

**HUGE RESOURCE LIST TO INSPIRE OUR WORK!!**  
**collected by Jacky Howell, MA [azspire@gmail.com](mailto:azspire@gmail.com)**  
**UPDATED EVERY OTHER MONTH—email me for current copy!!**

**MISCELLANEOUS RESOURCES**

<http://www.azspire.com/>--Jacky Howell's website

[www.addall.com](http://www.addall.com) --a way to order books at the LEAST cost when you know a specific book you would like!

<http://folkmanis.com> --the BEST place to get puppets and will sell to centers wholesale

<http://www.wnba.com> --follow women's sports---ask Jacky for a copy of NCAA plans and/or WNBA plans next season!

<http://www.ted.com> --a variety of inspirational talks on MANY topics

<https://fairydustteaching.com/> --great resource for the 'passion of wonder and the magic of childhood'!

<http://www.simpletruths.com/> --inspirational books of quotes/stories

<http://www.inspiredteaching.org/>--DC school/training for inspired teachers

<https://puttyworld.com> --amazing putty that is really different!

<https://www.passiton.com/> --inspirational quotes and resources

<http://www.redleafpress.org/>--book resources

<http://www.nifplay.org/> --Nat'l Institute for Play

<http://www.childcareexchange.com>--Join the free "ExchangeEveryDay"—an electronic newsletter with quotes and information

<https://www.naeyc.org/> --largest early childhood professional organization, conferences and more!

<http://www.allianceforchildhood.org/> --The Alliance for Childhood promotes policies and practices that support children's healthy development, love of learning, and joy in living.

[www.explorationsearlylearning.com](http://www.explorationsearlylearning.com) --Jeff Johnson's *Let Them Play* website of resources

<http://www.earlychildhoodwebinars.com/> amazing FREE webinars on a variety of topics with certificates!

<https://www.edutopia.org/> --George Lucas educational foundation, resources, articles and more!

<http://www.karmatube.org/> -- [KarmaTube](http://www.karmatube.org/) is dedicated to bringing inspirational stories to light, using the power of video and the internet to multiply acts of kindness, beauty, and generosity.

## **CREATIVITY/THE ARTS/BOOKS/MUSIC**

<http://littlefingersplay.blogspot.com/> --songs and fingerplays blog

<http://people.ucalgary.ca/~dkbrown/> --children's literature web guide

<http://www.childrensmusic.org/> --resources for free children's music

<http://www.storyarts.org/> --storytelling in the classroom

<http://freekidsmusic.com/> --more free music for children

<http://www.sagecraft.com/puppetry/building/index.html> --ideas for making puppets

<http://www.ooeygoeey.com/> --the ooey goeey lady's resources for arts/creativity

<http://www.tomhunter.com/> --music resources from an inspirational man, Tom Hunter

<http://amomwithalessonplan.com/category/abcs-of-storytelling/>--ABC resources to tell stories

<http://www.albertwhitman.com/> --children's books

<https://playingforchange.com> --connecting the world through music—amazing videos!

<http://www.illumin.com/> --children's books

<http://www.k-12music.org> --lots of music resources

<http://www.songsforteaching.com/index.html> --music for curriculum topics

<http://www.aneverydaystory.com/> --project based and Reggio inspired living and learning

<http://www.mylittlebookcase.com.au/> --ideas for books and activities with children

<https://www.freespirit.com/> --social emotional learning books and more!

[http://www.wessland.com/early\\_childhood\\_art\\_recipes.htm](http://www.wessland.com/early_childhood_art_recipes.htm) --many great art recipes

<http://healingstoriespicturebooks.blogspot.com/> --AMAZING resources on children's books that are on feelings, issues and more!!

<http://childrensbooksheal.com/> --AMAZING info on good children's books on feelings, etc.

Plank, Emily. *Discovering the Culture of Childhood*. Redleaf Press, 2016.

Christakis, Erika. *The Importance of Being Little: What Preschoolers Really Need From Grownups*. Viking, 2016.

## **ANTI-BIAS/SOCIAL JUSTICE RESOURCES**

<http://www.teachingforchange.org/> -- provides teachers and parents with the tools to create schools where students learn to read, write and change the world.

<https://www.rethinkingschools.org/index.shtml> --resources and information addressing urban schools, particularly issues of race and more.

