

# Saturday Morning Workshops

## 10:30AM - 12:30PM

AM & PM Workshops must be from the same EEC Core Competency to qualify for CEUs

### **AM1: Children with Sensory Processing Issues**

*EEC Core Competency: 2*

*Linda Schumacher, Early Childhood Specialist*

**Description:** Do you know a child who just doesn't seem to listen, or can't sit still, or over-reacts to everything? Children who have difficulty processing sensory input can also have challenges with behavior, communication, and carrying out everyday activities. Learn more about this complex disorder and discover how you can adapt your environment and interactions to support these children.

### **AM2: Peace Education 101: Peace Education and Creative Arts**

*EEC Core Competency: 2*

*Craig Simpson, Retired Infant Toddler Teacher & Jessica MacLeod, Director URI Child Development Center*

**Description:** In this workshop, we will explore how to use creative arts to teach young children about peace education. We will share ideas and resources in finding ways to teach children about peace and how to integrate peace education and social skills into curriculum.

### **AM3: Reflect, Empathize, Strategize: Discover Opportunities in a Child's Difficult Behaviors**

*EEC Core Competency: 2*

*Learning Seeds*

Using input from art therapy and OT, we will guide educators through our child-planning cycle to Reflect, Empathize, Recognize, Strategize, and Set Intention. Explore and discover how to plan for the hidden potential in a child's difficult behaviors.

### **AM4: Talking Toddler**

*EEC Core Competency: 2*

*Michelle Mady, Program Coordinator/Lead Teacher*

**Description:** Explore how to communicate with toddlers, helping them to understand and problem-solve. Learn how to better connect with toddlers to help them express and manage their emotions and develop self-regulation skills.

### **AM5: Save your Sanity! Learn Meridian Tapping for Stress Relief**

*EEC Core Competency: 4*

*Tijana Coso, EFT Trainer, Coso Consulting*

**Description:** Does your classroom overwhelm you and create a longing to either throw a tantrum or start sucking your thumb? There is a better way – Meridian Tapping! In this experiential workshop you will learn Tapping for stress relief. It's easy to learn and most importantly, it works!

### **AM6: A Child's Place on the Planet: Environmental Education for Young Learners**

*EEC Core Competency: 5*

*Kelly Korenak, Teacher and Curriculum Developer*

**Description:** In this hands-on workshop we will engage in games, role-playing and cooperative group activities that build academic skills (in literacy, numeracy, geography and science) while broadening ecological awareness and global citizenship in children in K-3 classrooms. We will share lesson plans that align with state standards.

### **AM7: Fueling the Mind through Art**

*EEC Core Competency: 5*

*Michael Ruzza, Early Childhood Consultant*

**Description:** Why did STEM turn into STEAM? In this workshop we will reflect on the importance of creative arts in an early learning environment, and how the arts fuel all the other areas of a child's development.

### **AM8: Open Ended Art: A Platform for All Learning Domains**

*EEC Core Competency: 5*

*Cynthia Parker & Kathleen Del Prete, Nion Early Education*

**Description:** Through open-ended art children have the opportunity for self-expression and creativity. It also provides a platform for science, math, and literacy. We will explore how art supports learning across all domains, tying the learning frameworks together.

### **AM9: Coding and Robotics for Little Learners? Yes!**

*EEC Core Competency: 5*

#### **Integrate Arts and Storytelling with KIBO, the Creative STEAM Robot**

*Katherine Blagden, Science Coach/STEAM Teacher, Beverly Public Schools & Dan Riles, Technology Integration Specialist, Brookwood School*

**Description:** Explore how to implement robotics activities into your PreK-2nd grade classroom. In this hands-on workshop you will learn how robotics can support age-appropriate, curriculum relevant STEAM activities. You will leave with ready-to-launch lesson plans that celebrate children's creativity.

