

SESSION 2

11:15 am-12:30 pm

1. Scaffolding Play with Indoor and Outdoor Prop Boxes

Presented by Debbie Lee

Associate Professor at Western Illinois University

Room: Art Studio

Play can be enhanced by adults through the addition of props that allow children to extend their imagination. By thoughtfully compiling prop boxes to use both indoors and outdoors, teachers can provide the scaffolding that encourages children to use play as a way to develop and practice new skills.

2. Transition Tips and Tricks

Presented by Jen Kovach

ECE Consultant

Room: Dance B

To help avoid long wait times, child boredom, teacher frustration, and overall chaos during transitions, we will learn how to quickly and effectively transition kids during activities such as handwashing, meals, room changes, activity changes, and other challenging times throughout the day.

3. The Crayon Study: Science Inquiry in Preschool

Presented by Sarah Jecks

Early Childhood Preschool for All Teacher

Room: Celebration Room

Learn how to create a guided science inquiry with preschoolers in a study of crayons. Preschool student's abilities to make predictions and observations increase during the course of this guided inquiry study. Developmentally appropriate studies using scientific inquiry in preschool and kindergarten are fun and rewarding for the children and the teacher!

4. Hands-On Playful Math

Presented by Sallee Beneke

Associate Professor at St. Ambrose University

Room: Science Room

Discover activities and materials that help preschoolers understand math concepts related to the Early Learning and Development Standards. Four partners in an exciting grant aimed at improving the quality of preschoolers' math experiences will share insights gained from their work.

5. Introducing Nature to Young Children

Presented by Jean Mendoza

Room: ThinkShop

Learn about the importance of introducing nature to young children. Discover how to incorporate nature play into your program every day.

6. Teaching a Love of Literacy

Presented by Melissa Bates

Preschool Teacher

Room: Dance A

Learn how to choose children's literature and how to effectively use it to teach preschoolers. Participants will learn why reading to children is so important and how to use before, during, and after the story as teaching time.

7. Understanding Behaviors - The Impact of Trauma on Children

Presented by Angie Kendall

Community Education Program Manager at Child Abuse Council

Room: Traveling Exhibit Area

This session will discuss how trauma in the lives of children change how their brains develop and how that impacts the way a child grows, learns, and plays. We will discuss how to handle those behaviors as well as ways you can adjust your approach to best serve the children you work with.

8. What's That You Say (...or Don't Say...)?!

Communication with Young Children

Presented by Paula Buck

ECE Instructor

Room: Dance C

Join us to discuss all the ways we communicate with young children and their families. We will talk about behavior (the good, the bad, and the ugly) as a method of communication, barriers to effective communication, and how to use clear and concise language when giving directions or managing guidance situations.

