

1:00 – 2:30 p.m.

Empowering Bullies and Their Victims to Resolve the Bully Crisis

Presenter: Belinda Lorch

Room: Directors

Focus: Classroom Management

Bullies learn new skills, while victims learn ways to be assertive, teaching others to treat them respectfully. Both are empowered by this conflict resolution process.

Teaching Intentionally Through Scaffolded Activities and Read Alouds in the Preschool Classroom

Presenter: Doris Brown

Room: Guadalupe

Focus: Preschool, Kindergarten, School Age

Intentional teaching is complex. Teachers have to keep many elements of practice in mind to create a dynamic, engaging classroom where all children grow and learn. Intentional teaching is the key to a successful experience for children and teachers. In this session, participants will learn about the elements of intentional teaching as well as specific strategies to intentionally individualize classroom activities and book read alouds with children.

Hook 'em and Hold 'em Using Their Storybooks

Presenter: Katina L. Thomas

Room: Blanco

Focus: Language & Literacy

Develop ways to use popular storybook series to motivate at-risk students to read. Use their favorite reading series to engage them in literacy development.

9 Lies that are Holding Your Business Back

Presenter: Bradley Smith

Room: Mesquite

Focus: Program Administration

Based on the book by Steve Chandler by a similar title, this session is based on the myths that keep business owners/managers from maximizing their effectiveness. Topics (lies) include: "Experience will Benefit Me," "Lowering Price Boosts Business," and "I Don't Need Any Help."

Talk to Me: Facilitating Early Language Development

Presenters: Patricia Smith & Shannon Nichols

Room: Pecos & Llano

Focus: Language & Literacy

Join us in a discussion on facilitating early language experiences for our youngest children using concepts presented in the Infant/Toddler Environment Rating Scale.

2:45 – 4:30 p.m.

Safe & Sanitary: Sensible Solutions for the Early Childhood Classroom

Presenters: Sarah Freed & Stephanie Farris

Room: Directors

Focus: Program Administration

Participants will learn practical, experience-based tips concerning safety and sanitation guidelines for early childhood classrooms based on the Environment Rating Scales (ITERS-R/ECERS-R)

From Pre-K to Kindergarten: A Transition Guide for Teachers

Presenter: Bobbie D. Lee

Room: Guadalupe

Focus: Preschool, Kindergarten, School Age

Informative and hands on training designed to give Early Childhood Educators simple and flexible tools to assist children in the pre-K to kindergarten process. Training will also help educators develop strategies to make this transition successful.

Using Nursery Rhymes to Teach Phonological Awareness

Presenter: Angela G. Cameron

Room: Blanco

Focus: Language & Literacy

Participants will learn the developmental sequence of phonological awareness acquisition. Many activities will be demonstrated for each of the nine areas of phonological awareness.

Turning Your Staff Into a Team

Presenter: Bradley Smith

Room: Mesquite

Focus: Program Administration

In this session Bradley Smith shares proven strategies for taking a disconnected group of employees and turning them into a winning team. This includes understanding the difference between Management and Leadership. Ideas that promote the team spirit and motivate the younger worker will be discussed. Some methods discussed are how to build a leadership team and creating sub teams to increase morale. Maxwell's five levels of leadership will also be introduced.

8:00 – 9:00 a.m.

Writing for the Future: Strategies to Support Emergent Writing in Preschool

Presenters: Dr. Lindsay R. Dennis & Dr. Nancy K. Votteler

Room: Directors

Focus: Language & Literacy

The presentation will define the key components of emergent writing and its later impact on not only overall literacy development, but later reading achievement as well. Three activities for supporting emergent writing within authentic classroom routines will be explained and demonstrated for participants in the session. Participants will engage in discussions about how the information presented will inform their practice specifically.

Music that Matters for Infants and Toddlers: Songs for Security and Stepping Out

Presenter: David Kisor

Room: Live Oak

Focus: Child Growth & Development

Participants will learn how songs and supportive materials can build a bond of security between caretaker and infant, preparing the way to build positive motivation and self regulation skills in toddlers. Participants will understand key research findings, learn the songs, and explore ways to use the songs with infants/toddlers.

Bonding with Babies 0-12 months: Quality Care, Attachment, and Activities

Presenters: Julie A. Davidson & Dr. Janette C. Wetsel

Room: Nueces & Frio

Focus: Infants and Toddlers

Infant caregivers and directors will review development of the child's first year, think about the optimal learning environment, explore books and activities to do with babies, and celebrate the joys of working with infants and their families. Soothing techniques for babies will be included, as well as ideas that help support the caregiver and prevent burnout.