<http://thekulturekidz.com/> --resources for black history

<http://www.edchange.org/multicultural/> --variety of multicultural ideas and issues

<https://nameorg.org/> --national association for multicultural education

<https://www.whiteprivilegeconference.com/> -- WPC is a conference that examines challenging concepts of privilege and oppression and offers solutions and team building strategies to work toward a more equitable world.

<http://www.tolerance.org/> --resource for educators around issues of diversity

<http://www.languagecastle.com/> --resources for educators working with linguistically diverse children

<https://socialjusticebooks.org/about/> --multicultural and social justice books for children, YA and educators

<https://coloursofus.com/> --multicultural books for children and more!!

<https://www.tolerance.org/classroom-resources> --great resources!

Sullivan, Debra Ren-Etta. *Cultivating the Genius of Black Children: Strategies to Close the Achievement Gap in the Early Years*. Redleaf Press, 2016.

Robinson, Ken. *Creative Schools: The Grassroots Revolution That's Transforming Education*. Penguin Books, 2015

Moore, Jr Eddie, Michael Ali and Marguerite W. Penick-Parks. *The Guide for White Women Who Teach Black Boys*. Corwin, 2018.

Pelo, Ann. *Rethinking Early Childhood Education*. Rethinking Schools, 2008.

## **BLOGS WRITTEN BY OTHER EDUCATORS**

--can get good ideas from them!

<http://kiwiteacherblog.blogspot.com/> --new Zealand ece and more!

[https://seecstories.com/?page\\_id=380](https://seecstories.com/?page_id=380) --blog by the Smithsonian Early Enrichment Center---great ideas!

<http://shellyterrell.com/> --teacher reboot camp "challenging ourselves to engage our students"

<http://imaginationsoup.net/> --engaging learning activities and projects

<http://www.notimeforflashcards.com/> --ideas for babies, toddlers and kids from variety of authors

<http://notjustcute.com/> --blog on intentional whole child development

<https://www.drlangraad.com/> --speaker and educator

<http://www.inspiredec.com/blog> --providing inspirational professional development opportunities for early childhood educators

<http://myearlychildhoodreflections.blogspot.com/> --great blog by friend Maureen who teaches at Center for Inspired Teaching

<https://dianeravitch.net/> -- a site to discuss better education for all

<http://www.theimaginationtree.com/> --many creative ideas

<http://curmudgucation.blogspot.com/> --trying to make sense of what's happening in education

<https://www.marc-armitage.com/> -- Marc Armitage is a consultant, researcher and writer in play, playing and playwork.

<http://preschool-daze.com/> --ideas from a small community preschool

<http://www.teachpreschool.org/> --more creative ideas

<http://www.deepfun.com/> --“games for the seriously playful”

<http://scottsbricks.blogspot.com/> -- “thoughts on helping young children learn and grow”

<http://teachertombsblog.blogspot.com/> --teacher from a Seattle cooperative preschool—thought-provoking and idea filled

<http://www.handsfreemama.com/> --ideas from a mom who looks at “living life” hands free

<http://www.rainbowswithinreach.blogspot.com/> --musician and educator with many ideas

<http://teaching2and3yearolds.blogspot.com/> --many ideas—“teach what you know and continue to grow”

<http://readingyear.blogspot.com/> --from two teachers who read a lot!

<http://listography.com/paigeful> --lists of ideas from a local colleague!

<http://littleilluminations.blogspot.com/> --variety of creative ideas

<http://playfullylearning.blogspot.com/> --creative ideas

<http://aplaceimagined.blogspot.com/> --creative playhouses

<http://all4mychild.com/blog/> --collaborative tools and technologies

<http://creativestarlearning.blogspot.com/> --the “emergency exit to outdoor learning”

<http://auntannieschildcare.blogspot.com/> --parenting blog

<http://picklebums.com/> --parent blog from ece teacher

<http://creativestarlearning.co.uk/> --ideas on learning and playing outdoors

<http://www.childcentralstation.com/> --lots of ideas

<http://www.prekandksharing.blogspot.com/> --sharing of many ece contributors including Mimi Brodsky Chenfeld

<http://eyesonnature.blogspot.com/> --old blog of nature ideas

<http://rainydaymum.co.uk/> --parent blog

<http://www.toddlerapproved.com/> --toddler activities

<http://mamasmliles.com/> --parenting through creativity, learning, and play.

