Early Childhood Educational Conference

Tropical Paradise

SPLASH 2016
July 21-23, 2016

The Gaylord Texan Resort
Grapevine, Texas

Register Now To Reserve Your Space!
General Information
You are invited to join early childhood educators from across the nation for our 24th annual professional development event, SUMMER SPLASH 2016. Frog Street’s Splash Conference provides the perfect venue for both experienced and novice educators to acquire new knowledge and build school success for young learners. Share the information and register your entire group for this educational team-building experience. Our Frog Street team considers it an honor for educators to participate in this conference to enhance the learning experience for our children and to positively impact the next generation. Hope to see you at Splash 2016!

Your Friends at Frog Street

Splash Participants Receive:
- Conference Bag
- Splash T-Shirt
- Ticket to Awards Dinner
- Door Prizes

What is Summer Splash?
Frog Street’s early childhood educational conference is an exceptional professional learning experience for all educators of young children. Internationally recognized keynote speakers, professional consultants, expert classroom teachers, and musicians create this outstanding professional development event. Splash conference sessions are targeted to present appropriate instructional techniques using research-based topics and current educational trends. Numerous exhibitors and motivational events throughout the conference promise to inspire educators and strengthen their passion for teaching our youngest learners.

Who should attend Splash Educational Conference?
Early childhood teachers, administrators, and directors who want to renew awareness and learn new early childhood strategies will benefit from Frog Street’s Splash Conference. The enthusiastic atmosphere provides an enjoyable team-building opportunity when educators attend with others from their campus as well as those throughout the nation. Sessions are designed with a specific focus for teachers who work in areas of Infant, Toddler, Pre-K, Kindergarten, First Grade, Special Education, ESL, Bilingual, ELL, Early Head Start, Head Start, Childcare, Private Preschool, or Home School settings.

When and where is Summer Splash?
SUMMER SPLASH CONFERENCE • July 21–July 23, 2016 • Gaylord Texan, Grapevine, TX. Hotel reservations must be made directly with the hotel at https://resweb.passkey.com/go/FrogStreetPressJul2016. Gaylord Texan Resort & Convention Center, 1501 Gaylord Trail, Grapevine, TX 76051, Phone: 877-491-5138. Gaylord Texan room rate for Frog Street Press Summer Splash is $182. Deadline for room rate is June 29, 2016. Self-parking is $10 per day.

What Is The Professional Learning Institute?
The Professional Learning Institute is a full-day option targeting Administrators, Curriculum Specialists and Directors. Participants may select from topics and sessions to enhance a deeper awareness of current subject matter. Sessions are led by veteran speakers who specialize and have expertise in Early Childhood Education. Participants may choose one session and will receive 6 hours of continuing education credit for attending this session. There is an additional fee of $199 for the Professional Learning Institute.

What are the Frog Street Curriculum training sessions?
Frog Street Infant, Frog Street Toddler, Frog Street Threes, and FSPK curriculum program trainings are half-day pre-conference sessions that take place simultaneously from 8:00 am-12:00 pm on Thursday, July 21st, prior to the Splash Conference Opening Celebration. Each session is designed for those who have purchased the FSPK Curriculum, Frog Street Threes, Frog Street Toddler, or Frog Street Infant. These in-depth training sessions will provide an overview of each program and how to use it effectively in the classroom. Attendance certificate for 4 credit hours will be issued. There is an additional fee of $49 for Frog Street Curriculum Training.

What is the Make & Take Session?
The Make & Take Session is a half-day pre-conference session that takes place from 1:00-5:00 pm on Thursday, July 21st, prior to the Splash Conference Opening Celebration. Participants rotate through three exciting presentations during this 4-hour session and receive a Frog Street supply kit, product package, and materials to design purposeful activities for immediate classroom use. Attendance certificate for 4 credit hours will be issued for those who register and attend. There is an additional $99 fee for the Make & Take session. Space is limited and available only for those who attend Splash.

Fanny Frog’s Dinner and Awards Event
Be our guest on Friday evening at this year’s Tropical Paradise Dinner Celebration! Door prizes will be given as well as surprises sure to make this evening a highlight!

www.frogstreet.com/splash
Frog Street Friendship Scholarship
Submit an application online to apply for this scholarship. The scholarship winner will be selected and receive a free Splash conference registration. Applications are available online at www.frogstreet.com.

Registration
Splash Registration is available online at www.frogstreet.com. If you are registering and making payment for more than one person, you will be the Splash contact coordinator for your group. Administrators may attend FREE with 6 paid registrations. Call the Frog Street office at 800-884-3764 for more information.

Splash Conference Cost And Payment
Registration before April 1, 2016:
$350 Splash Conference
Registration beginning April 1, 2016:
$375 Splash Conference
Pre-Conference Events
$199 Professional Learning Institute
$99 Make & Take Session (must attend Splash to purchase)
$49 FSPK Training • $49 Threes Training • $49 Toddler Training • $49 Infant Training
Payment must be made at time of registration by using a credit card, check, or a purchase order. You are officially registered when payment or purchase order has been received and confirmed by the Frog Street office.

Conference Attendance Certificates
Each participant will receive a certificate for 12 hours of Continuing Professional Education (CPE) for completing all sessions of the two-day Splash Conference. Participants who attend the Make and Take Session receive an additional certificate for 4 hours of Continuing Professional Education. Those who attend a Training Session receive an additional certificate for 4 hours of Continuing Professional Education. Those who attend the Professional Learning Institute will receive a certificate for 6 hours of Continuing Professional Education.

FAQs
Frequently asked Splash questions and answers are available at www.frogstreet.com.