Literacy Strategies to Improve Language Skills of Children with Disabilities

Presenters: Sharon Frith & Christine M. Brown

Room: Guadalupe

Focus: Diversity/Special Needs

The participant will learn a variety of strategies and activities to use with preschool children to develop early literacy and language skills.

Eyes, Ears, and Owls: Our Senses and the Natural World

Presenter: Marta Rue Isaacson

Room: Blanco

Focus: Preschool, Kindergarten, School Age

Come along on a nature adventure as we identify ways we can teach children to connect to the natural world using their senses.

Style Matters: Reading Style and Children's Responses to Reading

Presenter: Iris Davis

Room: Mesquite

Focus: Language & Literacy

In this session, participants will be actively involved in examining the relationship between parental reading style and the responses of children to three different styles.

Learning from Geese: Leading Staff in Early Education

Presenters: Jeny L. Searcy

Room: Pecos

Focus: Program Administration

Cooperative leadership is DAP for guidance in early care and education! Examine the concepts of cooperative leadership and its model of care and support.

Fitness Exercises for Young Children

Presenter: Dr. Jim L. Stillwell

Room: Pecan

Focus: Child Growth & Development

Participants in this session will gain information on the (1) purposes for and (2) proper uses of exercises for the development of physical fitness of young children.

Using the Touchpoints Approach to Support Providers and Families

Presenter: Mindy May

Room: Llano

Focus: Parent & Family Involvement

Touchpoints is a relational and developmental approach to working with today's families. It provides a framework to understand and participate in the whole family's development. Join us as we explore how Touchpoints makes a difference to providers who have the goal of supporting children to develop optimally and their parents in being competent and confident in their parenting role. And, we will discuss how you can bring Touchpoints to your own work and community.

9:15 – 10:15 a.m.

Infant Mental Health and Florida's Prekindergarten Disabilities Endorsement: Professional Development Connections

Presenter: Dr. Kenneth Craig Jones

Room: Directors

Focus: Professional Growth & Teacher Preparation

The need for credentialed professionals for Infant Mental Health services and Prekindergarten Disabilities classrooms in Florida initiated this Infant/Toddler Developmental Specialist program. This session will address the content and delivery of the program combining competencies for two certification areas and report on the level of success in Florida.

Songs for a Peaceful Classroom

Presenter: David Kisor

Room: Live Oak

Focus: Classroom Management

During this session, we will take a musical journey to a peaceful classroom through conflict resolution, focusing energy in a positive direction, taking time to breathe, and preparing the classroom (and ourselves) for peace. Join us for this interactive and inspiring session to help bring peace to your classroom.

Why Ya Gotta Be So Mean? Bibliotherapy for Battling Bullying in Young Children

Presenters: Dr. Dona Packer, Laura Chestnut, & Emily Williamson

Room: Nueces & Frio

Focus: Classroom Management

Children are emotionally devastated by bullying at school. Through bibliotherapy and related fun activities, teachers can empower children to combat this dilemma.

Creating Meaningful Routines and Experiences for Infants, Toddlers, and Twos

Presenter: Doris Brown

Room: Guadalupe

Focus: Infants and Toddlers

Supporting children's optimal development and learning involves identifying each child's strengths, needs, and interests and then using that information to plan meaningful routines and experiences that will promote positive outcomes. This session explores how to observe and plan responsively and how to partner with families to inform teaching and caregiving.

Everyday Moments as Tools for Encouraging Parental Engagement at Home

Presenters: Dr. Helene A. Harte & Dr. Jaesook L. Gilbert

Room: Blanco

Focus: Parent & Family Involvement

This session will provide an overview of the importance of parent engagement with children at home with discussion of specific strategies to encourage parent-child interaction.

Teaching Problem Solving Skills in Math and Science

Presenter: Dr. Diana K. Nabors

Room: Mesquite

Focus: Preschool, Kindergarten, School Age

Actively explore 25 problem solving activities for young children based on math and science content. Handout of activities will be provided.

Intentional Teaching Through Play

Presenters: Dr. Elizabeth A. Ethridge & Dr. Vickie E. Lake

Room: Pecos

Focus: Professional Growth & Teacher Preparation

"The kids are just playing, there is no teaching going on." This session will address how to respond to such a comment.

