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

7:30 AM - 10:30 AM

FLIP IT! Overview and Four Steps Strategy - (FULL DAY - 6.5 hours)
FLIP IT is a four-step behavior strategy rooted in developing emotional awareness in order to increase emotional control. This strategy works to reduce challenging behaviors in children ages 3-8. FLIP IT can be used with multiple children at the same time during minor challenges throughout a day or used as a targeted intervention that can support the emotional growth of a child displaying specific behavior concerns.

8:30 AM - 10:00 AM

Making Connections through Intentional Instruction
We will address intentional teaching strategies in the early learning environment and employ them to achieve the most out of children’s play and lead them to school readiness. We will consider the physical environment, daily schedule, and interactions that are both child and teacher directed. These curriculum neutral strategies will be seen as an integral part of lesson plans and teachable moments.

Superhero Play: Heroes of Resiliency and Reciprocity for All Young Children
Superhero Play is a specialized form of fantasy play with considerable appeal to young children. During superhero play, children have opportunities to pretend and often to play different types of roles within a safe and caring environment. This workshop will explore the essence of superhero fantasy play along with its benefits for young children. In addition, the workshop examines the challenge of superhero play in classrooms for early childhood education by exploring teachers’ roles in play. This workshop will suggest ways teachers can increase resiliency, encourage new friendships, and build classroom community among peers during play and classroom activities.

Inclusion in the Classroom: How Can English Language Learners be Supported and Included in an Inclusive Classroom?
With an increasingly high rate of diverse learners entering the classroom setting, it has become more of a challenge for educators to create an environment that will include diverse learners. Despite the extent of the challenge of creating an all-inclusive environment, all diverse children deserve a meaningful, purposeful education and deserve to be included with their peers. This session will explore and explain the importance of inclusion, in addition to strategies/methods to incorporate in your classroom to establish an all-inclusive environment for English Language Learners.

Ohio Department of Education’s Strategic Plan and Early Childhood Education: Each Child, Our Future
Each Child, Our Future aims to ensure every child is challenged, prepared and empowered to become a resilient, lifelong learner who contributes to society. Ohio’s five-year strategic plan for education. Co-designed over the last year by parents, educators, employers, philanthropic leaders, policymakers and students, the plan seeks to lift aspirations, guide development of state-level policies and promote quality education practices across the state. By meeting the needs of the whole child, we’re giving children tools for success that will last far beyond their years in Ohio’s preK-12 education system.
STEAM in the ECE Environment: Passport to STEAM Learning Pre-K-K
This presentation is a hands-on, active exploration of approaches to integrate STEAM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts, and Mathematics) in the ECE classroom. After an orientation, attendees will fill in a passport as they move through four unique, innovative STEAM learning centers through the lens of the learner. Each center will provide hands-on experiences/lesson plans, as well as exemplify specific global learning approaches, styles, and connections.

Math All Around Us: Using Ecology to Teach K-3 Math Concepts
In this hands-on session, the presenter will engage participants in activities that build numeracy skills while encouraging students’ sense of wonder about ecology and geography. Math lessons focus on ecology topics ranging from wildlife populations and habitat to natural resource use and conservation. Formats include the creation of mathematical models and simple graphs, role-playing simulations and math games, all matched to Ohio Learning Standards.

Thursday April 25th 10:45 AM -11:45 AM

KEYNOTE Building Your Bounce: 23 Questions That Can Change The Way You Look At Life!
Building Your Bounce is a keynote designed to meet you where you are and take you to a place of greater strength, determination, and resiliency. Participants are sure to leave this presentation with energy, enthusiasm and a commitment to make a few positive changes in their lives that will lead to greater happiness and fulfillment that will undoubtedly resonate in the work they do every day with children and families. This presentation will emphasize how important it is that adults take care of themselves and promote their social-emotional health; how the social-emotional well-being of adults impacts the children in their care in both positive and negative ways; and specific, simple and inexpensive strategies to reduce stress and promote their social-emotional health.

Thursday, April 25th 1:00 PM - 2:30 PM

Conscious Discipline® - You Can Do It! (Part 1)
The Conscious Discipline® approach provides a transformational, whole-school solution for social-emotional learning, discipline and self-regulation. Learn the steps to beginning successful Conscious Discipline implementation in your classroom as a preschool teacher and Conscious Discipline® Certified Instructor join together to share their practical experience to help you get started in your Conscious Discipline® journey. Discover how to use the latest brain research and resources to help children progress from aggression to calm self-regulation, freeing them to make better choices and empathize with others.

Check Your Face and Other Body Parts at the Door
Spend this session checking out yourself and how your physical affect and actions may impact the young children you serve. A unique opportunity to reflect on your physical self and how that contributes to building esteem, rapport, and trust in young children.

The Heartbeat and Flow of Teaching: Leading with Compassion, Celebrating with Passion, and Connecting with Collaboration! (Part 1)
Leadership development is an essential component of every early childhood professional. Early
childhood professionals should take time to reinvent, energize, excel, and preserve in their professional roles. Empowering early childhood leaders with a clear vision that provides focus and encourages cooperation are needed today for all children and families! Explore effective ways to format your personal leadership style by discovering the power of flow and investigating attributes that create flow and passion into the heartbeat of teaching. This interactive workshop is designed to discover the compassionate leader in you, investigate your passions and leadership dispositions for teaching, and identify the power of team work and communication skills for effective collaboration.

**Where the Boys Are Version 2.0 (Part 1)**
This training explores the possibility that boys have different needs in the classroom than girls. Many of those differences can be related to the way that the different genders are socialized, as well as, differences in brain structure. Based on these differences and the fact that boys seem to be falling behind girls academically, teachers are asked to examine current teaching methods and explore new methods that might be more engaging to males.

