while being sensitive to children and families. By acknowledging and identifying feelings, having patience with children who may take more time to adjust and continuing to partner with families, we will support the children we serve to meet not only their physical needs, but their emotional needs as well.

Presented by: Ron Mohl
Main Topic: Social Emotional Development
OA Approved

FEATURED SESSION

Data Driven Coaching: Using Child Assessment to Inform Professional Learning

Premiered on Friday, April 23, 8:00 - 9:30 am

Ever feel as if your teacher's are simply collecting child assessment data because it's a requirement and then promptly forgetting about it until family conference time? This session will explore coaching strategies, techniques, and support systems to be implemented at the classroom level in order to assist teachers in using child assessment to drive instruction. Join us as we uncover ways to demystify data for our teachers and develop coaching plans that are individualized to be the "right-fit" based on their own knowledge and motivation to change. With the goal of increasing child outcomes, this session will focus on how coaches can build capacity within their educators as they partner together to explore best practices within the field of early childhood.

Presented by: Lance Reed

Main Topic: HighScope© Curriculum

OA Approved

Creating Inspiring Classroom Environments for Young Children by Utilizing Seven Principles of Design

Premiered on Friday, April 23, 8:00 - 9:30 am

There are seven principles of design that have been identified to help create and evaluate inspiring classroom environments for children. they address the aesthetic concepts of color, focal point, texture, exhibits, lighting, displays, and use of space. This workshop will open participant's eyes to another way of viewing and evaluating their classrooms. Photos of specific classrooms and a newly developed rating scale will be used to help conferees in evaluating their classrooms and transforming them into inspiring environments that honor all who occupy the space.

Presented by: Belinda Costin

Main Topic: Early Learning Environment

OA Approved

What are the Top 3 Reasons Early Childhood Teachers Leave the Profession in Ohio?

Premiered on Friday, April 23, 8:00 - 9:30 am

This session is designed from a qualitative research project to gain perspective on teacher turnover in early childhood educational settings. The session will benefit teachers, administrators, directors, and program coordinators. The session will utilize prompts from current research completed in Ohio on teacher turnover in ECE classrooms and settings. Participants will be engaged through the live chat with brainstorming ideas and leave the training with a new vision for hiring novice teachers and developing individual training programs to meet all new teachers at their level of development and areas of opportunities.

Presented by: Charlotte Perlaky

Main Topic: Program Administration/Evaluation

NOT OA Approved

So You Want To Be A Director? Practical Tips For Growing Out Of The Classroom and Into The Office
Premiered on Friday, April 23, 8:00 - 9:30 am
Have you dreamed of becoming a director or administrator? So many directors started as teachers without any formal training in leadership or running a business. If you are ready to take criticism, think like a team, lead adult learners, plumb a toilet (yes, that too), and work harder than you've ever worked before, then this session is for you. Geared towards teachers interested in following their dreams to school leadership, participants will gain an understanding of the director role and define steps to get you to reach your full potential. Wear 1000 hats and look great doing it!

Presented by: Joanna Kelley
Main Topic: Program Administration/Evaluation
OA Approved

Finding Your Happy Place In and Out of the Classroom: Healthier for You and the Families and Children You Serve
Premiered on Friday, April 23, 8:00 - 9:30 am
Do you ever feel like you are stressed out just holding on to get through the day? We might have some great ideas to help you hold on. Come learn how to identify the physical and emotional reactions that children, families, and teachers display when they are on stress overload. Stress not handled well can have negative effects but stressed identified and minimized can energize your day.

Presented by: Marie Economos, Heather Reister
Main Topic: Educator Self-Care
OA Approved

How to Create Inclusive Environments for All Students: Teaching Self-Regulation Strategies and Using Effective Communication to Reduce Power Struggles in the Classroom
Premiered on Friday, April 23, 8:00 - 9:30 am
Participants will gain practical, hands-on methods to create inclusive environments that reach all children in their classroom. Take back strategies that utilize effective communication and promote self-regulation to reduce power struggles.

Presented by: Shannon Fisher
Main Topic: Social Emotional Development

Recall and Retell: Painting Connections to Story Time
Premiered on Friday, April 23, 8:00 - 9:30 am
Participants will connect story time to activities around the classroom that support language and early literacy development. Presenters will provide a plethora of examples of strategies and materials to model telling and retelling stories. Participants will need markers (crayons or colored pencils will work too), paper, and a willingness to play. If you want to play along, bring a scarf, playdough, Legos, white paint, blue construction paper, a small stick from your yard, and a drum/oatmeal container/coffee can.

Presented by: Staci Edwards, Jeffri Saup
Main Topic: Language & Literacy Development
OA Approved

Self Care Practices for Early Childhood Educators
Premiered on Friday, April 23, 8:00 - 9:30 am
In this session there will be gentle movements in and with a chair, along with instruction about sitting, standing and lifting which will help teachers to keep their bodies comfortable and working. Breath practices and concentration/meditation practices will be taught to provide help for calming the mind and emotions. You will need to wear pants with bare feet or comfortable flat shoes, and have handy a chair and two beach towels or three bath towels.

Presented by: Angela LaMonte
Main Topic: Educator Self-Care

FEATURED SESSION
Looking Through the Eyes of Boys
Premiered on Friday, April 23, 8:00 -9:30 am
"What about those boys?" rings out around the country. Many teachers and parents are asking these questions and more! Join Dan and increase your awareness of boys: how they learn, how to educate them based on brain science research, and how to create the ultimate environment that supports boy's needs.