Create Your Own Schedule - 5 Strand Options
Select sessions from 5 professional strands: Infant-Toddler, Pre-K Curriculum, General (Toddler through 2nd grade), K-1, Administrators
Strand type is indicated by the colored balloon for each presentation. Choose from over 90 educational sessions to design your personal conference agenda.
Integrating STEAM from Concept to Practice

Facilitator: Rhonda Trumbo
Rhonda Trumbo has been involved in various roles in education for over 20 years. She has held positions in nonprofit educational program management and early literacy initiatives. Mrs. Trumbo currently is a Read to Succeed, Instructional Coach (KDCDC). Rhonda’s mission is to encourage educators to bring joy back into the classroom by educating in creative and interactive strategies.

Session Description
Participants in this workshop will center themselves on the components of Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts and Mathematics. They will learn why STEAM is important and relevant to young children and adults. Furthermore, participants will discover daily STEAM learning opportunities in their classrooms! Using recycled material, cardboard and other basic classroom items, we will combine imaginative exploration with hands-on problem solving. Small groups will collaborate in the creation of simple machines, design cause & effect experiments, and build one-of-a-kind constructions; taking concept to practice and furthering the learning experience. Prepare for transformations as engagements ignite STEAM learning through exploration!

Conscious Discipline® - Creating Safe Brain Smart® Classrooms
Facilitator: Jill Molli
Jill is a “connector” for family needs. She began her teaching career in a behavior disabilities classroom, moved into a regular third grade classroom, and then completed her requirements as a guidance counselor. As the guidance counselor, Jill helped implement Conscious Discipline® school-wide using the 3 year implementation plan. She has a Master’s Degree in Counseling, a Bachelor of Arts in Elementary Education and 15 years of working with children with behavior problems. Since 2003, she has been the owner and operator of Connecting with Kids, a business whose mission is to build connections in families and classrooms. In an effort to stay current and up to date with recent issues in the classroom, Jill volunteers weekly in preschool and elementary settings and quarterly in an alternative high school. At her many programs, Jill proves herself a contagious source of enthusiasm and energy. It is with a heart full of joy that Jill shares the experiences, knowledge and guidance that Dr. Bailey’s techniques have afforded her in all areas of her life.

Family Engagement: Emphasizing the Home School Connections
Facilitator: Melissa Williamson
Melissa Williamson, M. Ed., is the Director of Curricula and Service Design for Family Service Association of San Antonio, Inc. She also joined the faculty of The University of Texas at San Antonio in 2015. In April of 2015 she was awarded the San Antonio Association for the Education of Young Children, Susan Hargrove Trainer of the Year. Her Master of Education was earned from Stephen F. Austin State University. With over 25 years’ experience in early education she continues to advocate for teachers, children, and families. She is most proud of her family, her husband Larry of 30 years and her two young adult children.

Session Description
Learn Conscious Discipline® brain model that will help you not only maintain self-control but teach it to all children, even those with special needs. In this workshop you will not only learn how to positively discipline children but literally change their brain chemistry in the process. This yields lasting changes in behavior, not temporary fixes. This session is great for parents and teachers! In this workshop you will learn:

• How the brain learns to self-regulate.
• How to literally “wire” children for self-control.
• How to move past your own “triggers” or hot buttons.
• How to create and implement a safe place in the classroom.
• How to create a safe keepers ritual.
• How to create effective routines that eliminate the majority of discipline problems.
• How to base your classroom on safety and use the language of safety.
• How to start the day the Brain Smart® way.

www.frogstreet.com/splash
Session Description:
How many times have you heard someone say – that’s not my job? Where are the parents? What is this teacher doing? This session will center on the importance of inclusion and connections as gaps are bridged between the home and school environments. The ultimate goal of creating and fostering partnerships will be center to the workshop. Participants will engage in hands-on activities and discussions that will empower them to view families as essential elements of their classroom environment; thereby transforming mindsets to engage both schools and communities. Additionally, participants will explore how family structure, culture, and special needs can be incorporated into thinking about building a dual capacity-building framework. Participants will create an outcome based family engagement plan for their school/program.

The Essentials of Intentional Coaching
Facilitator: Dr. Rena Hall
Dr. Rena Hall has been a leader in the educational arena for the past twenty years. She has held many positions in higher education, nonprofit management and within the federal government. Dr. Hall is currently serving as Director, Professional Learning with Frog Street Press. The programs under her purview are highly interactive and based upon a broad compendium of experimental and research approaches. Dr. Hall received her Bachelors of Arts Degree from the University of Tennessee, Knoxville, Master’s of Education Degree from Central Michigan University and a Doctoral Degree from Nova Southeastern University. Dr. Hall has authored several articles and performed research on various subjects related to early childhood education, leadership, professional development, military families, resiliency and parent education. Dr. Hall is the author of Peaks and Pitfalls: 7 Best Practices of Professional Development.

Session Description:
With the goals of increasing student engagement, improving student achievement, and building teacher capacity in schools; this session will focus on one-on-one and small group support for teachers, coaches, and school leaders centered on evidence-based instructional strategies and the intentional coaching process. Participants will engage in the exploration of intentional coaching, the various coaching methods, and the process of holding their team and themselves accountable. This session is highly interactive and encompasses reflective practices.

Intentional Teaching: Making Your Moments Count
Facilitator: Brain Mowry
Brian Mowry is the senior math author of the Frog Street Pre-K curriculum. He has served as a bilingual kindergarten and prekindergarten teacher for 11 years in the Austin Independent School District, and 13 years as a district level instructional specialist. He is a doctoral candidate in Curriculum and Instruction at the University of Texas at Austin.

Session Description:
How do children learn and grow? What are the items needed by teachers for successful implementation of instructional strategies or the chosen curricular? Intentional teaching does not happen by chance or through those infrequent teachable moments. This interactive workshop will explore the intentionality of teaching, emphasizing critical elements and components of early education that ensures optimal implementation and quality instruction. Strategies will be embedded to demonstrate core elements and the practicality of the intentional teaching concept.