Eat Healthy, Be Active: Teaching Nutrition and Physical Activity to Preschoolers and Families

Presenters: Dr. Diane Bales & Dr. Charlotte Wallinga

Room: Pecan

Focus: Child Growth & Development

Come explore activities from the *Eat Healthy, Be Active* curriculum, which addresses childhood obesity with developmentally appropriate activities to teach nutrition and physical activity to preschoolers.

The Creative and Imaginative Language of Young Children: A Window on Their Thinking

Presenter: Dr. Stephen B. Graves

Room: Llano

Focus: Language & Literacy

Participants will hear actual stories from young children and discuss the level of creativity and imagination that the language exemplifies.

Aula Infantil

Presenters: Wilma Robles de Melendez

Room: Riverbend Suite

Focus: Professional Growth & Teacher Preparation

Find out how to contribute to SECA's Spanish-language newsletter, *Aula Infantil*.

1:00 – 2:00 p.m.

But I Don't Speak English: Monolingual Teachers of Dual Language Learners

Presenter: Dr. Miki Henderson

Room: Directors

Focus: Diversity/Special Needs

Teachers will learn about sheltered instruction, developing a classroom for dual language learners, and communicating and collaborating with families who speak languages other than English.

Songs, Games and Rhymes for the Multicultural Classroom

Presenter: José-Luis Orozco

Room: Live Oak

Focus: Diversity/Special Needs

Using music, songs and games in a multi-cultural environment promotes self-esteem, diversity and mutual understanding. Interactive demonstration shows how music and song are used to promote every important aspect of a child's development, including language acquisition, listening and cognitive skills, as well as motor and coordination skills.

Playing with Read Alouds Through Scientific Inquiry and Math Explorations!

Presenter: Judy Ross

Room: Guadalupe

Focus: Preschool, Kindergarten, School Age

Integrate literacy with scientific inquiry and math! Estimate melting time for the Gingerbread Man, analyze how peddlers balance caps, measure the longest earthworm, and more.

Who's the Kid with the Green Umbrella? Classroom Book Diversity

Presenter: Jeny L. Searcy

Room: Blanco

Focus: Language & Literacy

The world is diverse, and children's books reflect that! Discuss types of diversity and how to choose and use appropriate children's books in this multi-cultural world

Early Childhood Teachers Reconstruct Beliefs and Practices Through Reflexive Action

Presenters: Dr. Mari Riojas-Cortez, Dr. Iliana Alanís, & Dr. Belinda Bustos Flores

Room: Mesquite

Focus: Professional Growth & Teacher Preparation
Professional development requires that teachers engage in critical reflection regarding teaching practices. Five ECE teachers engaged in an on-going transformative journey using sustained professional development.

The Horse Before the Cart: Social/Emotional Development and Assessment

Presenter: Dr. Dana Hilbert

Room: Pecos

Focus: Preschool, Kindergarten, School Age

Learn about key research regarding the role social/emotional development plays in a child's love of learning. Suggestions of classroom assessments and activities.

Music and Movement: Making Science Fun and Exciting!

Presenters: Dr. Mike Longoria

Room: Pecan

Focus: Preschool, Kindergarten, School Age

Science should be and can be exciting and meaningful during the early childhood years. Science and young children make perfect companions based on the child's natural interest and curiosity. This curiosity can be used as a basis for learning and understanding science concepts through play (songs, movement, and music).

Recipe for Writing: Crayons, Choice, and Community to Develop Writers

Presenters: Cecilia Jenkins & Martha E. Ramsey

Room: Llano

Focus: Language & Literacy

Discover how mixing crayons, choice, community, and consistency develops a writing workshop for primary grades proven to develop a student's lifelong love of writing.

2:15 – 3:15 p.m.

We Are All In This Together: A Model for Collaboration Between Head Start, Public School, and Child Care

Presenter: Terry Green

Room: Directors

Focus: Program Administration

The session will provide an overview of a successful collaboration model used by Audubon Area Head Start, Public School Pre-K and Child Care. Participants will have the opportunity to look at the benefits and risks of collaborating and how collaboration can stretch program dollars further while improving the quality of services.

Songs, Games and Rhymes for the Multicultural Classroom

Presenter: José-Luis Orozco

Room: Live Oak

Focus: Diversity/Special Needs

Using music, songs and games in a multi-cultural environment promotes self-esteem, diversity and mutual

understanding. Interactive demonstration shows how music and song are used to promote every important aspect of a child's development, including language acquisition, listening and cognitive skills, as well as motor and coordination skills.