Presented by: Dan Hodgins
Main Topic: Child Development & Gender
OA Approved

Essential Elements for Supporting Teachers in Play
Premiered on Friday, April 23, 10:00 - 11: 30 am
Participants will explore the different forms of play and why some children struggle to engage in cooperative purposeful play. Developmentally appropriate strategies will be shared that you can use with your children to successfully engage them in play with their peers.
Presented by: Lynette Klejka
Main Topic: Children with Disabilities/Early Intervention/Inclusion
OA Approved

Supporting Your Staff in Challenging Times
Premiered on Friday, April 23, 10:00 - 11:00 am
Supporting Your Staff in Challenging Times presentation will coach program administrators on how to recognize and discover staff stressors and how, in their role, can help support those staff members with the stressors they are experiencing. This presentation will also coach program administrators on how they can create an environment that alleviates some of the stressors. Administrators will also learn how to acknowledge their own stressors and will be given suggestions and strategies to help themselves with their stressors.

Presented by: Christine DeSanti
Main Topic: Program Administration/Evaluation

Dance and Disability: Benefits and Sustainable Practices for Inclusion in Dance
Premiered on Friday, April 23, 10:00 - 11:00 am
Learn why dance and movement are important components of early childhood education, especially for children with disabilities. Learn how dance can benefit executive function skills and social emotional learning. I will then describe the tenets of Universal Design for Learning and explain how those principles can be applied in a dance/movement class. I will also discuss ways to apply in-the-moment strategies and adjustments to meet student needs. Finally, I will share my "Blueprint for Program Adaptation" that outlines an effective way to adapt arts programming to ensure it is inclusive and accessible for all students, regardless of disability.

Presented by: Elle Pierman
Main Topic: Children with Disabilities/Early Intervention/Inclusion
OA Approved

Ensuring Equity and Access in Literacy Development
Premiered on Friday, April 23, 10:00 - 11:00 am
Learn about one urban district's journey to ensure all children have access to literacy lessons, activities and resources while children were both at home and in school.

Presented by: Jackie Harvey
Main Topic: Language & Literacy Development

SEL Activities for Global Citizenship and Environmental Stewardship
Premiered on Friday, April 23, 10:00 - 11:00 am
Social and emotional learning (SEL) can build students' self-awareness, self-management, social awareness, relationship skills, and responsible decision making. Combining SEL with global learning is an excellent way to deepen students' interpersonal skills while honing students' knowledge and awareness of world issues. In this interactive session, engage in games that promote cooperative strategies, environmental ethics and stewardship while building students' relationship skills and responsible decision making. Receive lesson plans matched to state standards.

Presented by: Lindsey Bailey
Main Topic: Social Emotional Development

FEATURED SESSION
Supporting and Extending Play Using Schema Play Theory
Premiered on Friday, April 23, 10:00 - 11:30 am
Did you know that when children repetitively mix together paints, dump toys, swipe toys off of tabletops and hide under tables, they are giving you important clues about how they are exploring the world and how you can support those explorations? I didn't—until I discovered schema play theory. In this session, participants will learn how to advocate for playful learning, foster cognitive development and identify 8 common play schemas that are present in play-based learning.

Presented by: Heather Bernt-Santy
Main Topic: Child Development & Learning Through Play
OA Approved

FEATURED SESSION

But First Do No Harm - Songs and Stories to Create (And Maintain) Compassionate, Inclusive Classrooms

Premiered on Friday, April 23, 10:00 - 11:30 am

Inclusive classrooms require educators to meet an ever-broadening range of instructional, social and emotional needs. Educator and parent of a child with autism herself, Joanie Calem uses original songs, games and practical tips to facilitate conversation that supports teachers in building a community of diverse learners. Take back hands on tools to help children with special needs integrate into general classrooms and support the other children to become compassionate classmates.

Presented by: Joanie Calem

Main Topic: Music & Movement

OA Approved

Laugh The Stress Away

Premiered on Friday, April 23, 10:00 - 11:30 am

How stressed are you? This session will explore various techniques to reduce and manage stress including laughter

Presented by: Joe French

Main Topic: Educator Self-Care

OA Approved

FEATURED SESSION

Laying the Groundwork Summit 2021

Premiered on Friday, April 23, 10:00 - 11:30 am

During this Summit attendees will look at the current state and national policies that directly affect the early childhood profession and the families served. The state budget process and the work of key bipartisan legislative leaders in the Ohio Senate will be discussed. Come discover ways you can become engaged in state policy and advocacy and experience putting learning into action by engaging in a unique virtual advocacy challenge where you will practice elevating your voice through communication platforms with the support of Ohio's leading early childhood advocacy organization, Groundwork Ohio. Special presentation will be provided by Rhian Evans from NAEYC.

Presented by: Julia Jackels & Shannon Jones

Main Topic: Advocacy & Public Policy

NOTE: THIS IS A SESSION TAKING PLACE OUTSIDE OF THE CONFERENCE.

OA Approved

FEATURED SESSION

Family Child Care: Controlling the Craziness

Premiered on Friday, April 23, 10:00 - 11:30 am

When everything around us seems to be going crazy – the kids, the parents, the staff – we're the ones who need to keep our sanity, right? Wrong! Learn how embracing the craziness of your business can be the key to creating a positive, stress-free environment for all the families and staff in your care. Take back strategies to tackle problems head on with a smile!

Presented by: Patricia Dischler

Main Topic: Family Child Care/Program Administration

OA Approved

FEATURED SESSION
"Creating The World You Want To Live In"- The Importance of Creating a School Family through the Use of 7 Skills, Powers and Structures!
Premiered on Friday, April 23, 10:00 - 11:30 am
During this session participants will be introduced to the social-emotional curriculum of Conscious Discipline using the seven brain smart skills, powers and structures.

Presented by: Rozlyn Grant
Main Topic: Guidance/Challenging Behavior
OA Approved

Where the Boys Are Version 2.0 (Part 1)
Premiered on Friday, April 23, 10:00 - 11:30 am
This training explores the possibility that boys have different needs in the classroom than girls. Many of those differences can be related to the way that the different genders are socialized, as well as, differences in brain structure. Based on these differences and the fact that boys seem to be falling behind girls, academically, teachers are asked to examine current teaching methods and explore new methods that might be more engaging to males.