<http://www.artfulparent.com/> --art ideas

<http://www.nosuchthingasbadweather.blogspot.com/> --focus on outdoors

<http://pinkandgreenmama.blogspot.com/> --creative arts ideas

<http://craftyteacher.blogspot.com/> --variety of art projects

<http://creativestarlearning.co.uk/> --learning and play outdoors

<http://www.angelamaiers.com> --ideas from the "Passion Driven Classroom"

<http://www.penniesoftime.blogspot.com.au/> --ideas on teaching children to serve

<http://brainrules.blogspot.com> --John Medina author of *Brain Rules*

[www.danpink.com](http://www.danpink.com) -- Daniel Pink, author and his blog

[www.howardgardner.com](http://www.howardgardner.com) --Howard Gardner's website

<http://sethgodin.typepad.com> --Seth Godin's blog

<http://cccare.wordpress.com/> --Cheryl's family child care blog

<http://www.sharonsgarden.com/> -- Sharon's family child care blog with many creative ideas

<http://www.redtedart.com/> --variety of crafts ideas

<https://www.weareteachers.com/> --variety of ideas

<http://playempowers.blogspot.com/> --great blog by a colleague

## **DISCIPLINE**

<http://consciousdiscipline.com/> --Becky Bailey's website

<http://csefel.vanderbilt.edu/> --Center on the Social and Emotional Foundations for Early Learning

<http://greatergood.berkeley.edu/education> --science of social/emotional development

<http://www.challengingbehavior.org/> --social emotional intervention

<http://www.freespirit.com/> --social emotional resources/publishing

<http://casel.org/> --Collaborative for Academic and Social Emotional Learning

<http://www.preventiveoz.org/> --parent's resource on temperament and discipline

<http://ecap.crc.illinois.edu/> --the early childhood parenting collaborative

[https://www.weareteachers.com/15-must-have-picture-books-for-teaching-social-emotional-skills/?utm\\_content=1499911400&utm\\_medium=social&utm\\_source=twitter](https://www.weareteachers.com/15-must-have-picture-books-for-teaching-social-emotional-skills/?utm_content=1499911400&utm_medium=social&utm_source=twitter) --children's books

Bailey, Becky. *Managing Emotional Mayhem: The Five Steps for Self-Regulation*. Loving Guidance, FL, 2011.

Bailey, Becky. *Creating the School Family: Bully-Proofing Classrooms Through Emotional Intelligence*. Loving Guidance, FL, 2011.

Bilmes, Jenna. *Beyond Behavior Management: The Six Life Skills Children Need to Thrive in Today's World*. Redleaf Press, revised, 2012.

Dombro, Amy Laura, Judy Jablon and Charlotte Stetson. *Powerful Interactions: How to Connect with Children to Extend Their Learning*. NAEYC, 2011

Jacobson, Tamar. *Please Don't Get So Upset!: Helping Young Children Manage Their Feelings by Understanding Your Own*. Redleaf Press, 2008.

Mooney, Carol Garhart. *Use Your Words: How Teacher Talk Helps Children Learn*. Redleaf Press, 2005. *Choose Your Words: Communicating with Young Children*. Redleaf Press, 2018.

Shumaker, Heather. *It's OK to Go Up the Slide: Renegade Rules for Raising Confident and Creative Kids*. TarcherPerigree, 2016.

## **DONATIONS**

<http://www.donorschoose.org/> --post projects for funding

<http://www.teacherlists.com/> --post wishlists for funding

<https://good360.org/> --helping nonprofits

<http://www.adoptaclassroom.org/> --adopting classrooms

## ENVIRONMENTS

Carter, Margie and Deb Curtis. *Designs for Living and Learning: Transforming Early Childhood Environments* Second Edition. Redleaf Press, rev 2016..

Deviney, Jessica et al. *Inspiring Spaces for Young Children*. Gryphon House, 2010.

## KINDNESS

<http://www.schoolclimate.org/bullybust/educators> --BullyBust is designed to help students and adults become “upstanders”—people who stand up to bullying and become part of the solution to end harmful harassment, teasing, and violence in our nation's schools.