### **AM10: Fostering Creative Thinking: STEM in the Early Years**

*EEC Core Competency: 5*

*Niloo Hennings, STEM Educator, Early Start STEM, LLC*

**Description:** STEM curriculum is open-ended, creative, and promotes critical thinking and problem-solving skills in a team building environment. In this interactive workshop you will use every day materials to learn how to effectively implement STEM instruction in your program.

### **AM11: Bringing Nature In: Adapting a Nature Preschool's Curriculum to Fit Any Preschool**

*EEC Core Competency: 5*

*Jessie Trowbridge, Lead Teacher & Rina Zampieron, Curriculum Specialist/Lead Teacher, Massachusetts Audubon*

**Description:** Nature education is gaining momentum for its role as a vital part of young children's educational experience. We will demonstrate how to incorporate nature curriculum into any preschool program through hands-on activities and scenarios.

### **AM12: Songs for Circle Time...or Any Time!**

*EEC Core Competency: 5*

*Hugh Hanley, Early Childhood Music/Play Specialist*

**Description:** Do you need some new music/play activities to rejuvenate your Circle Time singing sessions? In this participatory workshop we will share a variety of developmentally appropriate songs, finger-plays, and music activities that you can incorporate right away. You will discover techniques that make hands-on musical play an enriching, FUN part of your daily preschool curriculum.

### **AM13: Setting the Stage and Guiding Child-Directed Dramatic Play for Equity and Cultural Inclusion**

*EEC Core Competency: 5*

*Ellie Friedland, BU Wheelock College of Education and Human Development*

**Description:** In this workshop you will gain strategies for creating and guiding child-directed dramatic play that is culturally inclusive and actively anti-bias.

### **AM14: Brave Leadership: You Can Do This! Deep, Go All In and Show Them the Love**

*EEC Core Competency: 8*

*Patricia Sinclair, Center Director*

**Description:** Being a program director is a complex position. In this workshop you will sharpen your leadership skills, engage in self-reflection, learn from each other and hear stories of resiliency. Are you ready to become a whole-hearted leader?

# Saturday Afternoon Workshops

## 2:15PM - 4:15PM

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### PM1: The Magical World of Puppet Play

*Patti Jo Wilson, Professional Development Specialist*

EEC Core Competency: 2

**Description:** There is something magical about puppet play with young children. Puppets can be used for intentional lesson planning, helping children handle emotions, and to lay the foundation for conflict resolution. Discover how to develop puppet play strategies to support children's social-emotional development.

### PM2: The Art of Play Therapy: Strategies to Support Peer Interaction

*Denise Galford-Koeppel, Child and Family Therapist, Early Intervention Specialist*

EEC Core Competency: 2

**Description:** Educators need specific skills to manage groups of children while promoting positive social interaction between peers. Learn how to use drama, music, and tactile arts in small and large groups to build social-emotional skills, emotional regulation, self-control and emotional literacy.

### PM3: Brave Children: Exploring an Enhancing Identity, Belonging, and Social-Emotional Literacy through Art and Construction

*Patricia Sinclair, Director & LeeAnn Sinclair, Teacher*

EEC Core Competency: 2

**Description:** Young children need to be seen, to belong, and to practice emotional literacy in the midst of conflict, creative expression and play. In this workshop we will explore the intentional skill development of labeling emotions, learning from mistakes, and modeling language that creates stories that are shame resilient. We will provide a framework for digging deeper into the emotional literacy from a non-judgmental perspective.

### PM4: Mind-Body Classroom: Caring for Yourself and Your Children

*Theresa Melito-Connors, Out of District Special Education Coordinator, Melrose Public Schools*

EEC Core Competency: 4

**Description:** Overwhelming stress can accompany the joys of being an early childhood educator. We will evaluate the strengths and weaknesses around self-care and learn new techniques. We will share strategies to understand how to use and improve self-care practices to cultivate a positive culture and improve outcomes. You will leave with a variety of self-care activities and tools that you can implement immediately.

### PM5: Mindfulness, Creativity and the Arts

*Suzanne Wildman, Professional Development Facilitator*

EEC Core Competency: 5

**Description:** Mindfulness is being present in the moment. You might wonder "What does that have to do with the arts?" Let's get creative! This hands-on workshop will help us to think "outside the box" to create meaningful mindfulness activities using the Arts.

