

Committed to kids

2021 TRAINING CONFERENCE

SESSION DESCRIPTIONS - SATURDAY, JULY 24

9:00am–10:20am - Tools To Build Family Connections

Trainer: Laura Minnigerode, M.Ed., Texas Registered Trainer #9014

"Children benefit when all the adults who care about them work together." – Urie Bronfenbrenner
What tools do we have available to us to make this possible? It's not the easiest task. In this session, we'll talk about some tools and approaches to create an opening for collaboration with families, including research-based tools such as ASQ-3 and PICCOLO. We'll talk about when and how to implement these approaches. We'll also learn a reflective listening tool that can help us to facilitate communication with the families we serve.

10:30am–11:50pm - Supporting and Enhancing Children's Learning

Trainer: Melissa Ply, M.Ed., Texas Registered Trainer #649

Scaffolding is providing assistance that enables a child to successfully complete a task that is too difficult for them to do on their own. We will discuss how to give assistance with specific strategies to use with preschool-aged children.

1:00pm–2:20pm - Creating Strategies for Kindness and Respect in the Early Childhood Classroom

Trainer: Gail Cox, Ph.D.

Should we refer to our class as "friends"? In this session, we will discuss the concept that "We are all friends here at school." We will focus on changing the conversation with children about friendship and kindness behaviors. Foundational article : Delvecchio, B. (2021). We're Not All Friends Here (and That's OK). Young Children, NAEYC

2:30pm–3:50 pm - Supporting Anti-Bias Education in Early Childhood Through Picture Books

Trainer: Meghan Gowin, M.Ed.

Research has shown that children as young as 3 and 4 years old have deep and meaningful understandings of inequities based on identity markers such as race, ethnicity, gender, class, and ability. These understandings are primarily influenced by the adults in their lives, including caregivers and teachers. In this session, participants will learn how to have brave conversations about anti-bias and anti-racist issues with young children through the use of picture books.