Unlayering Developmentally Appropriate Practices for 3 – 5 year olds
Facilitator: Dr. Pam Schiller
Pam Schiller is a curriculum specialist and freelance author and speaker. Dr. Schiller has worked as a childcare administrator and has also taught in the public schools. She served as Head of the Early Childhood Department at the University of Houston, where she also directed the Lab School. Dr. Schiller shares her extensive knowledge in workshops, radio, and television interviews, and as a popular keynote speaker and author. She is the author of nine early childhood curriculums, including the internationally acclaimed Frog Street Pre-K, Frog Street Threes, Frog Street Toddler and Frog Street Infant programs. In addition, she has authored thirty-six children’s books, more than thirty teacher and parent resource books and a number of other creative projects such as activity books, DVDs and CDs. Pam lives in Cypress, Texas.

Session Description:
Developmentally Appropriate Practices is a framework designed to promote young children’s optimal learning and development. It is an approach to teaching grounded in the research on how young children develop and learn and in what is known about effective early education. This session will emphasize the core tenets of preschool developmentally appropriate practices and provide hands on experiences to ensure these techniques are transferred to classroom practices. Core components of the session will focus on implementation within the literacy and numeracy domains, small group instruction and read alouds.

800-884-3764
Frog Street Curriculum Trainings – 8:00 AM – 12:00 PM
These training sessions are available for Pre-K, Threes, Toddler, Infant, PPCD, Head Start and Early Head Start teachers of schools who have purchased the Frog Street Comprehensive Pre-K, Toddler, Threes (coming this Summer!), or Infant Curriculum. Join the Frog Street family as we prepare for the first week of instruction. Early Childhood Consultants will model lessons and instructional strategies, assist with lesson planning, and review the scope and sequence of instruction. Space is limited, so register early. An additional fee of $49 is required for attendance in this session and participants will select one of the four trainings to attend.

Frog Street Make & Take Session – 1:00 PM – 5:00 PM
Frog Street features Make & Take presentations by Steve Spangler, Dr. Jean Feldman, and Crystal Radke, prior to the opening of Splash. In this pre-conference session, you will enjoy three enthusiastic presentations, a fabulous Frog Street supply kit, and materials to design purposeful activities for immediate classroom use. Space is limited, so register early. An additional fee of $79 is required for attendance in this session and you must be registered for the Splash Conference to attend.

Pre-Conference and Opening Celebration

Steve Spangler
Englewood, CO

Hands-On Science Guaranteed To Get Ooohs & Ahhhs!
After missing out on all of the fun last year, Steve Spangler wants to personally be front and center at this year’s Make & Take extravaganza. Because Steve will be presenting the workshop, we can’t be responsible for what might happen…but we can guarantee that you’ll have a blast. Take home more than a dozen new ideas for connecting some of your favorite children’s literature to an assortment of eye-catching, hands-on science activities. Let Steve and his team re-energize your sense of wonder with activities that your children will love. Laugh a little and learn a lot!

Dr. Jean Feldman
Seabrook Island, SC

Game On
Purposeful Practice for Automaticity (aka repetition) is a key to skill mastery. But little kids just want to play and have fun. What’s the answer? Join Dr. Jean and make some games children will WANT to play again and again. Discover how to make your own games and adapt them for specific skills. Letters, numbers, shapes, and words will jump out at you and say, “Come on, let’s PLAY!”

Crystal Radke, Kreative in Kinder
Lorena, TX

Flip + Flop = A Math Splash Of Fun
Join Crystal in making three fun hands-on math activities that your students will adore. Light your tiki torch and put on your lei for a luau of math fun. This session adds up to super success for your students. You don’t want to miss it!

Splash 2016 Opening Celebration 6:00 – 9:00 Pm
The fun begins at 6:00 PM with Early Registration and Exhibit Hall Grand Opening. Munch and mingle throughout the Celebration while shopping with unique educational vendors to find the latest and greatest new items. Additional festivities continue at 7:00 PM with door prizes and our Kick-Off Opening Concert. Don Monopoli-The Learning Station, Stephen Fite-Melody House, and Shawn Brown-Super Fun Show, will provide the all-star entertainment.
Steve Spangler  
Englewood, CO
Steve Spangler returns to SPLASH and the people sitting in the front row know to purchase ponchos. You only have to spend a few minutes with him to realize Steve’s genuine passion for making science fun and creating the best day ever experiences. Whether he’s whipping up a cool new science experiment for the Ellen DeGeneres Show, producing a new YouTube video, or designing a hands-on science lesson for kids, Steve is always seeking out new ways to create unforgettable learning experiences. It’s no wonder that thousands of people follow him on Twitter, join the conversation on Facebook, and spend countless hours watching hundreds of his YouTube videos.

BEST DAY EVER - How to Create Unforgettable Learning Experiences
Amazing teachers turn ordinary moments into unforgettable learning experiences – the kind that kids talk about at the dinner table and remember for a lifetime. The secret to being an “amazing teacher” is to learn to see the invisible possibilities in each of our children and to fill their lives with wonder. So, get ready for Steve Spangler to turbo-charge your sense of wonder, rekindle your child-like enthusiasm for learning, and show you how to use the principles of building connections and engagement to create best day ever moments day after day.

Dr. Jean Feldman  
Seabrook Island, SC
Jean Feldman has over 40 years experience in education as a classroom teacher, author, and consultant. Dr. Feldman has an M.A. in Early Childhood and a PhD in Curriculum and Instruction. She is a member of the National Association for the Education of Young Children and is Early Childhood Professor in Residence at the College of Charleston. She has written over 20 books for early educators and has produced many CDs and DVDs for young children. Dr. Feldman inspires teachers around the globe with her engaging songs and creative activities that help make teaching and learning FUN!

Never Grow Up
Come sing, dance, play, and remember how joyful it can be to teach young children because we never have to grow up! Highlights will include: *Rise and shine with a smile and tune *Tricks to focus children's attention *Turning standards into a song *How to touch hearts and minds!