Presented by: James Flynn
Main Topic: Child Development & Gender
OA Approved

Note: Must attend both parts to receive OA Credit.

Creating A Trauma Sensitive Preschool Environment
Premiered on Friday, April 23, 10:00 - 11:30 am
In this session attendees will gain an understanding of trauma and the effects on preschool brain development. Learn powerful and impactful activities and skills to assist families in bouncing back from traumatic experiences, events, or effects.

Leave with strategies to create a trauma sensitive classroom.

Presented by: Janece Wooley
Main Topic: Trauma Informed Care
OA Approved

Working Together for the Benefit of Our Children
Premiered on Friday, April 23, 10:00 - 11:30 am
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.

Presented by: Mandy Young
Main Topic: Family Engagement & Support
OA Approved

Five Habits of Highly Effective Early Childhood Leaders
Premiered on Friday, April 23, 10:00 - 11:30 am
In this session we will discuss the five habits that highly effective early childhood education leaders exhibit that can improve daily operations and practices in an early childhood education business. We will examine the need for a continuous quality improvement plan,

constructive versus destructive feedback and completing staff evaluations as a prerequisite for leading high performing teams.

Presented by: Robert Gundling, Jahi B Davis
Main Topic: Professionalism & Leadership
OA Approved

Getting Started: Using Assessment to Raise Your Quality
Premiered on Friday, April 23, 10:00 - 11:30 am
Are you new to GOLD® and interested in learning more? Get a guided tour of the new MyTeachingStrategies™ platform: its features, its functionality, and how to navigate within it. You will discover how it can help you observe children with the curricular objectives in mind, understand what children know and can do and where they need to go next, and use that understanding to plan meaningful experiences that are appropriately challenging for individual children and your group.

Presented by: Teaching Strategies
Main Topic: Teaching Strategies Curriculum
OA Approved

KEYNOTE
Making a Difference in the Life of a Child
Premiered on Friday, April 23, 1:00 - 2:00 pm
Everyone wants to make a difference in their life. What we often overlook is that we can make a difference every day with small moments that can lead to a big impact. Patricia inspires audiences to tap into their potential, to find their own way of making an impact in this world: through their job, through their relationships, through their actions big and small. Living life with the attitude that you are making a difference can change everything. Looking for a new, positive outlook on your life? Join us and find out that EVERYONE has something to contribute to making this world a better place, let's find yours!

Presented by: Patricia Dischler
Main Topic: Educator Self-Care
OA Approved

FEATURED SESSION
Simon Says, "Spread Your Wings!" Physical Activity While Socially Distancing
Premiered on Friday, April 23, 2:30 - 3:30 pm
We might be restricted from engaging in group activities, but that doesn't mean we can't be active! Participate in fun, playful activities that you and the children can do anytime, anywhere. Let's bring back "Red Light Green Light," "Simon Says," and even learn an age-appropriate way to play "Red Rover, Red Rover" without holding hands. Discover how to integrate physical activity across the curriculum that supports a child's growing brain, motor skills, and social-emotional development.

Presented by: Sharron Krull
Main Topic: Physical Development
OA Approved

FEATURED SESSION

Gossip Be Gone! The Vital Importance of Positive Teams

Premiered on Friday, April 23, 2:30 - 3:30 pm

Children thrive in environments where the adults model positive relationships and create communities based on trust and respect. In this workshop, we will examine the impact that toxic stress in a classroom has on young children's brain development and social-emotional skills. We will explore strategies for enhancing your professional skills to help you communicate effectively with your co-workers, as well as techniques to reduce gossip. We will use the NAEYC Code of Ethical Conduct as a guide to creating strength-based team relationships and a positive, supportive, respectful environment for children and adults.

Presented by: Susan MacDonald

Main Topic: Professionalism & Leadership

OA Approved

Supporting Language & Literacy in Early Childhood - Ohio's Plan to Raise Literacy Achievement
Premiered on Friday, April 23, 2:30 - 3:30 pm
Raising language and literacy achievement begins with the implementation of emergent skills to build the foundation for early communication and literacy. With adult support, all children can engage in meaningful activities that develop skills as early as infancy and can continue developing skills throughout the early childhood years. This session will explore how Ohio's Plan to Raise Literacy Achievement serves as a guide to evidence-based language and literacy teaching and learning for all children, including those age birth - kindergarten entry.

Presented by: Kimberly Davis
Main Topic: Language & Literacy Development
OA Approved

Teaching Empathy & Consent as Abuse Prevention
Premiered on Friday, April 23, 2:30 - 3:30 pm
We want to keep children not only from becoming victims but also from becoming the perpetrators. Consent conversations have to include empathy, for a holistic approach to preventing abuse and assault. Try hands-on methods for teaching young children about empathy and consent. Learn the science behind physical manifestations of emotions, and how to use those to empathize with others.

Presented by: Lydia Bowers
Main Topic: Social Emotional Development
OA Approved

Positive Behavior Intervention Support to Help Develop the Whole Child
Premiered on Friday, April 23, 2:30 - 3:30 pm
This presentation is intended to provide practical strategies and practices to schools to be able to take back right away to implement. This session will provide you the ideas and structure to begin PBIS in your school as well as provide you with strategies and ideas to build your current program.

Presented by: Colleen Mudore, Julie Wilmer
Main Topic: Guidance/Challenging Behavior

FEATURED SESSION
Supporting Children Who Take Us To The End of Our Rope
Premiered on Friday, April 23, 2:30 - 4:00 pm
Challenging behaviors of children are often the most common discussions that occur between professionals in early childhood settings. Are you an adult who is working with a child who takes you to the End of Your Rope? If you are, this presentation is for you. You will increase your awareness of why challenging behaviors occur, what are some strategies that will assist in preventing these behaviors, and how to develop self-control in children who seem to need POWER.

