



Canadian Association for Young Children

Your Image of the Child: Where Teaching Begins

Greenway School, 390 Burnell Street

9:00–10:00 a.m.
Keynote Session

10:30–11:30 a.m.
and continuing
1:00–3:00 p.m.
Workshops

Reconnecting Children with Nature

**Ron Blatz, Director, Children's
Discovery Centre**

This workshop will touch on two areas of focus, reconnecting children with nature and addressing the unique needs of boys into our classrooms. Together we will explore what can be done within the education system to bring the benefits of nature into children's lives and what successes you have experienced, that has specifically served boys in your classrooms. (Please bring your best thoughts and ideas with you).

Audience: preschool, nursery, kindergarten, early years teachers, administrators, directors

AAL: Art as an Additional Language

**Rhian Brynjolson, Teacher with
Inter-divisional Student Services,
Artist, and Author of *Teaching Art: a
Complete Guide for the Classroom***

How can teachers encourage and learn from the visual languages of children? We will explore ways to observe, represent, interpret and document visual experiences in the classroom. Come prepared to play. Participants may wish to bring a digital camera, sketchbook, and/or examples of student artwork.

KEYNOTE

Who is "the child"? Who decides? And what does this mean for practice?

**Melanie Janzen, Former Teacher and Learning Support Teacher,
Assistant Professor, University of Manitoba**

This interactive session will provoke us to consider the image of the child as a social construction—that is, a "fiction" determined by others. If the image of the child can be constructed, then what might it mean to consider the child differently; as intelligent, as engaged with the world, and as co-constructors of knowledge? This session will provide time to engage with your colleagues around artifacts to consider what it is we know, what we are told, and the possibilities for thinking differently. Come to talk and think with others about these ideas, to have coffee and conversation with your colleagues, and to share in a day of learning and enjoyment.

Audience: nursery, kindergarten, early years teachers

Child's Play/ Teacher's Worry

**Liz Coffman, Instructor,
University of Manitoba
(This session is am only)**

This session will deconstruct some of our adult notions about play and will explore how play can inform and support learning. Dramatic play will be emphasized.

Audience: All

A Documented Journey of Creating a Kindergarten Classroom

**Donna Massey-Cudmore,
Kindergarten Teacher, Seven Oaks
School Division**

Donna will share the process of designing and setting up the environment in her kindergarten classroom. She embraces the Reggio Emilia idea of environment as the third teacher, and she

will focus on designing space to encourage creativity and imagination using many found and personally constructed materials and furniture.

Audience: nursery, kindergarten, early years teachers

The Power of Reflective Practice

**Sue Narozniak, Coordinator, Early
Childhood Education, Red River
College of Applied Arts, Science and
Technology**

"Everyone and everything that shows up in our life is a reflection of something that is happening inside us."

—Alan Cohen

What is reflective practice? How can it create a positive energy in your day? What relationship does reflective practice have to interaction with the children and staff at your program? This session will explore these questions and attempt to help you to bring reflective practice into your daily experience.

Audience: preschool, nursery, kindergarten, early years teachers

Teaching Parents through Play-Based Curriculum

Melinda Walden, Programming Manager and Nursery School Teacher at Lakewood Children's Centre; and Shawna Crane, Assistant Director at Lakewood Children's Centre

Play plays an essential role in every child's development. Children learn about themselves and the world around them through play. In this workshop we talk about: the importance of play; what a play-based curriculum is; how it works; and how to educate and get parents on board with play-based learning. "What you learn with pleasure you never forget." (Alfred Mercier)

Melinda Walden has a degree in psychology and developmental studies, as well as a diploma in Early Childhood Education.

Audience: preschool, nursery, kindergarten, early years teachers

Observing, Reflecting, Planning: Essential Skills for Teachers

Gayle Robertson, Former Winnipeg SD Early Years Consultant, now teaches part-time in the Faculty of Education at the University of Winnipeg

All teachers observe. Many teachers record their observations. Some teachers use what they see and hear to plan their interactions with children and to guide their program planning. It takes time to write down, organize and use observations effectively. This workshop will address basic observation skills – observing, recording, reflecting on and analyzing data. It will include ways of collecting and organizing assessment information based on observation and discuss how to use that data to plan programs for children. Participants will engage in activities designed to sharpen their skills and provide opportunities for discussion and sharing.

Audience: preschool, nursery, kindergarten, early years teachers

Using Quality Literature with Young Children

Nancy Schroeder, Teacher Librarian, John Pritchard School

This session will focus on using quality literature with young children. Discussions will include the importance of reading rich literature with students and different ways of incorporating quality literature into daily learning. Engaging students with different genres will also be addressed, as well as examining how we value children's interests in the books we select for them.

Samples of newer titles of quality children's literature will be available for sharing and discussion.

Participants are invited to bring samples of rich literature they have used with their students for a book-sharing time in the afternoon.

Audience: kindergarten, early years teachers

The Writing Workshop: Thirty Years Later

**Lisa Siemens, Learning Support Teacher, O.V. Jewitt
Monica Wakefield, Grade One Teacher, O.V. Jewitt**

More than thirty years ago Donald Graves, a professor at the University of New Hampshire, became infinitely curious in the nature of young children's writing. As a result, his life changed. What grew out of his curiosity was research which also changed early years classrooms around the world. Today, a year after his death, the changes have not stopped. His curiosity lives on. This session is both a tribute to Don, and a celebration of what it means to be a child who writes, draws, plays, and creates. Basic structures of the writing workshop will be explored along with practical teaching strategies that work. Whether we write as adults or as children, play and playfulness is at the heart of creativity. How do we keep play at the center of writing and learning in early years classrooms? This workshop will seek to address this question. Come prepared to play and write, discover and create.

Audience: early years teachers

Students as Historians: Exploring, Documenting and Celebrating Families

Judy Walker and Tannis Nadurak, Multiage Teachers, River East Transcona School Division

Join Multi-Age teachers, Judy Walker and Tannis Nadurak, as they recount their yearlong inquiry, "*Who Am I? Let Me Show You With 100 Languages*," and share their in-depth study of FAMILIES. Follow Grade 1-3 students as their initial wonderings led them to assume the roles of family historians, authors, and illustrators, culminating in a much-celebrated Family Book Launch. Drawing on interviews with extended family members, students created individual anthologies of cherished family memories and stories. Participants will see a range of children's writing and artistic responses using a wide variety of media.

Audience: early years teachers

REGISTRATION

CAYC Membership Fees

Full.....\$55.00

Student.....\$30.00

Other (Associate/Retiree/EA).....

.....\$55.00

CAYC Conference Fees

Full Day

CAYC Member.....\$90.00

CAYC Student Member.....\$25.00

Non-member.....\$150

Half-Day

CAYC Member.....\$50.00

Non-member.....\$75.00

Important Information

- registration includes coffee upon arrival and morning nutrition break
- the local parking ban will be lifted, so parking will be free
- please bring a travel mug for your coffee (or beverage)

Payment must accompany registration. Please make cheque or money order payable to CAYC and mail to: Elizabeth Gould, 141 Wildwood Park, Winnipeg, MB R3T 0E1 no later than October 12, 2011.

Receipts will be available at Greenway School on October 21. If you wish to receive a receipt earlier, please include a self-addressed, stamped envelope with your mail-in registration. NB: No on-site registration will be available; we cannot accept credit cards.

For more information contact Elizabeth Gould at 284-4444 or ejgould@shaw.ca.