

P.A.C.T.

Potomac Association of Cooperative Teachers
Established 1961

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FALL 2010 NEWSLETTER

Fall Workshop Meeting:

Wednesday, October 20, 2010
9:00 a.m. – 1:15 p.m.
First Christian Church of Falls Church
6165 Leesburg Pike, Falls Church, VA
Tel: 703-532-8220

****Directions below****

Time Schedule:

9:00-9:45 a.m.	Registration, Refreshments, Displays & Exhibits
9:45-11:15 a.m.	First Workshop Session
11:15-11:45 a.m.	Break
11:45-1:15 p.m.	Second Workshop Session

Yearly Dues:

\$40.00 per person

DIRECTIONS TO FIRST CHRISTIAN CHURCH OF FALLS CHURCH

From DC and MD

Take Beltway (495) South. Exit onto Route 50 East toward Arlington. Go 3-4 miles to Route 7 Exit (Leesburg Pike East). This will be a right side exit. Go ½ mile (through several lights) to the First Christian Church of Falls Church, which will be on the right side of the street. There is plenty of parking behind the church.

From Alexandria

Take Route 7 (Leesburg Pike) 2 miles past Bailey's Crossroads. You will see Colonial Funeral Home on the left. The next building, set back from the street, is the First Christian Church of Falls Church. There is plenty of parking behind the church.

➔ **SAVE MARCH 15TH FOR THE SPRING CONFERENCE AT CEDAR LANE IN BETHESDA.**

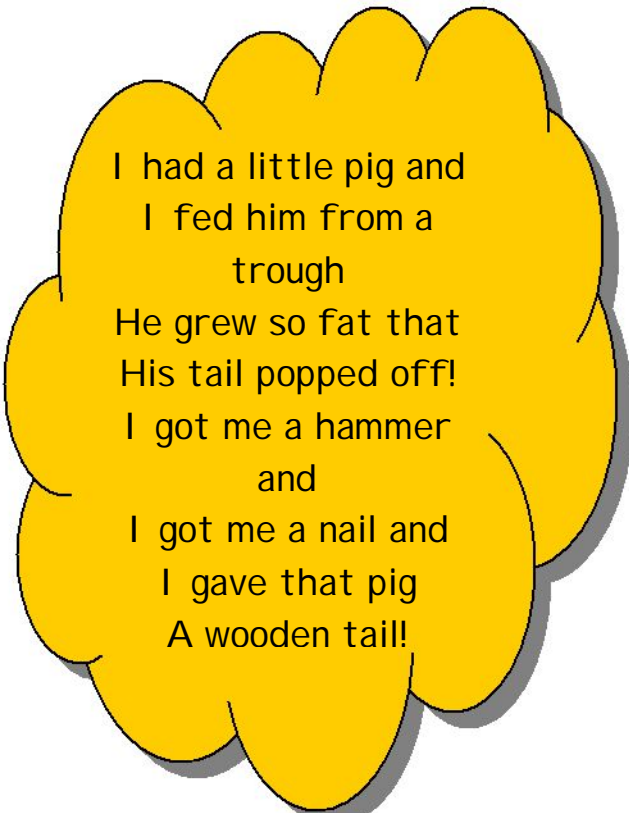


A New School Year Begins!

September always races by for us teachers. We begin the month frantically preparing our rooms for our children – arms laden with new bins, newly laminated signs, and curriculum books and materials. We no sooner organize our rooms, when we are welcoming and connecting with our children, helping them transition into school, channeling their behavior, encouraging their learning, observing, and reflecting. There is so much we need to understand so quickly! By month's end, we see the limitations of all our earlier preparation – perhaps the children have surprised us, behaving in new ways, or the materials we have laid out don't get used as anticipated, or we feel stretched to try a new direction in our curriculum.

Bring on the PACT Fall Conference! Just when we are beginning to have a few doubts about all that we predicted early on, these workshops are like a shot in the arm – providing us new curriculum ideas, new insight on children's behavior and special needs, and the latest early childhood research. We invite you to be **renewed** on October 20!

Warmly,
Maureen Ingram, PACT President



I had a little pig and
I fed him from a
trough
He grew so fat that
His tail popped off!
I got me a hammer
and
I got me a nail and
I gave that pig
A wooden tail!

Take Note!

Please take a moment to
subscribe to the PACT listserv.

[PACT-info-
subscribe@yahoogroups.com](mailto:PACT-info-subscribe@yahoogroups.com)

This will be the FIRST place
future newsletters will appear.
Newsletters are no longer being
mailed individually to PACT
members.

Please help us spread the word!

Potomac Association of Cooperative Teachers
Fall Conference, Wednesday, October 20, 2010
Workshop Descriptions

Choose one workshop per session. Please mark your choices by **number** on the registration form.

1. Autism in Preschoolers: Warning Signs & Practical Classroom Solutions. This workshop will provide an overview of autism. Participants will become familiar with red flags for autism spectrum disorders – what might this look like in a child? Participants will gain information on practical solutions for including a child with a possible or diagnosed autism spectrum disorder in the preschool classroom. This workshop will be led by Sarah H. Pavitt, M.Ed Early Intervention provider/Early Childhood Special education teacher.

2. Brain Gym® For Little Ones: Helping Children to Think, Reflect and Move to the Best of Their Potential. This workshop will introduce participants to Brain Gym® and some of the 26 activities used internationally to help children develop their basic motor skills in a calm and focused manner. Participants will learn a minimum of 10 Brain Gym® activities, adaptations for the little ones, and how and when to use the activities in the classroom. This workshop will be led by Alice Krum, Licensed Brain Gym® Instructor, Kinesthetic Learning, Inc.