<http://www.schoolclimate.org/> -- Our goal is to promote positive and sustained school climate: a safe, supportive environment that nurtures social and emotional, ethical, and academic skills.

<http://www.rootsofempathy.org/> --Roots of Empathy's mission is to build caring, peaceful, and civil societies through the development of empathy in children and adults.

<http://www.seedsofempathy.org/> --part of “roots of empathy” with focus on early childhood.

<https://mindup.org/> --MINDUP is the evidence based, CASEL accredited social emotional literacy program of the Hawn Foundation built upon neuroscience, positive psychology, mindful awareness training and optimism.

<https://www.mindandlife.org> -- Mind and Life's work operates in an array of rigorous fields—neuroscience, psychology, education, medicine, ethics, religion, the humanities—and is always guided by the Institute's larger mandate to alleviate suffering, cultivate kindness and compassion, and advance human flourishing.

<http://dalailamacenter.org/> -- "Educating the heart" is the Center's tag line. The Center will provide a learning environment that cultivates mindfulness: the integration of mind, body, and spirit. It will encourage heightened awareness within of our inner potential through diverse practices of art. And it will provide a venue for creative interpretation of the world's many wisdom traditions.

<http://www.happiness-project.com/>--happiness ideas!

<http://inspiremykids.com/> --inspiration resources and ideas for kids!

<http://www.teachkind.org> --humane education ideas for K-12

<http://www.kindspring.org/> -information on “small acts that change the world”

<http://www.karmatube.org/index.php> --WATCH be inspired and ACT!

<http://www.dailygood.org/> --news that inspires

<http://dalailamacenter.org/> -- "Educating the heart" is the Center's tag line.

<http://www.actionforhappiness.org/> --taking action for a happier world

## **KINDNESS**

<https://startempathy.org/> --If we want young people to grow up to be empathic, problem-solvers who know how to work in teams and lead change, then we have to create opportunities for them to practice.

<https://www.decidetobekind.com/> --Ellington Youth Services and the Council for Developing Positive Youth Culture (DPYC) created the "Decide To Be Kind" campaign with a mission to provide inspiration, education and resources to build a kinder and more compassionate community.

<http://greatergood.berkeley.edu/> --"build happiness, resilience, connection, and more with research-backed tools."

<http://www.rootsofaction.com/> --Research-based resources for PARENTS, SCHOOLS, and COMMUNITIES who want to impact the positive growth and development of children and teenagers.

Bailey, Becky and Elizabeth Montero-Cefalo. *Baby Doll Circle Time: Strengthening Attachment, Attunement and Social Play*. Loving Guidance, 2012.

Bailey, Becky PhD. *Conscious Discipline: Building Resilient Classrooms*. Loving Guidance, 2015.

Gordon, Mary. *Roots of Empathy: Changing the World Child by Child*. The Experiment, 2009.

Langworthy, Sara E. PhD. *Bridging the Relationship Gap: Connecting with Children Facing Adversity*. Redleaf Press. 2015.

Porter, Susan Eva Phd. *Bully Nation: Why America's Approach to Childhood Aggression is Bad for Everyone*. Paragon House, 2013.

Scholastic, *Mind Up Curriculum: Brain-Focused Strategies for Learning—and Living, Grades PreK-2*. Scholastic, 2011.

Selman, Robert L. *The Promotion of Social Awareness: Powerful Lessons from the Partnership of Developmental Theory and Classroom Practice*. Russell Sage Foundation, 2013.

Szalavitz, Maia and Bruce Perry, M.D., PhD. *Born for Love: Why Empathy is Essential and Endangered*. William Morrow, 2010.

Tough, Paul. *How Children Succeed: Grit, Curiosity, and the Hidden Power of Character*. Mariner Books, 2012.

## **LEADERSHIP**

<http://www.hollyelissabruno.com/> --speaker, author, resources on leadership

<http://mccormickcenter.nl.edu/> --leadership resource for improving quality of ece



## LEARNING AND DEVELOPMENT

<http://www.gesellinstitute.org/> --promotes understanding and respect of child development

<http://www.learningstewards.org/> --interesting look at children's learning

<http://www.responsiveclassroom.org/> --educations creating safe and responsive classrooms

<http://zerotothree.org/> -national center for infants, toddlers and families

<http://www.education.govt.nz/> --New Zealand look at learning

Galinsky, Ellen. *Mind in the Making: The Seven Essential Life Skills Every Child Needs*. Harper Collins, 2010

Bos, Bev and Jenny Chapman. *Tumbling Over the Edge: A Rant for Children's Play*. Turn-the-Page Press, 2005.

