Ohio Early Childhood Conference | April 25-27 | Sandusky, OH
Saturday April 27th K, K-3 & School Age Sessions

8:30 AM - 10:00 AM
Language + Literacy = MATH!
Through practical materials and typical daily activity, children are learning math in ways that is sometimes not recognized. This training will connect Language and Literacy to learning mathematical concepts through common practices in early care and education. Progressions in Ohio’s Early Learning Assessment and in Early Learning and Development Standards will also be referenced.

OOEY GOOEY® SQUISHY PLOP! Sensory Play for Every Day!  
This one-of-a-kind workshop will supply you with 6 tables of hands-on art, science and sensory play activity ideas as well as the “wolf words” that support their use in your classroom! Participants will be invited to come up on stage and play with the experiences at the end of the demonstration.

A Joyous Way to Learn! Using Music to Promote Readiness, Literacy & Math Development  
Jim Gill will share examples of his work – both books and songs – that early education and care professionals can bring back to their classrooms, playrooms and family rooms. Most importantly, Jim will discuss how music play inspires young children not only to move, but to regulate their movements.... not only to sing, but to make connections between the words they sing and the printed word and the world of numbers.

Peak Professionalism and Peace: Only a TAP Away!  
You spend your days helping children, but who is there to help you when stress and burnout threaten not only your well-being but also your positive influence on your students, co-workers and in your personal relationships? Self-care isn't selfish! Discover how to lower your stress right now with an evidence-based stress and anxiety relief method called Meridian Tapping. In this practical and action-oriented session, you will learn how to implement Tapping for on-going stress-relief. Tapping doesn't eliminate your stressors, but it can stop your body from reacting so that you show up as the best version of yourself whether in work or simply in life.

5 Crutches of Early Childhood: And Why You Don't Need Them  
Calendar? Letter of the Week? Some early education practices, while common, are not based in what we know about how children learn and can contribute to challenging behaviors. This session challenges practitioners to examine these practices through the lens of early education research and best practices. Together, we will analyze five classroom practices and answer the questions, "what is the goal of this practice?", "does what we are doing meet that goal?", and "what can we do to better meet that goal?". Along our path of reflection, we will also laugh a little and look at real life anecdotes from early childhood classrooms.

FUN: That was the BEST Class Ever! (K-3)  
Connect with each child in their learning style - make learning FUN again! Allow our students to get up and dive into their learning, drawing connections through the arts and technology. No more memorizing material. Spin teaching into engagement for all.
KEYNOTE: Best Day Ever - The Science of Creating Amazing Experiences to Inspire the Next Generation of Scientists & Engineers

Teachers never forget the first day a child runs into their arms and screams, “This was the best day ever!” Sometimes we are left scratching our heads trying to understand why while other times we’re forced to stay late to clean up what’s left of the shaving cream fight. Best Day Ever isn’t just a thing that happens... it’s an expression of gratitude for creating experiences filled with wonder, emotion, surprise and meaning. Best Day Ever is also a powerful metaphor that reminds us how to create experiences that connect people of all ages by understanding more about the science of how young children engage and learn. Join Emmy award-winning television host Steve Spangler as he shares some of his latest discoveries on how to create Best Day Ever experiences in both your personal and professional life. Learn how to use principles of engagement and building connections to create powerful experiences that children will remember for a lifetime.

Magic Moments: Enhancing "Magic" in School Age Programs

Have you ever participated in youth programming as a child? Do you have an encouraging, positive memory of yourself as a child that you could consider a “magic moment”? Discover what “magic moments” are in childhood and how to create them for your school age program. Examine how to create “magic moments” by enhancing quality, environment, vision, and connection. Participants will develop new ideas on how to enhance program activities and will leave with plenty of new resources to implement!

5 Things You Can Do Today to Lessen Challenging Behaviors Tomorrow

A child exhibiting challenging behaviors can throw a classroom, and even a center, into chaos. And many early childhood professionals feel powerless to address these behaviors. The good news is that there are actions teachers can take to lessen the occurrences of challenging behaviors. This session provides five concrete practices educators can implement immediately to regain a sense of power in the classroom. Once calm has returned, the community can get back to the business of playing and learning.

STEM for Little Sprouts

Steve Spangler shares his secrets for uncovering the coolest science treasures at Walmart, Home Depot and your local grocery store. Come prepared to join Steve on stage, get your hands messy and learn some simple strategies for helping young children build their own age appropriate science connections.

More Than Just Reading a Book! (Part 1)

Reading a book with a child or children is one of the big joys of working with young children. Watching children’s faces as the story develops and children are wrapped in the story along with the rhythm and magic of the language of each book reinforces the importance of reading books with children. Understanding that reading books with children builds language skills, social and emotional skills and many school readiness skills will be a focus of this session. We will look at what books support different skills in developmental stages and how to promote parent engagement in reading with children regularly.
Managing Your Emotions with Conscious Discipline® (Part 1)
Based on the teaching of Dr. Becky Bailey, this session will help you understand the natural process of how emotions work. Using the 5-Step Self-Regulation process first in helping us become conscious of our emotions and then coaching the children in our care.