Presented by: Dan Hodgins
Main Topic: Guidance/Challenging Behavior
OA Approved

Processing Disorders: Different Routes to Learning STEAM (Pre-K to 3)
Premiered on Friday, April 23, 2:30 - 4:00 pm
This presentation provides an overview of the neurological processing disorders that cause students to struggle with STEAM understanding, play-based activities, and academic classroom content (pre-k to grade 3). Problems to be examined include visual, sensory, and auditory disorders as well as dysgraphia, dyscalculia, and reading disabilities. Techniques to assist these children as well as multiple ways to enhance STEAM learning will be presented. Techniques are appropriate for both children with and without these conditions.

Presented by: Maria Sargent
Main Topic: Children with Disabilities/Early Intervention/Inclusion
OA Approved

Where the Boys Are Version 2.0 (Part 2)
Premiered on Friday, April 23, 2:30 - 4:00 pm
This training explores the possibility that boys have different needs in the classroom than girls. Many of those differences can be related to the way that the different genders are socialized, as well as, differences in brain structure. Based on these differences and the fact that boys seem to be falling behind girls, academically, teachers are asked to examine current teaching methods and explore new methods that might be more engaging to males.

Presented by: James Flynn
Main Topic: Child Development & Gender
OA Approved (must attend both parts to receive credit)

Creating a Natural Learning Environment in Early Childhood Settings: Ideas to Rethink your Outdoor Space
Premiered on Friday, April 23, 2:30 - 4:00 pm
During this session participants will walk through the process of redesigning their outdoor playground space into an natural outdoor learning environment. The benefits of these changes will be discussed, such as increased physical activity, higher child engagement, increased opportunities for social interactions, extending learning in the outdoors in all areas of development and reducing (yes..reducing!) chances of severe injury. Participants will go home with the start of an implementation plan.

Presented by: Katie Krause
Main Topic: Nature Based Education
OA Approved

Activating the Mathematical Mind
Premiered on Friday, April 23, 2:30 - 4:00 pm
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.

Presented by: Kristi Lethenstrom, Ali Priest
Main Topic: Math

Intentional Teaching: Rethinking the First Six Weeks of Preschool
Premiered on Friday, April 23, 2:30 - 4:00 pm
In this session, we will rethink the special energy and opportunities unique to the first six weeks of school, the goal of which is to lay the foundation and build the relationships that will support children's development and learning all year long. Discover the path to success in establishing the fundamental aspects of a caring classroom community, from creating a child-centered physical environment, to setting a schedule that invites learning, to partnering with families in ways that truly make a difference.

Presented by: Teaching Strategies
Main Topic: Teaching Strategies Curriculum
OA Approved

Exploration and Play: Why These Superfoods Should Dominate PK-3 Curricula
Premiered on Friday, April 23, 2:30 - 4:00 pm
Exploration and play are two of education's superfoods, but they are getting squeezed out of classrooms to make time for less-nourishing academic instruction. We'll learn the research and reasons why exploration and play are so beneficial and how to better advocate for making them central to PK-3 curricula.

Presented by: Karl Wheatley
Main Topic: Child Development & Learning Through Play
OA Approved

Self Care for Teachers: Techniques for Becoming the Best Version of Yourself
Friday, April 23, 2:30 - 4:00 pm
The Devereux Center for Resilient Children studies resiliency and protective factors in both young children and adults. This training looks at protective factors for teachers to help prepare them for stressful situations and anything that comes their way. Setting the foundations for good self-care can prevent teachers from experiencing burnout. The work that teachers do is very important and life changing but without taking proper care of themselves it can be draining and lead to stress. To take good care of others one must first take care of themselves.

Presented by: Troy Hunter
Main Topic: Educator Self-Care
OA Approved

FEATURED SESSION
Conversations that Matter! Developing Strength-Based Communications Skills to Support Professional Growth
Premiered on Thursday, April 22, 2:30- 4:00 pm
Supporting the continuous professional growth of educators requires leaders to be skilled communicators. This workshop will guide leaders in developing the skills they need to have effective dialogues that are fully aligned with individual and program goals, lead to action, and offer constructive feedback. The fundamental goal for this session is to support leaders in gaining a new perspective on their communication and leadership practices, so they can leave refreshed and recharged with a clear vision for facilitating positive changes in their daily work and learning communities.

Presented by: Susan MacDonald
Main Topic: Professionalism & Leadership
OA Approved

KEYNOTE

You're Not a Chicken, You're an Eagle-You've Got This!

Premiered on Friday, April 23, 5:30-6:30 pm

Discover how the Conscious Discipline Brain State Model can help you soar! This framework focuses on internal states first and behavior second. It empowers us to be conscious of brain-body states in ourselves and children and provides the practical skills we need to manage our thoughts, feeling and actions. With this ability to self-regulate, we are then able to teach children to do the same. By doing this, we help children who are physically aggressive (survival state) or verbally aggressive (emotional state) become more integrated so they can learn and use problem-solving skills (executive state). When we understand the brain state model, we can clearly see the importance of building our homes, schools and businesses on the core principles of safety, connection and problem-solving.

Presented by: Rozlyn Grant

Main Topic: Guidance/Challenging Behavior

OA Approved

KEYNOTE

How Music Can Help Create a Sense of Normalcy in "Interesting" Times

Premiered on Friday, April 23, 7:00 - 8:00 pm

Right now, we all need access to feelings of safety and community to reset our hearts to places that bring us shared joy and connection. Join Red Grammar in exploring strategies and resources to reset the emotional classroom environment. You will leave ready and equipped to bring joy and harmony to your classroom community.

Presented by: Red Grammer

Main Topic: Music & Movement

OA Approved

Sessions that premiered on

SATURDAY, APRIL 24

Movement Based Learning

Premiered on Saturday, April 24, 8:00 - 9:00 am

Participants will learn how infants and young children learn best through movement and how movement increases brain activity.