Medina, John. *Brain Rules: 12 Principles for Surviving and Thriving at Work, Home and School*. Pear Press, 2008.

Jana, Laura A. MD. *The Toddler Brain: Nurture the Skills Today that Will Shape Your Child's Tomorrow*. Practical Parenting Consulting LLC, 2017.

Pelo, Ann and Margie Carter. *From Teaching to Thinking*. Redleaf Press, 2018.

## PARENTS/FAMILIES

<http://www.pepparent.org/> --local resource for educating parents --local parenting resources/classes

<http://www.tnpc.com/> --the national parenting center --parenting resources

Davis, Laura and Janis Keyser. *Becoming the Parent You Want to Be*. Broadway Books, NY 1997.

Duffy, Roslyn. *The Top Ten Parenting Preschool Problems*. Exchange Press, 2008.

Eagan, Amy, Amy Freedman, Judi Greenberg and Sharon Anderson. *Is It a Big Problem or a Little Problem? When to Worry, When Not to Worry, and What to Do*. St. Martin's Press, 2007.

Keyser, Janis. *From Parents to Partners: Building a Family-Centered Early Childhood Program*. Redleaf Press, 2006.

Christakis, Erika. *The Importance of Being Little: What Preschoolers Really Need From Adults*. Viking, 2016.

## **PETS**

<http://www.petsintheclassroom.org/> --resources for learning about and obtaining pets

<http://www.teacherwebshef.com/classroompets/> --learning to care for pets

<http://crittersintheclassroom.blogspot.com/> --blog on caring for pets

<http://www.carefresh.com/critter-college> --resources on caring for pets

<http://www.scwc.org/index.html> -- second chance wildlife center in Maryland

<https://www.rentacoop.com/> --local DC set up for hatching chickens

<http://www.mypetchicken.com/> --hatching and caring for chickens

<https://joybileefarm.com/hatching-duck-eggs/> --hatching and caring for ducks

<http://www.hermit-crabs.com/index.html> --caring for hermit crabs

<http://www.monarchwatch.org/> --hatching and caring for monarch butterflies

<http://www.butterfliesetc.com/> --hatching and caring for butterflies

<http://www.matts-turtles.org/> --turtle and tortoise rescue and care

<http://www.thebeardeddragon.org/> --caring for bearded dragons

<http://www.wikihow.com/Care-for-Fire-Belly-Toads> --caring for fire belly toads

<http://urbanext.illinois.edu/eggs/res20-incubator.html> --building an incubator for chickens

<http://bettacare101.com/> --caring for betta fish

<http://allaboutfrogs.org/info/tadpoles/> --how to raise tadpoles

## **PLAY**

[www.playcounts.com](http://www.playcounts.com) --Denita Dinger's website from *Let Them Play* book

<https://www.explorationsearlylearning.com/> --Jeff Johnson's website from *Let Them Play* book

<http://www.pinterest.com/exearlylearning/play-of-the-day/> --daily play ideas

[www.ipausa.org](http://www.ipausa.org) --American Association for the child's right to play

Bos, Bev and Jenny Chapman. *Tumbling Over the Edge: A Rant for Children's Play*. Turn-the-Page Press, 2005.

Curtis, Deb. *Really Seeing Children*, Redleaf Press, 2017.

Huber, Mike. *Embracing Rough-and-Tumble Play: Teaching with the Body in Mind*. Redleaf Press, 2017.

Murphy, Lisa. *Lisa Murphy on Play: The Foundation of Children's Learning*. Redleaf Press, 2016.

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## **RITUALS AND TRADITIONS**

Howell, Jacky and Kimberly Reinhard. *Rituals and Traditions: Fostering a Sense of Community in Preschool*. NAEYC, 2015.