Beyond the Worksheets: Teaching and Learning Language Arts Through Play!

Presenter: Judy Ross

Room: Guadalupe

Focus: Preschool, Kindergarten, School Age

Teach Language arts and meet standards across the curriculum -through play! Innovative activities touch on the alphabetic principle, phonemic awareness, scientific inquiry, and visual/performing arts.

Inviting Children and Parents to the Literacy Club

Presenter: Jeffrey L. Leffler

Room: Blanco

Focus: Language & Literacy

Have you ever been a member of a club? Why did you join? Why did you stay? This workshop will help you invite little ones and their parents to the literacy club to stay for life! This fun and interactive workshop will provide tools for supporting the early literacy development of young children.

Nemours BrightStart: The Complete Program for Early Literacy Success

Presenters: Keith Pentz

Room: Mesquite

Focus: Language & Literacy

The Nemours BrightStart program offers teachers and others who work with young children an opportunity to improve preliteracy skills—particularly children who have been labeled "at risk." Learn about the components of the program, get samples of the materials, experience a portion of the lesson first-hand, and get answers to your questions about BrightStart.

Providing Professional Development for Life-long Learners

Presenters: Dr. Dianne Lawler & Dr. Lina L. Owens

Room: Pecos

Focus: Professional Growth & Teacher Preparation
Professional development can "flop" or inspire! Working with adult learners can be challenging and rewarding. Learn about strategies used in effective professional development.

Let's Move! Connecting Early Childhood Physical Activity to Appropriate Practices

Presenters: Dr. Joanne Hynes-Hunter

Room: Pecan

Focus: Child Growth & Development

Increase physical activity to combat childhood obesity. Learn developmentally appropriate teaching practices through hands-on participation including movement activities and fun assessments that support the *Let's Move!* initiative presented by Michelle Obama.

Early Intervention: The First Step to Lifelong Learning

Presenter: Mansur Choudry

Room: Llano

Focus: Diversity/Special Needs

Early intervention lays the foundation for the child's development, provides support and assistance to the family, and maximizes the child's and family's benefit to society.

SECA's Professional Publication Opportunities

Presenters: Janet F. Brown & Dr. Stephen B. Graves

Room: Riverbend Suite

Focus: Professional Growth & Teacher Preparation

Find out how you can share your professional knowledge and creative teaching ideas with other educators in *Dimensions of Early Childhood*. Presented by SECA's publications leaders.

3:30 – 4:30 p.m.

Mentor/Coaching: A Pathway to Lifelong Learning

Presenters: Kelly Ramsey & Ruth Ann Ball

Room: Directors

Focus: Professional Growth & Teacher Preparation

Take a walk through your professional career by expanding your knowledge of mentor/coaching as a lifelong learning strategy.

Transitions Made Fun and Easy With Music

Presenters: Bobbie D. Lee

Room: Live Oak

Focus: Preschool, Kindergarten, School Age

Interactive, music-filled training on the importance of transitioning young children. Participants will learn how to use music as a guide for transitioning.

Good Beginnings in Math and Science for Preschoolers

Presenters: Dr. Lin Moore, Dr. David Brown, Rozlyn Foster, Milagros Lozano, & Kathryn McCartney

Room: Guadalupe

Focus: Preschool, Kindergarten, School Age

Teachers who promote early learning experiences in math and science provide a foundation for children's success. Come join us for hands-on investigation.

What Do Common Core Standards Mean for Me?

Presenters: Dr. Joanna Grymes & Dr. Dianne Lawler

Room: Blanco

Focus: Program Administration

Common Core Standards will be implemented within most states in the next few years. Learn about the standards and consider their impact on your program.

Learn Every Day: The Preschool Curriculum

Presenters: Keith Pentz

Room: Mesquite

Focus: Preschool, Kindergarten, School Age

The new Learn Every Day curriculum by Kaplan Early Learning Company is a curriculum for EVERY child in the preschool classroom. Learn about the components of Learn Every Day, get samples of the lessons, and ask your questions about this new curriculum.

Laying the Foundation: Establishing Early Childhood Connections with Student Organizations

Presenters: Laura F. Chestnut, Dr. Janie H. Humphries, & Dr. Cathryn J. Weitman

Room: Pecos

Focus: Professional Growth & Teacher Preparation

This session will provide insight and concrete ways to assist student organizations in their development and growth.