Presented by: Michelle Huff

Main Topic: Physical growth & Development

OA Approved

Enhancing Brain Development for Infants and Young Children

Premiered on Saturday, April 24, 8:00 - 9:00 am

This presentation explains how brain development from prenatal to age 8 is enhanced by activities that educators and caregivers can use to foster children's cognitive growth. The presenters begin with basics of brain development and provide information specific to infant, toddler, preschool, and kindergarten to primary age levels. Educational activities related to physical, language, social, emotional, cognitive, and academic progress relevant to brain development and modifications for young children with disabilities are major focus. Contemporary issues related to young children, including how technology-augmented experiences may positively and negatively affect children's brain development are included.

Presented by: Doris Bergen, Lena Lee

Main Topic: Cognitive Development

Beyond Baby Shark: Embracing Diverse Family Structures
Premiered on Saturday, April 24, 8:00 - 9:00 am
Not every family has Baby Shark, Mommy Shark, and Daddy Shark! In order to be welcoming and supportive of all children in our care, we need to evaluate how we are welcoming and supporting families. Practice ways to evaluate programs and classrooms, and gain resources for making your space safe for all families.

Presented by: Lydia Bowers
Main Topic: Equity/Antibias/Ethics
OA Approved

FEATURED SESSION
Family Child Care Mentoring: Growing Leaders
Premiered on Saturday, April 24, 8:00 - 9:30 am
The biggest misconception about being a leader is that you are the one in front of everyone else. The truth is, great leaders never take the front seat but do all they can to provide support from behind, get out of the way when they witness growth in others, and shine a spotlight on those who do great things. Join us for an interactive session on building leadership skills in order to support others. We'll start with you: building your own leadership skills including building relationships, clear communication and uncovering the creative ideas of others. Then we'll cover what you are hoping to inspire in others: professionalism in early childhood, including a professional attitude and image, marketing and business skill and operating a quality program. Let's grow some leaders!

Presented by: Patricia Dischler
Main Topic: Family Child Care/Professionalism & Leadership
OA Approved

FEATURED SESSION
Supporting Social Emotional Development for a Foundation of Learning
Premiered on Saturday, April 24, 8:00 - 9:30 am
During this session, we will discuss our role in a young child's development and how it connects to social emotional skills. We will consider brain development when defining ourselves as facilitators of social emotional development and employ hands on strategies that support a child's independence.

Presented by: Ron Mohl
Main Topic: Social Emotional Development
OA Approved

Trauma Competent Care- Trauma and It's Impact on the Life of a Child, Part 1
Premiered on Saturday, April 24, 8:00 - 9:30 am
Children who have experience trauma are 15x more likely to attempt suicide, 10x more likely to experience behavior problems, 10x more likely to have learning disabilities, 4x more likely to have drugs or alcohol problems, 3x more likely to experience depression, and 2x more likely to experience poverty. However, research also shows that just one positive adult can change things around. As ECE professionals we are perfectly set up to be that positive adult in the life of a child. In module 1, we will learn what trauma is, how it affects development, and what it means to be a trauma competent care giver.

Presented by: Kaleena Wiseman
Main Topic: Trauma Informed Care
OA Approved

Note: Must attend both parts to receive OA Credit.

So Much More than Sticks and Stones: An Introduction to Nature Based Learning
Premiered on Saturday, April 24, 8:00 - 9:30 am
During this hands-on session, participants will explore concepts of 'nature pedagogy' or nature based learning and how to incorporate more nature based activities into the daily curriculum. This session is for early childhood educators interested in incorporating more nature related play and experiences into their program, and especially for programs that have or are hoping to have a nature based outdoor space. Strategies shared apply to children of all ages.

Presented by: Katie Krause
Main Topic: Nature Based Education
OA Approved

Risk -Taking Through Play
Premiered on Saturday, April 24, 8:00 - 9:30 am
While many adults may be risk-averse, children need to experience and experiment with risk in order to learn about themselves, their peers and the world around them. Learn to see social risk-taking such as rejection and not-sharing as valuable and healthy learning experiences. Examine ways that children take emotional risks in our presence when they separate from their loved ones or get mad, and ways that we can both help the children through those feelings while letting them know that they and their feelings are acceptable to us. Hint: it's not by saying, "You're okay!" Through anecdotes, videos, and photos, the presenters will share how the model program supports children as they take risks, and supports teachers as they grow to be comfortable with those risks.

Presented by: Susan Roscigno, Amy Rudawsky
Main Topic: Child Development & Learning
Through Play
OA Approved

Essential Elements for Successful Inclusion
Premiered on Saturday, April 24, 8:00 - 9:30 am
Have you ever struggled to include a child into the everyday routines of your classroom? To truly create an inclusive environment, a classroom must embrace children of varying abilities, delays, or who are medically fragile. Ingredients for a successful recipe include: Exploring your attitude, defining what true inclusion involves, resolving myths, and the realistic expectations regarding people with disabilities.

Presented by: Tricia Streharsky
Main Topic: Children with Disabilities/Early Intervention/Inclusion
OA Approved

"It's Time for a Conversation!": Building Classroom Community through Conversation
Premiered on Saturday, April 24, 8:00 - 9:30 am
Utilizing conversations to engage children can impact language development while building a strong sense of belonging in the classroom. How can we make our daily conversations count? This session will give participants a better understanding of the benefits of conversation and the importance of having a strong sense of unity within the classroom. Take back strategies to implement in small and large group conversations to build vocabulary and community.

Presented by: Vanessa Shrontz
Main Topic: Language & Literacy Development

Math Games...As Easy As 1, 2, 3
Premiered on Saturday, April 24, 8:00 - 9:30 am
Get ready to construct math number games that are easy-to-make, educational and just plain fun for the children! We will take a look at why game playing is so effective for math learning and then use this knowledge for practical application in our programs.

