



«CENTER»

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The Infant Toddler Children's Center

149 Central St.

Acton, MA 01720

978-263-2064

www.itcacton.org

Children Haven't Changed, Childhood Has: Reinvesting Time in Play, Exploration and Discovery

A Professional Conference

Saturday, February 9, 2013

8:00 a.m. to 12:00



Program Offerings

A) Your Role in the Play of Infants, Toddlers and Two's: Arrange your Space, Choose Your Materials, Set the Stage..and then what? - In this workshop we will review the effect teacher behavior has on the quality of children's play. Through theory, research, stories from the classroom, and our own exploration of materials, we will offer a fresh perspective on ways to support rich play experiences for infants and toddlers. We will include slides, video and a display of unique materials, along with how we present them to children. You will go home with many practical, concrete ideas to enhance your curriculum and a healthy dose of inspiration that will free you to be your best. *Presenters: Emily Waters, Infant Teacher and Cindy Heaney, Infant Toddler Program Coordinator. CORE COMPETENCY: Learning Environments and Implementing Curriculum*

B) There is never just one way to create curriculum that is playful, engaging and challenging: A look at the importance of time, flexibility, and inviting environments in classroom investigation and discovery - Do you provide opportunities and time for trial and error in children's play? How do you connect and encourage learning through your observations and curriculum offerings? Have you considered how long one investigation can continue and how it can grow and change with time? How can you link your children's interests to the preschool curriculum guidelines/standards? Join us as we present evidence of the importance of time, play and repeated experiences. Come and build connections to learning by thinking about and developing curriculum kits that excite and encourage young children. *Presenters: Carole Cammarata, Preschool Teacher and Kathy Linnane, Preschool/School Age Coordinator and ITC Assistant Director. CORE COMPETENCY: Learning Environments and Implementing Curriculum*

C) What's the Rush?: Valuing the time spent exploring "timeless" materials

A parent once commented, "Why are the preschoolers still playing with playdough? They already did that in the toddler room." We believe that materials such as playdough, blocks, and some classic books belong not only in the toddler room but in preschool and kindergarten as well. Join us to explore the many ways of playing with these basic materials and how children's explorations evolve with development. We will discover the deep learning that occurs when children take their time to explore all that these materials can teach them. We will also share ideas about how to talk with parents about the wonderful learning potential of open-ended materials. *Presenters: Karen Paskewicz, Infant Teacher, Janet Winer, Preschool Teacher and Susan Twombly, ITC Director. CORE COMPETENCY: Learning Environments and Implementing Curriculum*

D) Sensory Explorations: The Importance of Getting Messy in Infant and Toddler Classrooms

As early childhood teachers, we know young children love to get messy, but what is the developmental importance behind it? In this workshop we will explore that question as well as the practical implications of incorporating sensory play into your classroom. Videos of infants and toddlers engaged in sensory play will enable us to observe and discuss the various developmental domains children are working on. We will try out a variety of sensory experiences to inspire us with new ideas. *Presenters: Jaime Shenklin, Toddler Teacher and Christin Magliozzi, Toddler Teacher. CORE COMPETENCY: Understanding the Growth and Development of Children and Youth*



Who We Are

The Infant Toddler Children's Center (ITC) was founded in 1981 as one of the first programs in the area designed specifically for infant and toddler child care. Since then, this non-profit organization has expanded to include programs for preschool and school-age children. At ITC, we respect children as unique individuals who are curious and competent learners. Our approach to curriculum is influenced by Jean Piaget, Lev Vygotsky, Howard Gardner, Magda Gerber, Frances and David Hawkins, and the Reggio Emilia Schools in Italy.



Agenda

Saturday, February 9, 2013

8:45-9:00 Light Breakfast

9:00—9:30 Informal tours of ITC

9:30—10:00 Welcome and Opening Remarks

10:00-12:00 Workshops

2 EEC Training Hours given for attendance

Registration

Name _____

School _____

Address _____

Phone _____ e-mail _____

Choose one Workshop—Please use corresponding letter

1st choice _____ 2nd choice _____

Cost: \$40.00 per person or \$35 per person for 4 or more from the same center.

To Register: Mail this form by Feb., 1, 2013 and make checks payable to:

The Infant Toddler Children's Ctr., 149 Central St., Acton, MA 01720

978-263-2064, www.itcacton.org

You are registered unless you hear from us!

Register early, space is limited. Please photocopy