Kenneth Wesson  
San Jose, CA
A former college and university-level faculty member and administrator, Kenneth delivers keynote addresses on the neuroscience of learning for educational organizations and institutions throughout the United States and overseas. Wesson regularly addresses educational organizations, counseling associations, school districts and parenting organizations on the subject of “brain-considerate” learning environments. In addition to his speeches on the neuroscience of learning, Wesson speaks on the subjects of early brain development, design and engineering, STEM and STREAM, contextual learning, and curriculum development. Wesson also serves on the advisory board for the Korean Institute of Brain Science.

If It's Your Job to Develop Young Minds, Shouldn’t You Know How Their Brains Work?
In her book “What Is Going on in There,” neuroscientist Lise Eliot says that we owe it to our children to help them grow the best brains possible. The brain is not only the most complex organ in the human body, but this “three-pound universe” has also been described as the most complex object known to mankind. Understanding how the young brain learns will help educators design classrooms that are “Brain-considerate” - where we capitalize on the brain’s natural inclinations for learning. Young learners create meaning from content through what they do, when they are actively engaged in sense-making and constructing internal visual models of their world (not necessarily through listening, textbooks and tests). The mind becomes what the brain does.

Creativity and the Young Mind (Breakout Session)
Our test-driven focus on “right” answers prevents young learners from remaining creative and artistic as they become immersed in formal education. Researcher Jonathan Plucker found that an individual’s Creativity Quotient (“CQ”) is three times more accurate as a predictor of lifetime accomplishment than his/her IQ. Instead of teaching facts and memorization, shouldn’t the focus of contemporary education shift to creativity and innovative thinking?

Brad Meltzer  
Aventura, FL
Brad Meltzer is the #1 New York Times Bestselling author of The Inner Circle, The Book of Fate, and eight other bestselling thrillers. In addition to his fiction, Brad is one of the only authors to ever have books on the bestseller list for nonfiction (History Decoded), advice (Heroes for My Son and Heroes for My Daughter), children’s books (I Am Amelia Earhart and I am Abraham Lincoln) and even comic books (Justice League of America). He is also host of Brad Meltzer’s Decoded on the History Channel, and Brad Meltzer’s Lost History on H2. He currently lives in Florida. You can find much more about him at BradMeltzer.com. You can also see what he’s doing right now at Facebook.com/BradMeltzer and on Twitter@bradmeltzer.

What’s Your Legacy?
When the Wall Street Journal told Brad that one of his charitable acts would be in his obituary; it sent Brad on a quest to find out what else his legacy might be. Hear the funny, inspiring, and always entertaining story that will never let you look at your life the same way again. To see Brad’s incredible TED talk on this topic, go here: http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=zugliRwn6xU.
Dr. Pam Schiller
_Cypress, TX_

Pam Schiller is a curriculum specialist and freelance author and speaker. Dr. Schiller has worked as a childcare administrator and has also taught in the public schools. She served as Head of the Early Childhood Department at the University of Houston, where she also directed the Lab School. Dr. Schiller shares her extensive knowledge in workshops, radio, and television interviews, and as a popular keynote speaker and author. She is the author of nine early childhood curriculums, including the internationally acclaimed Frog Street Pre-K, Frog Street Threes, Frog Street Toddler and Frog Street Infant programs. In addition, she has authored thirty-six children's books, more than thirty teacher and parent resource books and a number of other creative projects such as activity books, DVDs and CDs. Pam lives in Cypress, Texas.

**Introducing Frog Street Threes**

Frog Street Threes is based on the same powerful cornerstones as all other Frog Street programs, Infant, Toddler and Pre-K. However, these cornerstones are unique and different for each age group. Come learn how three year olds are different from toddlers and fours and what this means when it comes to a curriculum developed specifically for them.

The Story Behind the Story

Come learn the story behind the story of a dozen of the best loved Frog Street literature selections. This session will also include a discussion about balancing literature types and genres.

Dr. Marianne Gibbs
_Edmond, OK_

Marianne Gibbs is an occupational therapist and dynamic, national early childhood educational speaker. She received her Bachelor of Arts Degree in 1985 from Claremont McKenna College, Master of Occupational Therapy Degree in 2000 from Texas Woman’s University, and Doctorate in Educational Leadership with a Specialization in Curriculum and Instruction in 2010. In addition to being a contributing author to the Frog Street Press Pre-K curriculum and Benson Handwriting programs, Dr. Gibbs is also the owner of Gibbs Consulting, Incorporated. As an entrepreneurial educator since 2004, Dr. Gibbs supports the appropriate development of young children by providing “once in a lifetime workshops - every time” with the goal of elevating educational practices and life-long outcomes for children beyond expectations.

**Fine Motor Skills...Write Out of the Box!**

Occupational therapist and NAEYC presenter shares activities and rationale for the WHATs, HOWs, and WHYs of fine motor skill development as it relates to children 3-6 years old. Gross and fine motor activities and strategies are discussed and demonstrated with supporting rationale for improving students’ future handwriting efficiency and scissor skills...Write Out of the Box!

**Check Your Face and Other Body Parts at the Door**

Spend this session checking out yourself and how your physical affect and actions may impact the young children you serve. This session provides a unique opportunity to reflect on your physical self and how that contributes to building esteem, rapport, and trust in young children.

Don Monopoli
_Melbourne, FL_

Don Monopoli is the lead presenter for national children's recording artists, The Learning Station. He promotes their campaign that supports, “Healthy Music for a Child’s Heart, Body and Mind.” He has published over 400 children’s songs, produced and recorded children’s music releases for Conscious Discipline, KIDS FIRST/University of Arkansas for Medical Sciences, Kimbo Educational and The Bureau for at Risk Youth. In his life’s dedication to educational children’s music, he has presented over 700 motivational keynote addresses and professional training sessions. He has graced stages over 4,500 times for family concerts spanning the globe. He has received only the highest accolades from leaders in the educational community. Don has been honored with the “Louisiana Friends of Children Award”, “Good Will Ambassador” from the North Little Rock AEYC for his heroic conference effort made after 9/11 and a ceremonial recognition from Newfoundland, Canada.