## **SCIENCE/NATURE**

<http://sciencenetlinks.com/> --resources for science

<http://www.nwf.org/Kids.aspx> --National Wildlife Federation for kids

<http://www.audubon.org/> --Audubon resources

<https://www.naturefind.com/> --finds nature activities near you

<http://www.nrdc.org/reference/kids.asp> --environmental education

<http://www.insectlore.com/> --resource for science/nature ordering

<http://www.stevespanglerscience.com/> --resource for science ordering

<http://www.terrificscience.org/> -variety of science activities and freebies

<http://www.nrdc.org/reference/kids.asp> --reference links for environments and kids

<http://eol.org/> --lots of resources about "life on earth"

<http://www.childrenandnature.org/> --learning about nature

<http://www.naturerocks.org/> --inspiring families to explore nature

<http://dnr.wi.gov/org/caer/ce/eeek/index.htm> --environmental education for kids

<http://www.songsforteaching.com/sciencesongs.htm> --songs about science

<http://www.wildlifefun4kids.com/> --nurturing little nature lovers

<http://www.rootsandshoots.org/> --Jane Goodall's resources for educators

## **SENSORY IDEAS**

<http://www.learning4kids.net/list-of-sensory-play-ideas/> --learning4kids idea pages

[http://www.tutusteaparties.com/2013/07/what-to-use-in-your-sensory-table-over\\_31.html](http://www.tutusteaparties.com/2013/07/what-to-use-in-your-sensory-table-over_31.html) --more sensory table ideas

<http://www.pinterest.com/marybethcol/preschool-sensory-tables/> --many sensory ideas

<http://www.pinterest.com/mamabare42/ece-loose-parts-play/> --loose parts play

## **SPECIAL DAY AND CELEBRATION RESOURCES—FOR YOUR CALENDAR AND PLANNING!**

<http://www.brownielocks.com/month2.html> --fun calendar and events days to use for planning

<http://holidayinsights.com/> --holidays and other fun calendar resources

## **SPECIAL NEEDS**

<http://www.therapro.com/> --classroom materials

<http://out-of-sync-child.com/> --info and resources on out of sync children

## **SPORTS—WOMEN'S BASKETBALL**

<http://www.wnba.com/> --website of women's professional league

<http://www.wnba.com/mystics/> --website of the Mystics, local DC team

<http://www.espn.com/espnw/> --ESPN's coverage of women's sports

<http://www.swishappeal.com/wnba> --blog on the wnba

<https://www.hoopfeed.com/content/> --lots of info on women's basketball

<http://www.ncaa.com/sports/basketball-women/d1> --college coverage of women's basketball

<https://umterps.com/index.aspx?path=wbball> --Maryland women's basketball team

<http://www.cehd.umn.edu/tuckercenter/> --Tucker Center on women in sports

## **TECHNOLOGY**

<http://www.freetech4teachers.com/> --technology tools for teachers

## **VARIETY OF CURRICULUM IDEAS**

<http://www.perpetualpreschool.com/> --wide variety of resources

<http://www.pinterest.com/kimdharris/bev-bos-teacher-tom-let-them-play/> --a beginning into pinterest ideas for teachers

<http://www.weareteachers.com/> --ideas, information, inspiration

## **CURRENT FAVORITE BOOKS!**

Humphries, Jane EdD and Kari Rains, MS. *A Fighting Chance: Supporting Young Children Experiencing Disruptive Change*. Redleaf Press, 2017.

Brillante, Pamela. *The Essentials: Supporting Young Children with Disabilities in the Classroom*. NAEYC, 2017.

Gartrell, Dan EdD. *Guidance for Every Child: Teaching Young Children to Manage Conflict*. Redleaf Press, 2017.

Curtis, Deb and Margie Carter. *Learning Together with Young Children: A Curriculum Framework for Reflective Teachers, Second Edition*. Redleaf Press, 2017.

## **RESOURCES FOR LOOSE PARTS/RECYCLABLES**

<http://scrapexchange.org/>

<https://scrapusa.org/locations/scrap-b-more/>

<http://www.theresourceexchange.org/>

<http://www.upcyclecrc.org/>

## **WORKSHOPS AND WEBINARS**

<https://www.nvaeyc.org/professional-development> Northern Virginia AEYC

<http://www.earlychildhoodwebinars.com/> Great webinars!!