



BUILDING BLOCKS

A Newsletter for Teachers Working with Preschool
Educational Equity For All

November 2017



Resources: Practical Strategies for Teachers/Caregivers

- [Scripted Stories for Social Situations](#)
- [Tools for Working on “Building Relationships”](#)
- [Book List](#)
- [Book Nook](#)
- [Teaching Social Emotional Skills](#)
- [Tools for Developing Behavior Support Plans](#)
- [Download the Practical Strategies Flyer for Teachers](#)

<http://csefel.vanderbilt.edu/resources/strategies.html>



Play and Children's Learning

Read about the latest research on play, play based learning, why play is an important part of children's learning and development, the role of play in the classroom and ideas to share with families.

What the Research Says about Play

- [Play's Role in Learning is Complex](#)
- [More Threats to Preschoolers' Play](#)
- [Debunking the Play Versus Learning Dichotomy](#)
- [Gender-Typed Toys](#)
- [Impact of Specific Toys on Play](#)
- [Dr. Alison Gopnik on the Evidence that Connects Play to Learning](#)
- [References to Play in NAEYC Position Statements](#)

<http://www.naeyc.org/play>



Learning Decks

Learning Decks are professional development webinars for those who work with, or on behalf of, young children with special needs.

<http://www.dec-sped.org/archived-learning-decks>



The Importance of Consistency

Consistency is an important characteristic of the daily schedule. Young children feel more secure when they can predict the sequence of events and have some control over their day. They delight in reminding the teacher that “snack comes next” or telling a visitor that “now we go outside”. In addition, predictability provides children with a rudimentary sense of time, as they begin to learn what comes first in the day, second, next and last. A consistent schedule also helps build trust.

Consistency does not, however, preclude flexibility or spontaneity. A special occurrence can be reason enough to alter the daily routine. Your schedule should be developmentally appropriate. Waiting times should be kept to a minimum and adequate time allotted for putting on coats and hats, eating meals and snacks, and cleaning up. Work periods should be long enough to give children time to select materials and activities, and everyone get a chance to participate.

The Creative Curriculum®

FEATURED IDEA OF THE MONTH

FALL SENSORY BAGS



<http://www.kidsplaybox.com/fall-activities-for-kids-fall-sensory-bags/>

Kids Play Box



The Early Childhood STEM Institute

April 23-24, 2018

[Hilton Anaheim](#), Anaheim, CA

This event will be a pre-conference option in-conjunction with the NHSA Annual Conference and Expo, April 23-27, 2018

Registration opens January 2018 – [NHSA Events](#)

<http://www.region9hsa.org/learn/the-early-childhood-stem-institute/>

Storyline Online

The SAG-AFTRA Foundation's award-winning children's literacy website, Storyline Online, streams videos featuring celebrated actors reading children's books alongside creatively produced illustrations.

Storyline Online Public Service Announcement - 30 second spot...



Storyline Online is available 24 hours a day for children, parents, caregivers and educators worldwide. Each book includes supplemental curriculum developed by a credentialed elementary educator, aiming to strengthen comprehension and verbal and written skills for English-language learners.

<http://www.storylineonline.net/about-us/>

WEBSITES AND RESOURCES

<https://goo.gl/ym5y8o>

<https://goo.gl/oNHQRa>

<https://goo.gl/YaQX2h>



PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

Frank Porter Graham Child Development Institute

CONNECT Online Courses

CONNECT in partnership with Quality Assist has developed a series of online courses that are self-paced and self-guided. These CEU / state training credit-granting courses will integrate CONNECT Modules' rich content and innovative 5-Step Learning Cycle TM with Quality Assist's approach to engaging and interactive online learning.

1. Foundations of Inclusion (0.1 CEU)
2. All, Some and a Few: Tiered Instruction (0.4 CEU)
3. Storybook Conversations (0.4 CEU)
4. Weaving Inclusion into Everyday Activities (0.5 CEU)
5. Adaptations That Work (0.5 CEU)
6. Communication for Professional Collaboration (0.25 CEU)
7. Smooth Moves: Program Transitions (0.5 CEU)
8. Better Together: Powerful Family Partnerships (0.25 CEU)

<http://connect.fpg.unc.edu/connect-online-courses>



Pre-K Mathematics Workshops. Three locations in November!

WestEd's Early Mathematics Training Network, led by Drs. Starkey, Klein and Flynn, along with their professional development team, will provide one-day workshops to select Region 9 Head Start programs! These workshops will provide "deep dives" into early mathematics' domains linked to the common core state standards, including counting and number, arithmetic, and space and geometry. Space is limited!

Fee: Member \$159/Non-Member \$169.

Select a location to review the training agenda and register:

- Sacramento, CA - November 7
- Phoenix, AZ - November 9
- Los Angeles, CA - November 13

<https://goo.gl/d82sWN>