**LET’S MOVE!**

This interactive and energetic presentation is jam-packed with motivational music activities designed to enhance your entire curriculum. Sing, dance, learn and get equipped with the techniques vital to early learning.

**MOVIN’ & GROOVIN’ ACTION SONGS!**

This uplifting presentation will engage participants in an interactive, super-charged experience that will revive and rejuvenate, as it explores the many tremendous values and benefits of interactive music and movement.
Stephen Fite  
*Edmond, OK*

Stephen has always loved music. He has realized his dream of playing before crowds of screaming fans—the very young variety! Stephen is an award-winning musician whose albums have received 18 nationally recognized honors. A vocalist on various Frog Street CDs, he has played a special role at Splash for over 20 years and is a contributing author for the Frog Street Pre-K Curriculum.

**The Magic of Music & Movement**

This hands-on, participatory workshop will bring to teachers a new perspective on using music with children. They will see the connection between music and movement and the active nature of the child, as well as, how music can effectively be used to meet the cognitive, emotional, social and physical needs of young children. Stephen will give the participants activities they can take with them and use immediately in their classroom.

Mary Jo Huff  
*Newburgh, IN*

Mary Jo Huff works in schools with thousands of children and families. She is an international Keynote Speaker, a multi-award-winning author, storyteller, puppeteer and song writer. Her unique approach of combining story play, puppet play, nature exploration with music and movement invites everyone to snap, clap, wiggle and giggle to the power of language. Mary Jo’s high spirited, energetic presentations, workshops, and staff development engages all audiences.

**PUPPET PLAY: Engaging the Imagination**

Challenge your imagination and experience the fascination of talking to the hand. Puppets are playful and educational meeting state educational standards. Learn how to introduce a mascot.

**NATURE: A Natural Connection for Children**

Create a curriculum connection to every child’s natural world. Explore simple ready to use ideas that engage and cultivate a natural learning environment. Meet the scientist of the week.

Brian Mowry  
*Austin, TX*

Brian Mowry has devoted the past 24 years of his professional career to the education of young children. In addition to teaching bilingual prekindergarten and kindergarten for 11 years in the Austin Independent School District, Mr. Mowry has served as a district level mathematics specialist K-5th grade and is currently working as the district’s early childhood preschool curriculum specialist—a position which allows him to write curriculum and deliver professional development for 350 full-day preschool teachers. Outside of public education, Mr. Mowry is the senior author of the Frog Street Mathematics Pre-K program and has presented at numerous state and national conferences, including NAEYC and NCTM. He has earned various awards, including Teacher of the Year, the Austin Association for the Education Of Young Children’s 2011 Teacher Educator of the Year, and Austin’s E3 Alliance 2015 Architect of Educational Change for his work in promoting kindergarten readiness in the Central Texas region. He is currently completing his PhD in Curriculum and Instruction at the University of Texas at Austin where he has co-authored scholarly articles in professional journals such as Young Children and Principal.

**Foundations to Early Numeracy and More!**

Developing a conceptual understanding of numbers is critical for future success in mathematics. Mr. Mowry will review relevant research and appropriate instructional strategies to enhance the knowledge and skills (e.g., verbal counting, enumeration, subitizing, and cardinality) that develop in the preschool years and lay the foundation for good number sense.

**A 3-R Framework for Early Childhood Mathematics:**

**Responsiveness, Relevancy, and Reasoning**

Current research confirms that young children demonstrate incredibly robust (albeit informal) understandings about mathematics. They are natural investigators of their environment and see learning as a sense making activity. To that end, a learning environment that is best suited to nurture this informal knowledge should be tailored to meet children where they are at developmentally, culturally, and emotionally (responsiveness) and be connected to real world experiences (relevancy) that inspire them to think deeply, quantitatively, and structurally about such events in their daily life (reasoning). This session will explore and unpack what this type of learning looks and sounds like in an early childhood classroom.
Shawn Brown  
Cumming, GA  
Shawn Brown is originally from Chicago, Illinois where he developed a strong interest in theater and music. He developed a wide range of talent and is a motivational speaker, but he is also an actor, comedian, and musician. Shawn formed his own company, Role Model Productions, and began working with inner city at-risk youth. He now writes and implements unique and entertaining curriculum enhancement programs for early childhood and elementary grades.

Supporting Instruction with Music & Movement  
Join Shawn Brown as he explores the wonders of music with young learners! He uses his unique style of Super-Fun Music techniques through Integration, Quality Feedback, Creating and Brainstorming. Shawn will share how we can take lyrics from any song and challenge the children’s higher order thinking skills.

Sheryl Brown  
Cumming, GA  
Developing an Emotionally Supportive Community  
Join Sheryl Brown, LMFT, as she challenges you to properly structure your classroom environment in order to foster social and emotional wellness. Sheryl will offer practical techniques that are essential to the social and emotional growth of your little citizens (students) as they participate in the daily operations of the community.

Jill Molli  
Dr. Becky Bailey’s Conscious Discipline® – Oviedo, FL  
Jill has the uncanny ability to help people laugh and learn at the same time. Jill was selected as a Conscious Discipline® Associate because of her no-nonsense ability to get to the heart of the situation and her commitment to living Conscious Discipline® principles at school and at home. Jill is an entertaining, motivating, and heart-felt presenter. Dr. Bailey’s strategies are well integrated into the Frog Street Pre-K, Toddler and Infant curriculums.