Pint-Sized Science

Presenters: Christy McLaughlin & Doris Prange

Room: Pecan

Focus: Preschool, Kindergarten, School Age

Become a pollen packer or a magnet maniac as you explore hands-on activities for our youngest scientists.

Creating Literacy Environments That Are Literacy Rich and Frugal

Presenters: Dr. Deniece Honeycutt, Dr. Bobbie T. Biggs, & Robin C. Jones

Room: Llano

Focus: Language & Literacy

This interactive session will inspire participants to create literacy rich classroom environments and resource materials which are conducive to expanding oral language, comprehension of stories, and acquiring reading skills.

7:30 – 8:30 a.m.

Sit, Stay, Read—Improving Literacy Skills Using Dogs!

Presenters: Dr. Kathy Price, Laura Stinson, & Dr. Nikki Yonts

Room: Nueces

Focus: Language & Literacy

Learn about the *Sit, Stay, Read* program and how teachers use trained dogs to improve literacy skills and foster a love of learning in children.

Playing the Way to School Readiness: Writing, Literacy, and Math

Presenter: Bill Weaver

Room: Frio

Focus: Preschool, Kindergarten, School Age

This interactive session provides creative strategies to foster crucial foundation skills in readiness, writing, literacy, and math for children with diverse learning abilities and styles.

These Are a Few of My Favorite Stories

Presenter: Beverly C. Oglesby

Room: Blanco

Focus: Language & Literacy

Participants will learn some different activities to use with some favorite and familiar stories by some popular authors. All activities will engage students and they will come away with a product to help them remember the stories. Participants will also learn some skills to help with their emergent readers.

West Virginia's Infant/Toddler Specialists Network: Promoting Excellence in Care

Presenters: Joyce M. Tucker & Alicia M. Hundley

Room: Pecos

Focus: Program Administration

Learn of West Virginia's journey as the Infant/Toddler Specialists Network emerges to promote excellence in care and professional development through a collaborative statewide effort.

Let's Boogie: Moving with Books, Songs, and Props!

Presenter: Lisa Maddox-Vinson

Room: Pecan

Focus: Preschool, Kindergarten, School Age

Children were born to move! Activity and movement helps kids develop not only their bodies, but also their brains, their ability to learn, and their social skills. It impacts not only physical development, but cognitive, social, and emotional development—the whole child. Movement and exercise for kids should be as much of a habit as brushing teeth daily, but more fun. We will look at books, explore ideas, and hear songs that promote movement. During this session, you WILL be moving!

10:00 – 11:00 a.m.

Teaching Phonological Awareness the "Phun" Way

Presenters: Vera Meyerholtz

Room: Directors

Focus: Language & Literacy

Enjoy fun, yet simple ideas that foster phonological awareness in diverse learners. Participants will explore learning styles and effective techniques for successful instruction in the classroom.

Circle Time for Literacy! Engaging Emerging Readers with Musical Text

Presenters: Dr. Amanda P. Montgomery

Room: Live Oak

Focus: Language & Literacy

Actively explore the power of using musical text to support young children's growth in early literacy. Learn new strategies while gaining hands-on experience with engaging resources.

Fearless Caregivers: Exploring Math With Preschool Children

Presenters: Dr. Gail Cox & Dr. Lin Moore

Room: Nueces

Focus: Preschool, Kindergarten, School Age

Don't let math anxiety get in the way of promoting math experiences for preschool children.

Using Technology to: Market Program, Inform Parents, Educate Teachers, and Improve Your Program

Presenter: Suzanne Gellens

Room: Frio

Focus: Program Administration

Learn a variety of ways to use video, audio, and photos in unique ways. Leave with ideas for using social networking, websites, and video streaming.

Gather the Kids for a Successful Circle Time

Presenters: Doris Kirsch

Room: Guadalupe

Focus: Infants and Toddlers

This session explores methods of teaching toddlers and two-year-olds songs and hand motions to learn new ideas.

Parents: Laying the Foundation for a Lifetime of Learning

Presenters: Barbara Gilkey & Trish Anderson

Room: Blanco

Focus: Parent & Family Involvement

This training workshop will focus on how parents and caregivers can provide a sound foundation for their child's lifetime of learning based on the latest research and best practices.

