



*3rd Annual ECD Conference 2010
PUTTING CHILDREN FIRST
LEARN, LOVE, PLAY - SESSION OUTLINES*

Pre-Conference Complimentary Speaker Session

Thursday, April 8, 2010 – 7:00p.m.

Sarah Fewson, from The HighScope Educational Research Foundation

Wondering how to best prepare children for “big school”? This workshop will explore how the HighScope curriculum supports children as they move from early childcare settings to kindergarten. We will examine how HighScope supports social-emotional development through fostering independent decision makers, capable planners, problem solvers, as well as children who have access to early math and language development. You will leave this workshop with an understanding of how a quality early childhood experiences such as HighScope encourages school readiness.

Friday April 9, 2010

9.00am – 10.30am

*Plenary Session – Barbara Karmazyn
“Boost the Brain with Creative Expression”*

Nurturing the child’s natural abilities to sing, tell stories, dance, make art and music enhances the healthy development of the brain. Topics covered in this presentation include: the link between artistic expression and brain development; stages of the creative process; components of stimulating and supportive environments; and the value and importance of exploration, process and discovery.

10.45 - 12.45am

A1 – Jeff Hay, Father/Professional Speaker
“My Daddy, My Caddy”

When your child is in trouble, are they running away from Dad or running towards him? Today, fathers are becoming more and more involved in the early years of their child’s life – moving from the lonely role of PUNISHER/Protector to the exciting roles of NURTURER, PLAYMATE, and MENTOR. By letting go of the traditional ‘role’ of the father, today’s dads are creating a greater connection and stronger relationship with their child. This fun workshop focusing on relationship building strategies - exploring vital topics such as “Encouragement vs. Praise”, “Discipline vs. Punishment”, “Shifting Dad’s role from ‘POWER OVER’ to ‘POWER TO’”, and the “Poker Chip” theory of self esteem building. Come explore new ideas and simple approaches that may forever change your family and help you become the fantastic father you want to be.

A2 – Barbara Karmazyn, Early Childhood Educator
“Tell Me a Story/Make Me a Story”

Discover simple and practical methods to engage and hold children’s attention during story time. Learn a variety of techniques to make up stories with children and how to bring the story to life through dramatic play.

A3, B3, C3 – Sarah Fewson, from The HighScope Educational Research Foundation
“Numbers Plus”

(HighScope Stream) This full day training will explore the HighScope *Numbers Plus Preschool Mathematics Curriculum*. An exciting way to teach math to young children!

The *Numbers Plus Preschool Mathematics Curriculum* is a comprehensive set of detailed plans for small- and large-group early childhood mathematics activities, with ideas for extending learning throughout the program day. What’s special about *Numbers Plus* is that children’s mathematical learning is sequenced within activities — each activity has a built-in progression so children of different developmental and ability levels can participate together and have a positive and meaningful learning experience. By actively engaging young children with materials and ideas, *Numbers Plus* builds on the latest knowledge from research and practice about early mathematics learning and how adults support it.

Aligned with the standards of the National Council of Teachers of Mathematics, and developed under a grant from the Institute of Education Sciences, U.S. Department of Education, *Numbers Plus* is divided into five content areas:

- Number Sense and Operations
- Geometry
- Measurement
- Algebra
- Data Analysis

Teachers will learn about the importance of math in the early childhood classroom, explore the curriculum content and learn how to incorporate *Numbers Plus* into their active learning classroom.

1.45 – 3.15pm

***B1 – Jeff Hay, Father/Professional Speaker
“Sex, Love & Diapers”***

Wouldn't life be great if we could learn to laugh more, argue less, and communicate better as your family grows? This fun and amusing workshop will look at some of the “challenges” and changes in Dad's (and Mom's) life when children arrive.

Together we will explore the 5 Love Languages, the Top “Relationship” Issues for Men and Women, Scorekeeping 101 and other Survival tips (“Hey, you aren't the only Dad/Mom that has felt THAT way”). Many fun discussions await in this popular workshop. Get ready to laugh, learn how to keep your sanity AND your marriage bond strong as we delve into Sex, Love and Diapers...

***B2 – Tara Leigh Cain, Occupational Therapist, Sea to Sky Community Services
“Fine Motor Development”***

Some kids progress naturally through their developmental milestones while other kids require assistance each step of the way. This presentation will review the fine motor development milestones and provide ideas and techniques for our kids who need the extra help.

3.30 – 5.00pm

***C1 – Joanne Schroeder, Provincial Community Development Manager, Human Early Learning Partnership
“15 by 15 A comprehensive Policy Framework for Early Human Capital Investment in BC”***

The presentation will provide an overview of 10 years of monitoring early child development outcomes at the level of the population in B.C, providing detailed information on childhood vulnerability in neighborhoods in the Sea to Sky Corridor.