Know You Know Better: Bridging the Gap Between “Knowing” and “Doing”  
Knowing right from wrong and doing right from wrong are two very different skills that are often confused as one in the same. Many children “know” it is helpful to share, but aren’t willing to give up the toy. Many adults “know” how to effectively address conflict in the classroom, but are not able to access the skill in the heat of the moment. This session helps you understand the difference between knowing and doing, and gives you the skills to unify knowing and doing within yourself, with coworkers and with children.

From Chaos to Calm: Discipline for Your Most Challenging Children  
Most classrooms today contain children with extreme behavior issues and diagnosed or undiagnosed special needs. Behaviorally challenging children are also relationship-resistant children. Instead of spending precious time seeking to get challenging children under control, we can instead create a compassionate school culture that employs the natural power of connection between all members as a means of co-regulating behavior and teaching them to self-regulate. Participants will learn to “meet children where they are,” including specific strategies to reach out to challenging children in a way that builds trust and connection. The keystone of this endeavor is creating the School Family, a compassionate school climate that fosters acceptance, friendships and learning for all. Participants will also explore how being in relationships with others directly increases the ability to self-regulate, and how self-regulation will help even the most challenging children transform their behavior from chaotic to calm.
Lisa Murphy, Ooey Gooey® Lady
Rochester, NY
Lisa Murphy has been involved with early childhood education for over 20 years; teaching and working with children in various environments including Head Start, kindergarten, private preschools, family childcare, park and rec centers, group homes and many child care centers. Lisa is the founder and CEO of Ooey Gooey®, Inc. where her mission is to assist in the transformation of the industry of early childhood education by offering 1) the best workshops and trainings; 2) the most up to date materials and resources; and 3) insightful conversations and connections through the power of social media. Lisa presents hundreds of workshops each year to both domestic and international audiences on various topics related to early childhood education. Lisa has her Masters in early childhood education from Champlain College in Vermont. She has authored four books, produced dozens of teacher training DVD’s and is a popular keynote speaker at educational conferences. Lisa’s standing room only seminars have become nationally known for their information, humor, inspiration and energetic delivery. Frequently asked if she has ever been a stand-up comic, Lisa practices what she preaches by blending the learning with the laughing. Lisa frequently collaborates with other key movers and shakers in the industry and has become known for her outspoken advocacy, her ability to link hands-on activities to educational standards, and her commitment to creating early childhood environments that support playful learning. Her understanding of the importance of play is obvious in her personal and professional life. Lisa was born and raised in California but currently calls Rochester, NY home. You can learn more about Lisa at www.ooeygooey.com and can follow her adventures on Facebook, YouTube, Tumblr, Instagram, Twitter, and her podcast, Child Care Bar and Grill.

Large Motor Games
The mind can only absorb what the butt can endure! Lisa will lead participants in large motor games that can be played both indoors and out. Come ready to move!

Dr. Ray Reutzel
Laramie, WY
Dr. Ray Reutzel is the Dean of the College of Education at the University of Wyoming. He was previously the Director of the Emma Eccles Jones Early Childhood Education and Research Center and the Emma Eccles Jones Distinguished Professor and Endowed Chair of Early Childhood Education at Utah State University. He is the author of more than 225 published research reports, articles, books, book chapters, and monographs. He has received more than 11+ million dollars in research/professional development funding. He is the past Editor of Literacy Research and Instruction and The Reading Teacher, and is currently Executive Editor of the Journal of Educational Research. He received the 1999 A.B. Herr Award and the 2013 ALER Laureate Award from the Association of Literacy Researchers and Educators. Ray served as President of the Association of Literacy Educators and Researchers –ALER from 2006-2007. He was presented the John C. Manning Public School Service Award from the International Reading Association in May 2007 and served as a member of the Board of Directors of the International Reading Association from 2007-2010. Ray was recently elected to serve as a member of the Literacy Researchers Association Board of Directors from 2012-2015. Dr. Reutzel is an elected member of the Reading Hall of Fame.

Many Kinds of Smart
Think you are good at your job because you love children? What about the ones that challenge you? Using these powerful questions as a framework, Lisa puts her own spin on Howard Gardner’s classic theory. This session is a far cry from simply listing various personality characteristics, needs and preferences. By providing easy to implement, yet possibly challenging, “comfort zone stretchers,” Lisa challenges teachers to make sure they are celebrating all of the children in the classroom, not just the ones they like.

Enhancing Literacy Achievement in Schools: Early Literacy Research
This session will share findings of early literacy research seldom given attention in the major research documents issued by major foundations and federal sources. Topics covered will include concepts about print, handwriting, text structure, writing strategy instruction, phonemic awareness and rhyming, letter name knowledge.
Why teach young children letters and sounds? Recent research on teaching letter names to young children
Learning the names of alphabet letters has been shown to account for more unique variance in students’ acquisition of reading and writing than learning letter sounds. This seems counterintuitive for most teachers since it appears children need to know letter sounds rather than names to read and write. This session will present the latest research, practices, and assessments to support young children in their learning of alphabet letters.

Dr. Michael Shoulders
Clarksville, TN
Mike taught for 14 years and then worked as an instructional supervisor until retiring. He earned his doctoral degree in 2004. His wife Debbie and daughter Meghann are both English teachers at the same middle school. Mike visits nearly one hundred schools a year in the U.S. and Europe spreading the message that “Reading IS Magic!” Say Daddy! was awarded the Gold Medal by the National Association of Parenting Publications for outstanding book of the year.

Male Call - Bringing Boys to Books and Writing
Discover why boys are “engrossed by gross,” the importance of guy humor, and books boys will love to listen to and read. Learn ways to motivate boys to write as a response to literature. Males receive 78% of D’s & F’s in school, are 80% of the dropouts, and are 87% of the identified special education population. Brain research by Diane Connell helps to explain why male brains play a role in their lag in learning to read/write when compared to females. This workshop focuses on strategies to support instruction in reading (literature & information text), writing, and speaking & listening.