Baggage Claim: What's in Your Carry On
As early childhood educators we can often feel weighed down. We carry daily baggage with us whether we know it or not. This baggage effects every part of our day, and those we engage with throughout it. This session is geared to support you in identifying your personal and/or professional baggage and then letting go of damaged goods and only carrying bags that will inspire, support, influence, build, and propel you forward as effective caregivers, teachers, and professionals.

Laughing the Stress Away
How stressed are you? This session will explore various techniques to manage and reduce stress including laughter. Come laugh and discover how to maintain a sense of humor while working with children.

Growing Up WILD
Growing Up WILD is an exciting, hands-on workshop that will leave you with a multitude of ideas and information on how to integrate wildlife and the environment into your regular lessons in an inclusive preschool classroom or any classroom setting. Participants will receive the Growing Up WILD guide which includes over 25 lessons designed to lead children through activities that incorporate science, reading, art, math, music and more in a fun, hands-on way. Each lesson includes an opportunity to use nature and the outdoors for an even richer experience for your children. All lessons have been correlated to NAEYC, Head Start and Ohio Early Childhood Content Standards in both science and social studies.

Saturday, April 27th  3:00 PM -4:30 PM

Inspiring Music Play
Ready to sing and move? Jim Gill will share his active musical games and explain the purpose behind his play. Jim’s music play provides a context for children to develop abilities, such as self-regulation, essential to school success. Jim will also discuss how a play-based program provides an inclusive environment for children of all backgrounds and ability levels and will share musical games created for his work with children with special needs.

10 Little Hotdogs Frying In The What?!?!…Finger Play Songs and Chants for Transition Time, Circle Time or Any Time!
During this session Lisa will not only lead the participants in a sing-along of classic finger play songs, she will also use many of them as a springboard to discuss deeper issues facing early childhood educators. While encouraging participants to leave their inhibitions at home and come ready to sing, play, clap and shout along, the main point of the session is to assist participants in seeing how memorizing numerous songs and chants will assist them (and their students!) as they navigate daily transitions with young children.
Advocating for a Unified and Well Compensated ECE Profession

NAEYC’s Power to the Profession project is focused on early childhood educators - and committed to equitably advancing an effective, diverse and well-compensated profession across all states and settings. This is your profession, and there is a place for you here. We invite you to join the conversation and contribute your expertise and passion.

A Necessary Tool in A Teacher’s Tool Box

Every job requires special tools. Learn why "Bucket Filling" is the tool of choice. Bucket filling 201 expands on the bucket filling rules by emphasizing daily self-reflection and committing to a lifestyle of happiness and positivity for both yourself and all those around you. Positivity begins when employees understand the bucket concept and learn the importance of keeping their own bucket filled, so they, in turn, can work together to fill the buckets of others.

More Than Just Reading a Book! (Part 2)

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Helping Children Express Their Mad Feelings with Words

Participants will explore behaviors that children use as means of communication and discover how to help children master their aggressive impulses. Common classroom scenarios will be analyzed. Participants will leave with solutions and strategies to support children express feelings and emotions.

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Supporting Quality by Strengthening School Age Professionals

Join us to learn about Ohio’s NEW School-Age Professional Endorsement. We will discuss how the endorsement supports professional growth, enhances program quality, and assists in meeting the needs
of school-age children. Participants will explore topics and resources from the training modules and discover strategies for implementing in the school-age environment.

**STEM for Skeptics Series: Embracing the Scientific Method in Early Childhood Education (Pre-K)**

Children are natural scientists! In this hands-on session attendees will learn how to effectively engage children in authentic meaningful science investigations through play-based interactions. Discover how to develop, devise and model play-based investigation using the scientific method approach. Return to your classroom empowered to embrace science throughout the day.

**Culturally Responsive Classroom: Working with Culturally and Linguistically Diverse Children and Families**

Our classrooms become more diverse regarding the cultural and linguistic background of children and their families. When children notice and comment about physical appearance differences often associated with race, adults may experience discomfort and uncertainty about how to respond. As a result, many adults try to avoid or terminate such discussion, leaving children with unanswered questions and misunderstandings. Teachers are faced with the challenge of creating environments encouraging the development of positive attitudes towards diversity. To prepare educators to support the development of children’s positive racial identity and racial awareness, it is important for educators to examine their own attitudes, biases and knowledge about race and racism. This session provides teaching strategies on how to steer young children and their families from diverse backgrounds using culturally responsive teaching strategies.