Presented by: Jane Holtgrefe
Main Topic: Math
OA Approved

FEATURED SESSION
Zen & the Art of Early Childhood Education
Premiered on Saturday, April 24, 8:00 -9:30 am
Join Richard as he shares his story and discusses the foundational components of our work with young children. We will reflect together (via Zoom's Chat feature) on why we choose play, why reflection and intentionality are critical to our work and why we choose to give young children meaningful learning experiences. What does it mean to place ourselves in positions of service? How do we balance our humanity and our professionalism in an ever-changing world? How are we community builders? This session will provoke your thinking, engage your emotions and nourish your spirit!

Presented by: Richard Cohen
Main Topic: Educator Self-Care
OA Approved

FEATURED SESSION
Strategies for Developing Number Concepts
Premiered on
Saturday, April 24, 10:00 - 11:00 am
Teaching early math skills can often be difficult because early math skills seem so simple to adults. However, when educators understand the complex interactions of cognitive development and math, early math skills become deep and interesting to teach. This session will provide a foundational understanding of complexities behind formulating a concept of number and along with every day strategies that can be used to support young children's math development.

Presented by: Cody Summerville
Main Topic: Math
OA Approved

FEATURED SESSION
Creating a Sense of Belonging
Premiered on
Saturday, April 24, 10:00 - 11:00 am
As early childhood educators we plan for the arts, cognitive learning, daily routines and more. Do we consider how we create experiences that provide for a sense of belonging? This presentation will define what belonging is and examine classroom rituals that support a sense of belonging. We will discuss curriculum that supports children's needs and the environments that encourage growth and development. Your role as an early childhood educator is to help children feel included. If you are concerned about how that happens come join us in creating a sense of belonging.

Presented by: Dan Hodgins
Main Topic: Social Emotional Development
OA Approved

FEATURED SESSION
Adapting Active Music... Let's Go!
Premiered on
Saturday, April 24, 10:00 - 11:00 am
Participants will experience fast-paced fun with active movement songs for toddlers-early elementary and learn ways to modify them for various ages and populations. Also, how about an active movement song that helps kids process emotions? Get ready to move with Miss Gail for 60 minutes! Join even if you don't feel like you have much energy or physical capacity .... you'll discover some great tips on how to lead these songs anyway!

Presented by: Gail Burnett
Main Topic: Music & Movement
OA Approved

Making Connections from a Distance
Premiered on
Saturday, April 24, 10:00 - 11:00 am
Participants will discuss how to implement strategies and practices in classrooms that are socially distancing or being held virtually and how to encourage social emotional skills at home through greetings, safe places, I Love You Rituals and so on.

Presented by: Staci Edwards, Tiffany Williams, Jeffri Saup
Main Topic: Social Emotional Development
OA Approved

Reaching Parents in the Age of COVID
Premiered on
Saturday, April 24, 10:00 - 11:00 am
Learn to use Zoom as a parent engagement tool. We will review the Zoom platform, hosting tips and tricks, breakout rooms, polls, and more!

Presented by: Crystal Taylor
Main Topic: Family Engagement & Support

FEATURED SESSION
Family Child Care- Your Space/Their Space: Creating Inspirational Environments
Premiered on
Saturday, April 24, 10:00 - 11:30 am
A child care space needs to do so much – support education, inspire, provide safety, minimize conflicts. Yet it should do even more – reflect the personalities of those who are in it! Learn how to create a space that not only supports the goals for the children – but supports those who teach in it as well! The children deserve a great place to learn – and you deserve a great place to work!

Presented by: Patricia Dischler
Main Topic: Family Child Care/Learning Environments
OA Approved

If Only I Could Work for a Mouse!
Premiered on
Saturday, April 24, 10:00 - 11:30 am
Have you ever wanted to work at the “happiest place on Earth”? Do you wish that your employees could come to work with a smile on their face every day and truly enjoy the work they do daily? Find out how to use the “Lessons from a Mouse” and what happened within our school community when we implemented the ten lessons learned. Pump up the fun, support

each other, and in doing so, support children and families!

Presented by: Amanda Hedrick, Amber Hall
Main Topic: Program Administration/Evaluation
OA Approved

Say, Sing & Sign! How ASL, Combines with Music Benefits Infants and Toddlers
Premiered on
Saturday, April 24, 10:00 - 11:30 am
This fun ASL workshop will provide participants with powerful concepts and insights on how to use American Sign Language combined with songs and activities to foster early communication and strengthen early learning for babies and toddlers. American Sign Language is used across the U.S. to provide hearing children with a way to communicate, increase their vocabulary, and stimulate brain development. No previous signing or singing ability is necessary. This workshop offers practical information based on research and real life experience.

Presented by: Georgia Frawley Ken Frawley
Main Topic: Music & Movement
OA Approved

Incorporating Art into Early Literacy Development
Premiered on
Saturday, April 24, 10:00 - 11:30 am
Sydney Gurwitz Clemens said “Art has the role in education of helping children become like themselves instead of more like everyone else.” This session will emphasize the importance of art in early literacy instruction as well as provide "make it, take it" projects you can take back and incorporate in your own classrooms. Come ready to participate and share ideas.

Presented by: Hayley Venturino, Elisabeth Mapes
Main Topic: Language & Literacy Development
OA Approved

How to Use Mindfulness and Yoga to Help Preschoolers Regulate their Emotions
Premiered on
Saturday, April 24, 10:00 - 11:30 am
Join Youth Yoga Project for a session where you will learn evidence-based yoga and mindfulness tools that help preschoolers learn self-regulation skills. The workshop will include breathing, movement and relaxation strategies that can be used in the classroom setting.