YES, Even Early Childhood Students Have the WRITE STUFF!
When young children see themselves as rea-live authors, it connects them to books in a profound way. This session presents strategies to initiate writing activities. Participants will make mini “Hink Pink” books. Examples of student made books will be shared.

Cleo Rodriguez
Washington, D.C.
Cleofas “Cleo” Rodriguez, Jr. is currently the Executive Director of the National Migrant Seasonal Head Start Association in Washington, DC. Cleo is the former Executive Director of Raising Austin and the Texas Head Start Association. He is trained in the Center on Social Emotional Foundations for Early Learning in both the Pre-School and Infants/Toddler Modules. Cleo has also worked closely with the Devereux Early Childhood Initiative’s, including, Devereux Early Childhood Assessment, Challenging Behaviors, Children’s Social Emotional Health and FLIP IT. Additionally, Cleo has served as a national consultant for SpecialQuest Birth-Five which provides cross-systems training on best practices for including children with disabilities and their families into Early Childhood Programs. Most recently Cleo has served on the National Hispanic Education Coalition, the National Farmworker Alliance, is an invited member of the White House Hispanic Roundtable for the Administration for Children and Families (ACF), and an invited member of the Arlington County Public School’s Superintendent’s Advisory Board. Cleo is proud to work on behalf of migrant and seasonal farm worker families. Cleo’s parents were both migrant farmers who worked tirelessly in the cotton fields across the state of Texas and other Southern states. Cleo himself did seasonal summer work in the Rio Grande Valley of Texas. Cleo received a Bachelor of Science from Texas State University. He was recently selected for the prestigious honor of Distinguished Alumni of Texas State University. Cleo is a single father of a daughter who resides in Austin, Texas and a son who is a sophomore at Bowling Green State University in Bowling Green, Ohio.

RIGHT PLACE, RIGHT TIME: Early Childhood is Trending
The stars are aligned and The Time is Right to provide success for our youngest learners. Join me through the educational journey of early childhood to discover the dynamics of children and families from a variety of traditions and backgrounds. Explore innovative ideas to engage, educate, and enhance the pathway to positively impact today’s children.

Dan St. Romain
Universal City, TX
Dan is a national educational consultant who provides staff development and consultative services to educators K-12. Currently, Dan works as a behavior consultant for a school district, working directly with students, while also providing support to the staff, at large. Dan’s overwhelming strength is his skill as a presenter. Although his sessions are exceedingly interactive, his greatest asset lies in his ability to offer participants rich insight into the connectedness between educational practices and student behavior.
It's Just a Stage! Rigor and Developmentally Appropriate Practices
Do you think you know what typical behavior is for a young student? You may just be surprised to learn you are teaching a three-year-old student trapped in a five-year-old body. Come to this fun, fast-paced session and learn about ages, stages and appropriate interventions.

Count Me In! Teaching Social Skills at the Primary Level
This fun session will focus on the behavioral skills young students need to succeed in school. Through simple songs, games and activities, participants will learn easy ways to teach social skills and positively shape student behaviors. This session is anything but passive.

Debbie Clement
Columbus, OH
Debbie Clement has over thirty-five years experience in the Arts and young children. She has written and recorded over 100 original songs for children and loves to get them up and moving! She is also the author and illustrator of three picture books in which the text of her books are the lyrics of her songs. As the winner of national awards for her work, Debbie travels internationally as the pied piper of the Arts, potential and having dreams come true.

Terrific Triangle of Early Literacy: Music, Movement and Authentic Art
Build a foundation and excitement for Early Literacy on the ARTS! Extend your response to picture books through the infusion of Music and Movement activity while directing Art response through open-ended, process driven and collaborative Art. Come celebrate the Arts!

Kim Adsit
Warner Robins, GA
Kim is a 2002 Teacher of the Year and has taught kindergarten for over 28 years. Focusing on developing curriculum and strategies that incorporate child-centered activities, she emphasizes the fun of kindergarten by tapping into the curiosity of young children that plants the seed for lifelong learning. Kim has been selected as an Expert Teacher, and she serves as a teacher mentor. She has a Specialist Degree in Early Childhood Education and has an At-Risk Endorsement. Kim has authored many teacher resources that are available on the teacherspayteachers.com website.

Science Blaster
Enter into an exciting experience that will help you integrate Science into your own classroom! Kim will show you "explosive" ways to get Kindergartners motivated to learn. Hands-on science activities and experiments, interactive literature, tasty test-tubes, and magical messes will capture your children’s imagination! It’s something that’s OUT OF THIS WORLD!

Math Centers That Matter
In this session you will learn how to organize and run math centers that will have your children mathematicians in no time! Kim will share her ideas for organizing math centers that will ensure the math standards are taught and maintained throughout the year. She will share activities, games, and journal ideas that she uses in the different centers. Kim will also show you how math centers will enable you to work with small groups and provide both enrichment and tutorial activities for all learners!

Cathy Doggett
Austin, TX
Cathy is a teacher, coach, trainer, advocate, parent, and change agent. Using her experience teaching in public schools, childcare, and Head Start, she helps educators implement best practices in early childhood education. Past roles include Early Childhood Specialist for Central Texas and Texas Home Visiting Team Lead. She is a graduate of Oberlin College and Harvard University. At home she puts her early childhood knowledge to the test raising five-year-old Zayla and one-year-old Canyon.

Teaching the Way You Know is Best for Kids
Have you ever felt pressured to shorten center time, lengthen a calendar routine, or pull out worksheets? Through photos, stories, reflection, and interaction we will explore essential elements of quality early childhood teaching to empower you to be your own advocate.

Kathy Griffin
Jenks, OK
Teaching Children with Special Needs
Join Kathy for teacher-tested ideas, tips, and strategies for working with students with special needs in the early childhood classroom. Learn about the common learning challenges including sensory processing and build a toolbox of ideas that will help your students succeed both socially and academically. Come learn how to create a learning environment where ALL of your students can learn.