The content will then focus on what needs doing to reduce childhood vulnerability in B.C to 15% by the year 2015. The “15 by 15” framework is a comprehensive approach to family policy providing parents and caregivers with the time, resources and community supports they need to care for their children, while at the same time building B.C's economy.

C2 – Dr. Kimberly Schonert-Reichl – Social-Emotional Development in Young Children- Building Resiliency

How do young children develop resiliency and how can we as parents, educators and community members support our children's social-emotional development so that they are better prepared to deal with social-emotional issues in the preschool and elementary environments.

Saturday April 10, 2010

9:00 am – 10:00 am

Keynote Address

Dr. Kimberly Schonert-Reichl

Associate Professor in the Department of Educational and Counseling Psychology

Understanding the factors that young children need to be successful in school and in life has long been an important objective for researchers, parents, and early childhood educators interested in the promotion of competence and the prevention of educational and psychological maladjustment. This presentation will highlight the critical role that emotions and emotional processes, such as emotional understanding and emotional regulation, play in children's school readiness. Dr. Schonert-Reichl will review groundbreaking research that has emerged in recent years that demonstrates that children who enter kindergarten with social-emotional competence develop more positive school attitudes, better peer relationships, and positive school achievement in contrast to their peers who lack such competencies (e.g., Ladd, Birch, & Buhs, 1999). Additionally, she will provide a brief description of prevention programs aimed at enhancing the social and emotional competence of pre-school aged children and will describe common purposes of evaluation and the types of evaluation that can be conducted in the area of social competence promotion programs for preschool-aged children. A discussion of both theoretical and practical implications for the promotion of young children's social and emotional competence will be put forth.

10.15 -12.15pm

D1 – - Barbara Karmazyn, Early Childhood Educator
“Brain Dance”

Developed by Dance Educator, Anne Green Gilbert, the Brain Dance is a “series of exercises, comprised of eight fundamental movement patterns that we move through in the first year of life. Research has shown that these patterns are crucial to the wiring of the central nervous system, and lay the foundation for sensory-motor development and life long learning”. Barbara introduces the patterns and presents a variety of ways to incorporate the Brain Dance into your day.

D2 – Keith Condlife, Naturopathic Doctor, The Awen Health Centre
“Creating Health Through Food, Sound and Rhythm”

In this workshop, participants experience the connections between food and body rhythms, sound and healing, and sleep and intuition, through a series of play-based activities. These connections enlighten daily challenges in the developing minds of young people. Rediscover 7 simple ways to support healthy immune system development in children, and self-care among caregivers.

D3 – Karin Johnson, Trainer HighScope
“That’s Not My Mess” Surviving Clean Up Time

(HighScope Stream) Clean up time is often the most challenging and longest transition of the day in a classroom. In the High Scope curriculum, shared control is central to how children and adults interact. In this workshop we will examine adults own beliefs about clean up time, decide upon realistic expectations of children during transitions and develop strategies for sharing control during clean up time.

1:15 – 2:45p.m.

E1 - Barb Mathieson, Early Childhood Education Department
"What's the Rush"

Why are parents feeling pressure to replace play with academics in the lives of their preschool age children? Where is this pressure coming from and how can we support parents in advocating for play. What are the expectations of the Kindergarten curriculum and how will play help our children be ready for school success?

E2 – Cathy Goddard, Lighthouse Visionary Strategies
Aligning Values to Create Life Balance

Alignment with your values is paramount to a harmonious professional and personal life. This introspective workshop will inspire you to make the connection between what matters most to you and how to integrate it into a balanced approach to life. Simple techniques will have you transforming your goals into action.

E3 - Caroline Thompson, HighScope Music and Movement Teacher
"Music & Movement With Young Children"

(HighScope Stream)Strategies for students and educators on how to engage children in purposeful movement during large group time. Exploring ways to move to music using locomotor and nonlocomotor movements by using the active learning approach. Incorporating visuals ,using attending statements, moving with objects and hands on materials during large group times and using simplifying and separating techniques to allow children to be successful .

3.00 – 5.00pm

Closing Session (all delegates)
Vince Gowman, Founder of Remembering to Play Events
"Remembering to Play. Engagement & Self Care"

Remembering to play is a fun, interactive and experimental workshop. It is rooted in the power of saying Yes And (versus Yes But) as a self-awareness and communication tool. In this case we are saying Yes And to our unique expression of play and its potential to transform ourselves, our relationships and community.

Participants learn using various forms of creative expression (movement, art, music, storytelling and more), as well as written material and open discussions.