Presented by: Lauren Greenspan, Julia Handelman
Main Topic: Social Emotional Development

Trauma Competent Care- Trauma and It's Impact on the Life of a Child, Part 2
Premiered on
Saturday, April 24, 10:00 - 11:30 am
Children who have experience trauma are 15x more likely to attempt suicide, 10x more likely to experience behavior problems, 10x more likely to have learning disabilities, 4x more likely to have drugs or alcohol problems, 3x more likely to experience depression, and 2x more likely to experience poverty. However, research also shows that just one positive adult can change things around. As ECE professionals we are perfectly set up to be that positive adult in the life of a child. In module 1, we will learn what trauma is, how it affects development, and what it means to be a trauma competent care giver.

Presented by: Kaleena Wiseman
Main Topic: Trauma Informed Care
OA Approved

Note: Must attend both part to receive OA Credit.

Outdoor Learning to Increase Resiliency- Online!
Premiered on
Saturday, April 24, 10:00 - 11:30 am
In this training participants will investigate why nature education is integral in early childhood education. Participants will explore their own history with nature and examine their own comfort levels. Together, we will create a continuum of nature usage in the classroom, identify where individuals currently fall on this continuum and where they want to be. Each participant will then create a plan that includes setting a goal, identifying roadblocks and resources and success.

Presented by: Meredith Florkey
Main Topic: Nature Based Education
OA Approved

KEYNOTE
Self-Care: Strategies To Take Care of Yourself So You Can Care for Others
Premiered on
Saturday, April 24, 1:00 - 2:00 pm
"Self-care means giving the world the best of yourself instead of what's left." – Katie Reed. Ron will help attendees discover what self-care looks like and why early childhood educators need to make it a priority. Learn how to overcome barriers and understand the benefits of utilizing strategies from practicing mindfulness, inner-talk and both growth and strategic mindsets. Modeling taking good care of ourselves creates a learning environment where children can connect and social emotional development is supported.

Presented by: Ron Mohl
Main Topic: Educator Self-Care
OA Approved

FEATURED SESSION
Transforming Early Childhood Education by Cultivating Mindfulness
Premiered on Saturday, April 24, 2:30 - 3:30 pm
Teaching mindfulness practices in early childhood classrooms allows young children to be creative, live in the present moment, and develop the positive winning strengths they need for success in the future. This workshop will discuss the origin and benefits of using mindfulness with young children. Given the importance of social and emotional competence and confidence in early childhood, mindfulness practices can enhance the wonder and exploration of young learners.

Presented by: Kathleen Harris, Melissa Tamburriono
Main Topic: Social Emotional Development

FEATURED SESSION

BAG OF TRICKS! Transition Tools & Tips

Premiered on Saturday, April 24, 2:30 - 3:30 pm

You don't have to be a magician to create transitions that help young children move smoothly and joyfully from one activity to the next. Add to your collection of quick and entertaining learning activities to facilitate transitions with children. These "in-between-activity" times are valuable teachable moments.

Presented by: Sharron Krull

Main Topic: Music & Movement

OA Approved

Tips to Soothe the Traumatic Soul

Premiered on Saturday, April 24, 2:30 - 3:30 pm

This session will introduce the participant to possible root causes of challenging behavior and identify a variety of environmental aids and movement options to calm children.

Presented by: Julie Toney

Main Topic: Guidance/Challenging Behavior

Shared Reading, Writing, Singing, and Dancing

Premiered on Saturday, April 24, 2:30 - 3:30 pm

Using songs as Shared Reading texts, children 3-6 years old learn literacy skills, and have a lot of fun. Zipper songs provide an opportunity for modeled, interactive, or independent writing, depending on the level of the student. Join us to learn some super-fun songs that you and your kids will love, and discover new avenues into literacy. Let's sing into reading!

Presented by: Risa Beth Cohen, M.S.Ed.

Main Topic: Language & Literacy Development

Just Breathe! Use Belly Breathing to Calm Children's Brains and Get Them Ready to Learn

Premiered on Saturday, April 24, 2:30 - 3:30 pm

Stressed, anxious, or upset children find it difficult, if not impossible, to learn. When children experience BIG feelings, the lower parts of the brain take over, causing the thinking/learning part of the brain to become temporarily "out of order." Belly breathing is a simple, but amazingly effective tool that can help young children calm themselves when BIG feelings arise and get themselves back into a learning frame of mind. Participants of this session will learn how to make belly breathing a part of their daily routine.

Presented by: Nicki Patton Rowe

Main Topic: Social Emotional Development

Teaching With A Side Of Sprinkles

Premiered on Saturday, April 24, 2:30 - 3:30 pm

How are you spreading your teaching sprinkles? S..Self/Strength P..Passion R..Respect I..Inspiration N..Navigate K..Knowledge L..Love. E.. Exceptional S.. Superpower. Calling all Administrators...Teachers and Educators... This session is all about YOU!! How do we connect with each other....children and our families? Relationships are the most important aspect in relating and teaching one another. Learn hands on strategies to enhance your mindset to create a phenomenal environment for staff...children and families. This session is high energy and empowering!!

Presented by: Wendy Norris

Main Topic: Educator Self-Care

Read It Again-I/T!: An Infant-Toddler Curriculum Supplement to Promote Language and Literacy Foundations
Premiered on Saturday, April 24, 2:30 - 3:30 pm
Read It Again-I/T! is a curricular supplement designed to develop and strengthen young children's early foundations in language and literacy. Read It Again-I/T! provides a systematic, explicit, and flexible approach to building children's skills in four key areas of language and literacy: vocabulary, narrative, phonological awareness, and print knowledge. This session will discuss literacy foundations and how Read It Again-I/T! can promote language and literacy foundations in the classroom.

Presented by: Samantha J. Peterson
Main Topic: Language & Literacy Development
OA Approved

What's Your Story and Why is it Important? (Family Care Providers Empowered)
Premiered on Saturday, April 24, 2:30 - 3:30 pm
Do you ever feel burnt out and want to leave the field because people do not appreciate all you do for children and families? Participate in this interactive session and discover a unique way to illustrate your story and emphasize the importance of your work to parents and colleagues. Learn how to identify competencies, core knowledges, and support systems that will help your business flourish. As our field is beginning to be recognized as a profession, our work cannot be accomplished in isolation.