800-884-3764
Ready, Set, Teach!
It’s back to school time! Are you ready? Join Kathy as she shares ideas on how to start your school year off right. Learn tips and strategies for teaching procedures, establishing routines, and setting classroom expectations in a kid-friendly way. Leave with book suggestions, games, activities, and transition tips to make your first few weeks of school run more smoothly.

Marlene Williams
Prosper, TX
Marlene is a freelance Early Childhood Consultant with a background that spans over 30 years in public and private schools. Her professional experience includes coordinating early childhood programs for a large suburban school district, writing curriculum, and teaching preschool through sixth grade. She also provides side-by-side coaching to administrators and teaching staff in Early Reading First Grants, Head Start classrooms and public school Pre-K programs nationwide. Marlene is also a contributing author for the Frog Street Pre-K Curriculum.

SESSION DESCRIPTION COMING SOON

Al Stewart
Plano, TX
Al Stewart has been a Kindergarten teacher, Head Start lead teacher, Early Childhood Specialist for Region 6 Education Service Center and a Specialist for the Division of Special Education at the Texas Education Agency. He has also been the Preschool Consultant for Region 10 and taught graduate courses on early childhood development at the University of Texas at Dallas. After 34 years in the public school arena, Al became an early childhood consultant. Al owns his own business and continues to conduct training sessions with an emphasis on working with preschool children with special needs.

The “Wh” of STEM? Or is It STEAM or STREAM?
This interactive session will focus on the who, what, when, where, why, and how of STEM, STEAM, and/or STREAM. Participants will be provided opportunities to engage in hands-on activities that will address the “current emphasis” on STEM, STEAM, and STREAM. A brief definition will be shared during this time together. The major focus of the session will be to validate that early childhood professionals have been addressing the critical issues related to this topic for many years. You do it throughout the daily routines on a regular basis. Come prepared to have fun.

Vanessa Levin
Dallas, TX
Vanessa is a passionate advocate for high-quality early childhood education. She has worked extensively with programs that serve English Language Learners and at-risk populations for two decades. Vanessa is the author of A Fabulous First Year and Beyond: A Practical Guide for Pre-K and Kindergarten Teachers. Her website, www.pre-kpages.com, is one of the most popular early childhood websites in the U.S.

Centered on Success!
Aloha! Would you like to turn your classroom into a tropical oasis of learning and fun? Pull up a beach chair, sit back, and relax as we explore the secrets to creating fun, engaging centers that will help your students meet the standards and stay on-task.

Tym Smith
Coppell, TX
Tym Smith has been in the Early Care and Education profession for over 20 years. He is the owner of Early Care and Education, a private preschool and after-school program with locations in Coppell, Southlake and Flower Mound. For over 10 years, Tym has trained managers and staff on multiple topics in the field. With a strong focus on staff motivation and advocacy for young children, Tym’s trainings are full of energy and surprises.

Reconnecting with your Passion and Purpose
Come rediscover the reason why you have dedicated yourself to early childhood education!

Ryan Walker
Waldron, AR
Ryan is currently in his 14th year in education, having taught grades 7-12 in a drug and alcohol facility, 2nd grade, K/1 Transition, and 7th grade Keyboarding/Computer Technology. He has been the Early Childhood Education Principal for the Waldron School District for the past 9 years and is currently the Waldron Elementary Principal. Ryan is also an adjunct faculty member for Rich Mountain Community College teaching Introduction to Education and Adult Education, and currently serves as President of the Board of Directors for Scott County Boys and Girls Club.
Upcycling…It’s A Shore Thing
Do you need fun and interactive activities to keep your students engaged and classrooms organized? During this interactive session, participants will have the opportunity to gain ideas on how to upcycle items into useful classroom materials.

Lynne Rhodes
Frisco, TX
Lynne Rhodes has taught Kindergarten for 31 years. She has been a Teacher of the Year (District Finalist), Team Leader, Literacy Leader, and Mentor Teacher. Lynne has her Master’s Degree in Early Childhood Special Ed. She has presented in Georgia, South Carolina, Wisconsin and Texas, and has published lessons in three college level textbooks. For the past 11 years, she has been a presenter at Frog Street Splash and her sessions have always been a hit!

Sail into Classroom Fun
Cruise on over for reading and math fun in the sun! Games, ideas, tips, and tricks to make your classroom a dream vacation! Many ideas that can be easily implemented will be shared. Door prizes given too!

Crystal Radke, Kreative in Kinder
Lorena, TX
Crystal Radke is a Texas educator with a degree in Early Childhood Education. She has worn many hats in private and public education for the past ten years but has taught kindergarten for the last seven, which is where her heart is. She enjoys developing curriculum to keep learning and fun alive in the early childhood classroom. Visit Crystal’s Blog, Kreative in Kinder, to take part in discussions and share tips and stories among educators about best practices in early childhood education.

Writer’s Workshop in the Primary Classroom
Teach young writers how to use all the elements of the writing process. Learn how to lead them through idea generation, planning, developing, and revising their work. Teach them simple rules to follow to be successful. Your students can find their voice as authors and experience the excitement of “publishing” books.

Merilee Barrington
Midlothian, TX
Merilee has been in education for 18 years. She has taught kindergarten, second grade and currently teaches first grade. She has presented for Frog Street for several years and her sessions are always lively and full of great information. She has also presented at KToT, TWU reading conference, and Duncanville, Garland and Richardson ISD’s.

A Teachers Bag of Tricks
Do you need some organizational help? Are you looking for a few new ideas for transitions, morning jobs, behavior, rewards, word walls, guided reading, fluency, science and MUCH, MUCH MORE? Come join me for some fun and see what’s in my bag of tricks and you may find something for you!
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