**Science and The Young Child (PreK-K)**
Pre-K – K Focus
This session is designed for early childhood professionals working with children in preschool through kindergarten settings. Participants will engage in discussion, identification, and creation of developmentally appropriate math lessons with assessments that are aligned to Ohio’s Learning Standards.

**Check Your Face and Other Body Parts at the Door**
Featured Speaker
Spend this session checking out yourself and how your physical affect and actions may impact the young children you serve. A unique opportunity to reflect on your physical self and how that contributes to building esteem, rapport, and trust in young children.

**Working with Children Who Have Learning Disabilities Can Lead Everyone to F.A.T. City**
Have you ever wondered what it feels like to be a child with a learning disability in your classroom? They often feel frustration, anxiety, and tension (F.A.T.) that can manifest into socially unacceptable behaviors in your classroom. Come explore and experience what it can feel like for a child who has a disability trying to survive in a classroom designed for typically developing children and reflect on what you might do differently to reduce their stress.

**Open-Ended Art: Advanced Techniques**
A creative art center serves as an excellent addition to any classroom environment, but even young children can begin to explore art techniques and develop art skills that go beyond the basics. Participants in this interactive presentation will explore examples of open-ended art. The discussion will move to advanced art techniques that teachers can apply in preschool and school-age care settings, including strategies for art appreciation.

*Thursday, April 25th  3:00 PM -4:30 PM*

**Empathy 101: Increasing your Capacity for Empathy**
Participants will identify and recognize their current levels of compassion and empathy. They will be able to use new knowledge gained regarding empathy and apply that to their personal and professional
lives. Participants will leave with a fresh perspective on their job, work and life.

**Teaching Consent to Young Children (2 hours)**
In an age of frequent assault allegations and abuse statistics, how do we raise children to understand, set, and respect personal boundaries? How can we take preemptive steps to protect children from abuse? Families and caregivers send daily messages about consent without realizing it, and we can help them be intentional with words and actions. We will discuss consent and developmentally appropriate practice, using breakout group discussion and role-play.

**Measuring Classroom Quality with OCOT: The Ohio Classroom Observation Tool**
What does “quality” look like in the early childhood classroom? What criteria is used to determine developmentally appropriate environment and interactions? In this session, an overview of the Ohio Classroom Observation Tool (OCOT) used in the SUTQ rating process will be provided. A deeper look at the indicators of quality used in the tool and how they are assessed during the onsite visit will be reviewed and discussed. This session will be beneficial for all early childhood program staff regardless of participation in SUTQ.

**Building Your STEAM Team**
During this interactive journey, we will discuss developmentally appropriate activities for S.T.E.A.M. (Science, Technology, Engineering, Art, and Mathematics). We will define each component and explore how they can be integrated in centers and throughout the learning environment. We will look at the learning environment.

**Aligning Math Standards and Developmentally Appropriate Practices (Part 2)**
This session is designed for early childhood professionals working with children in preschool through kindergarten settings. Participants will engage in discussions, identification, and creation of developmentally appropriate math lessons with assessments that are aligned to Ohio’s Learning Standards.

**The Heartbeat and Flow of Teaching: Leading with Compassion, Celebrating with Passion, and Connecting with Collaboration! (Part 2)**
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Discipline® journey. Discover how to use the latest brain research and resources to help children progress from aggression to calm self-regulation, freeing them to make better choices and empathize with others.

**Fine Motor Skills Write Out of the Box®**
Engaging, hands-on presentation of the fine motor development of young children 3-6 years old. This session contains essential, rarely addressed information for educators of all young children, which supports pencil grasp, pre-writing, and scissor skill development across the curriculum. Activities and techniques are ready to use in the classroom tomorrow!

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**Communication Skills for Challenging Conversations: An Overview**
This session will provide an overview of NAEYC’s 5 Modules on Communication Skills for Challenging Conversations: principles of family centered care, communication skills and strategies, setting limits, when a teacher has a concern and when a parent has a concern. Effective approaches to conducting difficult conversations will be discussed and skills and tips for building confidence when navigating these conversations will be provided. Participants will leave empowered to establish and maintain partnerships with families they serve.

**Do Butterflies Eat Butter? Teaching Content in Kindergarten Through Meaningful Inquiry That Engages Children’s Minds**
Project-based investigations, or studies, enable kindergarten students to actively explore topics that reflect their interests and are relevant to their lives. These in-depth explorations require students to communicate their ideas, think mathematically, test hypotheses, and think like scientists while building on process skills that are critical to school success. Participants will explore the many ways in which studies enable kindergarten students to observe and explore, make connections, solve problems, organize information, and communicate and represent their ideas as they learn important concepts and skills related to literacy, mathematics, science and technology, social studies, and the arts.

Thursday, April 25th 5:00 PM -6:30 PM

**Celebrate Today, Today: Still Teaching in the Key of Life!**
Join Vincent and Mimi for a total participation session that pairs music with age-appropriate activities and simplified signs to introduce shared community values to children and the professionals who teach them. Songs which convey values should be engaging and fun, but they should also be purposeful: showing young learners the connection between music and participation in social groups both in and outside of the classroom. Movements and simplified ASL-based signs accompany every song, along with an active discussion of the values within.
Bag of Tricks! Transition Tools and Tips

You don’t have to be a magician to create transitions that help young children move smoothly and joyfully from one activity to the next. Add to your collection of quick and amusing learning activities to facilitate transitions with children. These "in-between" activity times are valuable teachable moments.