Using Hispanic Children's Literature to Enhance Achievement of Hispanic Children

Presenters: Dr. Janet E. Foster, Dr. Brenda P. Dixey, & Dr. Tonja L. Root

Room: Mesquite

Focus: Diversity/Special Needs

Books with Hispanic characters can be used to provide children with effective learning opportunities. Book titles and methods for using the books will be explored.

A Healthier Environment for Your Facility = Smarter, Healthier Children

Presenter: Carol Stroebel

Room: Pecos

Focus: Child Growth & Development

Learn how children's health, learning abilities, and future can be harmed by substances found in the child care setting, and how to prevent this damage.

Learning & Leading: Exploring Children's Voices with Digital Storytelling

Presenters: Susan Weber & Victoria Damjanovic

Room: Pecan

Focus: Language & Literacy

Learning tools that influence language and literacy are storytelling and technology. Participants will explore these tools to encourage children to create stories with digital media.

Toys as Teaching Tools: Supporting Children's Learning Through Play

Presenter: Linda Armstrong

Room: Llano

Focus: Preschool, Kindergarten, School Age

Toys are learning tools children use every day. This session will help staff implement play-based learning experiences for all children.

11:15 a.m. – 12:15 p.m.

Playful Dialogues of a Bilingual Child: Foundations of Early Literacy

Presenters: Dr. Mary Esther Soto-Huerta & Dr. Mari Riojas-Cortez

Room: Directors

Focus: Diversity/Special Needs; Language & Literacy

This case-study examined how sociolinguistic environments, play, and bilingual communicative competence supported early literacy development. The playful dialogues of a five-year-old reveal her pathway to an early biliteracy foundation.

Do You Hear What I Hear: A Guide to Phonological Awareness

Presenter: Lois Wachtel

Room: Live Oak

Focus: Language & Literacy

Join us as we journey into the world of phonological awareness, where we will play games, sing songs, and come face to face with a silly monster!

Are You An Effective Administrator? Developmentally Appropriate Practices for Leadership

Presenter: Vanessa B. Zimmerman

Room: Nueces

Focus: Program Administration

The term Developmentally Appropriate Practice (DAP) has become the new standard for early childhood education and learning. DAP has been the guiding force and foundation for most early childhood education syllabus models. However, administrators may struggle with accepting and understanding DAP. The training is designed to introduce DAP to some and help new and aspiring administrators to embrace DAP to move into the future.

At Your Doorstep: Nature and Science

Presenters: Hallie M. Swift & Paula L. Stewart

Room: Frio

Focus: Infants and Toddlers

By providing nature/science experiences, caregivers are encouraging children to establish roots in the scientific world. Caregivers are laying the foundation for an appreciation of nature, early exploration, and investigation. Right at your doorstep are opportunities for intentional and enriching experiences for very young children. Come open the door to fun and exciting ways to provide high quality experiences for your infants and toddlers.

Revisiting our Multicultural Practices: Are We Doing Enough

Presenters: Dr. Jeonghee Choi & Dr. Mi Hyun Chung

Room: Guadalupe

Focus: Diversity/Special Needs

This presentation discusses different levels of multicultural education and how teachers and students can pursue higher levels of multicultural practices in their teaching and learning.

Skills for Life: Effectively Teaching Children to Peacefully, Persistently Problem-solve

Presenter: Emily Keenum

Room: Blanco

Focus: Classroom Management

Research-based teaching strategies that help reduce challenging behaviors by helping children express feelings

appropriately, accept differences, use self-control and peacefully solve problems will be shared from the nationally-recognized model program *Al's Pals: Kids Making Healthy Choices*. Using puppets, music, video and discussion, this interactive workshop features practical classroom approaches and responses to children that cultivate positive social skills, kindness, respect, and cooperation.

Talking With Children, Not To Children: Watching Your Words

Presenter: Linda Whaley

Room: Mesquite

Focus: Infants and Toddlers; Preschool, Kindergarten, School-age

Adults believe they talk *with* children; but many are talking *to* children instead. The dialogue that goes with talking and listening is most important.

Creating a Transition Team: Preparing Children and Parents for Kindergarten

Presenter: Dr. Robbie B. Roberts

Room: Pecos

Focus: Preschool, Kindergarten, School Age

This session will address varied elements that are key to being prepared and successful for school and ways to make the transition go smoothly.

Technology Integration That Works at the Pre-K Level

Presenter: Annette Bruner & Sandra Alston

Room: Pecan

Focus: Preschool, Kindergarten, School Age

Discover how a team of pre-K coaches have implemented a district-wide initiative and technology integration to help teachers prepare pre-K students to be life-long learners.