3. Current Trends, Issues, and Research in Early Childhood Education. This workshop will provide an overview of current trends, issues, and research on preschool child outcomes in terms of school readiness from the Early Childhood Research and Practice Journal. Participants will become familiar with the impact of teacher preparation, classroom environment, and parent involvement on child outcomes and school readiness. This workshop will be led by Kevin McGowan, Literacy Mentor Coach/GMU Doctoral Student – Primary Concentration: Early Childhood Education.

4. Difficult Social/Emotional Behaviors. With each new school year, we are given a group of children with different personalities, temperaments, and behaviors. Some can be more challenging than others. This workshop will offer information and strategies on how to tweak your curriculum and/or your routine that will meet the needs of even the toughest behaviors, skills on how to respond with positive results, and how to bring the children and parents of your class on board with your efforts. Bring your questions on your own challenging children. This workshop will be led by Janise Allyn-Smith, Director/Teacher/Parent Educator, Silver Spring Nursery School

5. Feel the Beat!: Leading Rhythm Circles for Kids. Drum and rhythm play introduces kids to the joys of making music together. It also builds community and forms a foundation for math skills and poetry. In this workshop, participants will experience rhythm games to use in the classroom, see easy ways to make rhythm instruments with kids, and learn techniques for facilitating a rhythm circle. This workshop will be led by Emily Ederer, Pre-K Teacher, Silver Spring Day School.

6. Engineering with Recyclables. Using ordinary household recyclables, children create solutions to classic storybook problems. Participants will learn how to introduce problem-solving techniques and creative thinking in the classroom, and, in so doing, encourage early literacy, cultivate a love of learning, and have fun! This workshop will be led by Maureen Ingram, Early Childhood Teacher and Consultant.

7. Kindergarten Readiness: It's More Than What You Think -- And Less!

Kindergarten readiness includes a ready child, a ready family, a ready school, and a ready community. This workshop will focus on the teacher/school role in planning and implementing developmentally appropriate play experiences that support young children's mastery of developmental benchmarks to promote success in Kindergarten. Participants will acquire new methods of instruction to support Kindergarten success. The workshop will provide an overview of materials and resources available to help staff meet these goals and specifically touch on writing curriculum, creating settings and experiences, and observing and assessing children's progress. Lastly, participants will share ideas for effective communication with parents and family members; initiating and building relationships with receiving schools; and reaching out to the community to encourage relationships and interactions that promote success in Kindergarten for children and families. Teachers will be empowered in their important role in kindergarten readiness! This workshop will be led by Debbie Brown, Director, Sleepy Hollow Preschool

8. Moving and Gathering with Two's and Three's: The Many Shapes of a 'Circle'.

In this session, new and experienced teachers will discover and share performance ideas for a 2's and 3's 'circle time.' We will discuss the value and expectations in gathering with young children at 'circle', explore different perceptions of 'circle time' gathering itself, and finally we will enjoy a circle gathering with our peers. Participants will leave this session with renewed confidence and looking forward to the delighted attention of their 2's and 3's! This workshop will be led by Lisa Schwartz, 2's and 3's teacher, Silver Spring Day School.

9. Making Sense of Sensory Integration

This workshop will better prepare teachers to use their observation skills to identify behaviors that may stem from issues with sensory processing – focusing on the three main areas of touch, movement, and body awareness. This workshop will be led by Virginia Kane, MS,OTR/L, Occupational Therapist.

2010-2011 PACT Board Members

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THE DIRECTOR'S GROUP meets monthly during the school year at rotating preschools. This year's first meeting will be Oct 7 from 1-3 p.m., at Rockville Presbyterian Cooperative Nursery School, 215 West Montgomery Avenue, Rockville, MD. 301-762-1293 Contact Melissa at melissamitchelljordan@yahoo.com for more info. Bring your lunch-dessert and drinks will be provided.

Please sign up for the PACT listserv to stay up to date on information and to exchange ideas with other PACT members. Send an email to PACT-Info-subscribe@yahoogleroups.com to join or contact Jennifer DeBernardis (jennifershmennifer@verizon.net) to be added.

Pick Your Workshops and Sign Up below

This registration form and **\$40.00** registration fee (payable to **PACT** or **Potomac Association of Cooperative Teachers**) must be returned by **October 8, 2010** to:

Annette Fitzpatrick
7203 46th Street
Chevy Chase, MD 20815
301 986 5161

Name _____ Phone Number (home) _____

Home Address _____ Zip _____

E-mail address (will be used only for communication concerning PACT) _____

How many years have you been involved with Early Childhood Education?

_____ Rookie (0-3 yrs) _____ Veteran (4-10 yrs) _____ Seasoned Veteran (10+ yrs)

Workshop Choices: Indicate the NUMBER of the workshop below:

1st session # _____ **2nd session #** _____ **Alternates #** _____

School name _____ phone _____

E-mail _____ web site _____

We have several openings on the PACT Board. Are you interested in serving on the PACT Board? Yes _____ Maybe, need more info! _____

P.A.C.T. is a professional organization of cooperative nursery school teachers. Its main purpose is to provide additional training for teachers through workshops and speakers in all areas pertaining to early childhood. All Co-operative preschool teachers are invited to join. Non co-op teachers are also welcome on a limited basis.

Dues of \$40.00 per school year cover:

- € Two professional conferences per year with exhibitors and Resource Table of information
- € Lending library of educational videos, audio tapes, and books
- € Two newsletters per year

Please share this newsletter with prospective members

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