Ohio Early Childhood Conference | April 25-27 | Sandusky, OH

Saturday April 27th Infant & Toddler Sessions

8:30 AM - 10:00 AM

Pepsi or Picasso: The Benefits of Project-Based Learning in Early Childhood
Every teacher faces challenging behaviors in their classroom but when trauma is a factor, behaviors can seem impossible to support. In this session, challenging behavior will be dissected to determine the function and examined through a traditional behavioral lens before trauma is explored to see how it can impact and exacerbate behaviors in young children. Participants will gain insight on how trauma impacts developing brains, how children display trauma and techniques to use in the classroom to tackle these behaviors. This session will wrap up with a discussion on teacher self-care. We are passionate about the work we do in early childhood, but it can be trying, and we need support as well.

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.

Developmentally Appropriate Practice with Infants and Toddlers
This session will address the "how to" and "why" of implementing developmentally appropriate practices with the very young child during the first three years of life. The most recent research concerning brain development during this period and the critical role of the infant/toddler caregiver will be emphasized.

Saturday April 27th 10:45 AM -11:45 AM

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.

**Saturday, April 27th  1:00 PM - 2:30 PM**

**Beyond Finger Painting!**
Feel stuck during your planning time? Have trouble taking an observation and using that knowledge to extend a child's interest? This session is designed to provide strategies that will help you go deeper into your curriculum planning. Come ready to discover how to use authentic materials and take children beyond the typical classroom experiences!

**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.

**Trauma and Resiliency in Young Children (Part 1)**
This interactive workshop is designed to define and recognize trauma as it relates to infants, toddlers and young children. Participants will explore brain development for children birth to 5 years as well as the long-term effects trauma can have on the developing brain. Strategies for fostering resilience in those affected by trauma will be demonstrated. Participants will discover the importance of self-care in order to provide emotionally safe environments for the children around us.

**What Does Social-Emotional Development Look Like in Infants and Toddlers? (Part 1)**
Looking to deepen your understanding of social-emotional development in infants and toddlers? Attend this session to explore the six stages of social-emotional development and the influence responsive caregiving has on development. Return to your classroom ready to nurture social-emotional growth with your youngest children.

**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
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.

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.

Infant Brain Development  
Attendees will explore the neurological process involved during the first 3 years of life. This session discusses how caregivers can support infant and toddler brain development through attention, bonding,
and communication. Leave with practical strategies and real-life examples to strengthen relationships and enhance the environment to nurture growth and development.

**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.

**What Does Social-Emotional Development Look Like in Infants and Toddlers? (Part 2)**

Looking to deepen your understanding of social-emotional development in infants and toddlers? Attend this session to explore the six stages of social-emotional development and the influence responsive care-giving has on development. Return to your classroom ready to nurture social-emotional growth with your youngest children.

**More Than Just Reading a Book! (Part 2)**

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 2)**

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.

**Competent, Curious Co-Learners: Constructing a Reggio Inspired Community**

WHY?? How you respond to this question can alter how children learn. During this interactive session, participants will examine their role as educators through the Reggio approach to learning and discover how to effectively influence learning through the Reggio lens. Together, we will reflect on the Image of the Child and engage in activities that will provoke meaningful and intentional learning experiences.

**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.

**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.