Presented by: MaryBeth Bush, Ronnie Steinbeck
Main Topic: Family Child Care/Self-Care
OA Approved

Essential Elements for Family Conversations
Premiered on Saturday, April 24, 2:30 - 4:00 pm
Participants will explore and reflect on having quality conversations with families when there is a suspected delay or disability. Strategies on how to prepare for a difficult conversation and techniques to use to strengthen and support successful collaboration, without judgement of the families' various reactions or decisions will be provided. Participants will also be given tips to work with families and consider all cultures, backgrounds, and types of families.

Presented by: Tricia Streharsky
Main Topic: Family Engagement & Support
OA Approved

Using Reggio Emilia Foundations to Support Development
Premiered on Saturday, April 24, 2:30 -3: 30 pm
Early educators have been studying the schools of Reggio Emilia, Italy for more nearly three decades. This presentation will identify how the main tenets of the Reggio Emilia Approach supports some of the most foundational skills in early education programming: language, literacy and social-emotional development. Objectives of the presentation include examining the main principles of the Reggio Emilia Approach and how these can be adapted to Ohio classrooms. Another objective of the presentation will relate how Reggio Emilia practices best support early literacy as outlined by Ohio's Plan for Literacy. Participants will also identify how Reggio Emilia principles support social emotional development in early learners.

Presented by: Anneliese Johnson
Main Topic: Reggio Based Principles

FEATURED SESSION

It's Cool to be Kind: Teaching Compassion Through Songs, Stories and Music Games

Premiered on Saturday, April 24, 2:30- 4:00 pm

Using songs, games and dramatized musical stories, participants will actively explore ways to expose children to the beauty and challenge of kind, compassionate communities. Take back resources to build an inclusive classroom where kindness is cool.

Presented by: Joanie Calem

Main Topic: Music & Movement

OA Approved

ENLIGHTENING SESSIONS

Enjoy these brief, "TED-Talk" style presentations. Day/time will be announced soon! OA Credit is not available with enlightening sessions.

Elevate: Circle Time and Transitions!

Is your classroom Circle Time bordering on boring? Learn ways to keep even the youngest' attention and make the learning piece of circle time more effective and FUN!

Presented by: Gail Burnett

Engaging Preschoolers during Virtual Learning

Are you an early childhood educator trying to navigate the world of Virtual Learning? Do you feel alone or unsure of where and how to get started? In this session, Julie shares her journey from a classroom preschool teacher and intervention specialist to a virtual preschool teacher and intervention specialist. Julie shares ideas that have worked in her virtual class. She will share routines for large and small group activities, tips for staying organized and for self care.

Presented by: Julie Wilmer

Empowering Educators Everywhere

This training provides strategies to empower educators in this changing field such as relating to others and other cultures, developing relationships, utilizing our unique creativity, passions, talents--all while putting in the hard work needed.

Presented by: Candice Simon

TEACH Early Childhood OHIO and POWER Ohio Overview
Participants will be provided with eligibility, program information and application next steps.

Presented by: Judith Santmire

Transportation: Let's Utilize It
Educational session geared towards Ohio childcare providers to prepare them for the financial aspects of providing childcare transportation.

Presented by: Adam Prestifilippo

Let's teach outside!
Do you want your students to spend more time outside, but overwhelmed? We'll discuss some tried and true tips from a Nature-Based Early Childhood Educator (preschool that's 75% outside). You will leave with go to activities you can do next week that relate to curriculum!

Presented by: Meredith Florkey

"I Spy" an Engaging Virtual Classroom
Participants will role play activities and strategies to increase and maintain attention in virtual classrooms.

Presented by: Brittany Meyers & Daisy Bonet

Interactive Visuals for Zoom Home Visits
Participants will role play using visuals to increase parent and child participation in virtual home visits. Activities include social emotional, patterning, and categorization.

Presented by: Brittany Meyers & Daisy Bonet

Home Visitor, Parent and Child Relationship: Making the most of your visit
Come learn hands on strategies on how to make the most of your visit. Creating ways to have parents fully engaged from beginning to end.

Presented by: Nyree Haney

Preschool Special Ed 101
An overview of preschool special education in Ohio including referrals, eligibility requirements, and continuum of services.

Presented by: Krystal McFarland

Virtual PBIS
During this Enlighten session, Colleen will provide a brief overview of Positive Behavior Intervention Supports. Participants will learn how to implement strategies for PBIS while teaching virtually. Colleen will share how strategies are being implemented in virtual preschool and kindergarten classes.

Elmer Art and Literacy Lesson
Denyse Carbonell
Draw with Denyse Step-by-Step with pencil, paper, crayons and markers. She will also read the Elmer book.

Enlightening Sessions Continued

New Role for The Infant Toddler Caregiver
In light of this growing body of research, there is emerging and dramatic new view of the infant toddler teacher. Neither babysitter nor trainer- but instead a loving facilitator of the child's learning agenda to gain emotional, cognitive, language, physical and social competence.

Presented by: Tonya Byous

15 Books in 15 Minutes
Participants will be introduced to 15 engaging children's books they can use to build meaningful, culturally relevant curriculum.

Presented by: Maggie Spangler

Advancing Equity in Early Childhood Education Position Statement
All children have the right to equitable learning opportunities that help them achieve their full potential as engaged learners and valued members of society. Thus, all early childhood educators have a professional obligation to advance equity. They can do this best when they are effectively supported by the early learning settings in which they work and when they and their wider communities embrace diversity and full inclusion as strengths, uphold fundamental principles of fairness and justice, and work to eliminate structural inequities that limit equitable learning opportunities.

Presented by: Elisa Huss-Hage

The Early Childhood Conference

A Spectacular Virtual Experience

Register Today!

www.oaeyc.org/conference