50 Nifty, Thrifty Ideas

Presenters: Angela Bradley & Kristi D. Muston

Room: Llano

Focus: Preschool, Kindergarten, School Age

Come join our party! Using thematic prop boxes, all participants will be introduced to 50 fun-filled ideas on how to enhance student learning and development in your dramatic play center.

1:00 – 2:00 p.m.

I Spy: What High Quality Infant/Toddler Care Looks Like

Presenter: Dr. Donna Kirkwood

Room: Directors

Focus: Infants and Toddlers

This presentation will illustrate for teachers of young children what excellent programs for infants and toddlers look and sound like.

Spring Has Sprung

Presenters: Rana Hilton, Vanessa Lancaster, & Kayla Moore

Room: Live Oak

Focus: Preschool, Kindergarten, School Age

Come learn some interesting experiments, activities, art lessons, and stories to use in your classroom! Leave with a weeklong unit on gardening and planting.

T.E.A.C.H. Early Childhood® Scholarship Project Informational Session

Presenters: Jackie Taylor & Megan Burk

Room: Nueces

Focus: Professional Growth & Teacher Preparation

The T.E.A.C.H. Early Childhood® Project is successfully helping early childhood workers in 22 other states and is growing in Texas. This session will inform about the history and future of the T.E.A.C.H. Early Childhood® Scholarship Project.

The Daily Dozen: 12 Strategies to Promote Infant Pre-linguistic Communication

Presenters: Dr. Nancy Stockall, Dr. Lindsay R. Dennis, & Dr. Cindy Simpson

Room: Frio

Focus: Diversity/Special Needs

This paper presentation will define pre-linguistic communication and identify its contribution to later language competence for infants with developmental delays. Twelve strategies for enhancing pre-linguistic communication skills for infants will be explained and demonstrated for participants in the session. Participants will engage in discussions about the interpretation of verbal and non-verbal indicators of pre-linguistic communication.

Lessons in Faith from Tawny Scrawny Lion and Other Children's Literature

Presenter: Kathy Chase Young

Room: Guadalupe

Focus: Preschool, Kindergarten, School Age

Frustrated by the lack of faith-based children's literature? Come discover the benefits of extending your favorite stories into faith lessons from a Christian perspective.

*The Changing Faces at Your Parenting Meeting:
Supporting Grandparents in the Parenting Role*

Presenters: Mardel Asbury Crandall, Amanda Crandall, & Dr. Jennifer Henk

Room: Blanco

Focus: Parent & Family Involvement

Learn how to teach important early childhood concepts to adults in the most effective way—interactive approaches guaranteed to engage the minds of those you lead. You will be filled with ideas you can apply to your teaching.

The Importance of Pretend Play for Academic Learning

Presenter: Dr. Shelley Nicholson

Room: Mesquite

Focus: Child Growth & Development

Join us in exploring the research and theory that supports our understandings of the foundational roles that pretend play has in children's academic learning.

Steel Tortillas: Directors with Five to Forty Years of Experience Share Their Wows and Woes

Presenter: Dr. Charlotte Anderson

Room: Pecos

Focus: Program Administration

Ever felt all alone even while surrounded by piles of paperwork, ringing phones, and formula? Come listen in on morsels of wisdom from five directors who've been there. You'll hear from ladies who have been at it since *The Flintstones* aired as well as from those who got their start just this century. Sit in, learn from their stories, and consider how you serve children best.

Reading Aloud: Definitely Allowed! Enhancing Read Alouds with Meaningful Conversations

Presenter: Ernesto Rodriguez

Room: Pecan

Focus: Language & Literacy

The traditional approach of reading to children can be strengthened with follow-up activities and experiences. With dialogic reading, adults and children create a conversation that is critical to building language and emergent literacy skills. This presentation will reinforce the concept that how we read to children is as important as how frequently we read to them. Participants will receive and briefly review resources that strengthen the traditional approach to reading aloud with children. The practices behind dialogic reading will be shared and applied.

Flair for the Dramatic

Presenter: Natasha Crosby

Room: Llano

Focus: Preschool, Kindergarten, School Age

Children naturally have a "Flair for the Dramatic," but how do we broaden this fundamental learning area?

Dramatic play is more than 'home living' or 'housekeeping.' Come get some new ideas to refresh and energize your dramatic play area