### PM6: The Storytelling Experience

*Traci Glynn, Early Childhood Educator*

EEC Core Competency: 5

**Description:** The academic push towards learning letters, sounds and vocabulary has reduced the creative process of storytelling. Storytelling involves movement and actions, emotional responses, and social connections to characters and experiences. It is playful enjoyment, which is the basis for learning. You will leave with examples and strategies to enhance your storytelling and increase the active participation of your children.

### PM7: Shimmy...Shake...Create!

*Pepper Leclerc*

EEC Core Competency 5

**Description:** Let's get moving! Young children can have difficulty sitting still. What better way to engage children than with activities that let them wiggle and jiggle while they learn! Gross motor activities don't have to be just for the playground. Big Art is a great way to incorporate hands-on art with large motor skills. We will also share ideas for including movement with math, literacy and STEM activities.

### PM8: Exploring Self-Portraits with Young Children

*Joanna Doyle, Director of Training and Professional Development, Clarendon Early Education Services*

EEC Core Competency: 5

**Description:** Self-portraits allow children to explore identity, emotions and diversity. Join us to discover inventive ways to explore self-portraits with young children, and engage with various mediums as we discuss and share best practices for encouraging and supporting this creative process in your program.

### PM9: Nature Art: Awaken, Nourish and Create Outdoors

*Victoria Hackett, The Outdoor Classroom*

EEC Core Competency: 5

**Description:** Fostering a love for the arts and the outdoors can be done in so many different ways. In this workshop we will visit The Gardens for Art and Beauty and explore how the natural landscape and its loose parts can inspire nature-based art lessons around shapes, colors, properties, and patterns. Come ready to play, share, reflect and create. Leave feeling a new sense of wonder and creativity. Add boundless "Seeds of Inspiration" for outdoor learning to your teacher tool kit. This hands-on workshop will tap into your creative genius and will guide you to teach outdoors with confidence.

### PM10: Transitional Card Games

*Mike Melo, Educational Author and Inventor*

EEC Core Competency: 5

**Description:** Fill your daily transition times with fun, play based instructional card games. You will learn a way to teach one-on-one a variety of learning objectives in a short amount of time, using 4 levels of instruction.

### PM11: The Power of Intention: Reconsidering Everyday Early Childhood Practices

*Lisa Kuh, Director of Early Education, City of Somerville & Iris Ponte, Director/Teacher, Henry Frost Children's Program, Ponte and Chau Consulting Inc.*

EEC Core Competency: 5

**Description:** The Complementary Curriculum Approach is built on Four Intentions that support self-regulation and engagement. Learn how to follow children's interests, design compelling materials, give explicit presentations, and scaffold learning responsibly. Experience the power of intention and how discovery and explicit instruction coexist.

### PM12: Block Play: It's More than "Just a Mess"

*Meredith Burkett, Early Childhood Specialist & Trudi Wagner, Pre-K Teacher*

EEC Core Competency: 5

**Description:** Art and creativity come in a variety of forms in a multitude of experiences. Join us to learn how to support creativity through the use of purposeful block play in your program.

### PM13: Cultivating a Creative Center

*Rebecca Putnam, Regis College*

EEC Core Competency: 8

**Description:** In this workshop we will focus on cultivating a creative center. Discussion will include the role an administrator plays in nurturing an environment that fosters innovative thinking, the steps to make it happen, and bridging home and school. You will leave with ideas and strategies to implement in your program.

### PM14: Building and Maintaining Inspiration in the Early Childhood Community

*Donna Gorman, The Inspirational Educator*

EEC Core Competency: 8

**Description:** Inspiration! We all had it at one time. We were inspired to change the world, teach the next generation, support each other, and really make a difference. Somewhere along the line many have lost their inspiration. Let's find ways to bring JOY back to the adults who are caring and educating young children.