



# 2011 Winter Workshops

Workshops are held Tuesdays from 7:00 pm—9:00 pm at 6208 Quinpool Road, 2nd Floor, Halifax \*\*unless noted as a workshop + tour, or a Dartmouth Location\*\*

## Sign Language in Early Childhood Classrooms (repeat session)

Do you have children in your classroom who just don't get it? Do you find yourself having to use constant reminders and feeling frustrated by this? Sign language may be a solution for you. Sign language is an inclusive teaching strategy that can do more than bridge communication challenges. It can transform a classroom. Come learn some basic signs that can be used to improve communication, reduce problematic behavior, create friendships and inspire learning!

**Laura Coish** is an Early Childhood Education graduate with a B.A. in psychology. She worked as a preschool teacher for 14 years and is currently employed with the Progress Centre for Early Intervention. Laura has her Level 2 Sign Language.

**January 18, 2011**

## Baby It's Cold Outside — Getting Dressed for the Outdoors

Is getting outside getting you down? There are some transitions you just can't avoid, so how can you at least make them easier for all involved? Together we will look at the child's role, the adult's role and those that are shared. We will examine this daily routine as a teaching opportunity rather than just something to 'get through' and discuss strategies to make the process as smooth as possible.

**Lisa Davies** has been working with children and families in not-for-profit agencies and government for over 20 years. Lisa was a full-time faculty member at the Nova Scotia College of Early Childhood Education and is currently the Director of the Dartmouth Child Development Centre.

**January 25, 2011**

## It Takes Two To Tango: Examining Challenging Behaviours

In this workshop participants will work together to explore and reflect on the dynamics of the challenging behaviours they've experienced in their classrooms. Together we'll investigate the functions of disruptive behaviour and our responses to it. By looking at ourselves and our possible responses we can generate new alternatives that change familiar unsuccessful patterns of interaction and open up possibilities for positive growth and skill building.

**Carrie Melsom** is the Coordinator of the NSCECE Early Childhood Educator Resource Centre. Her career in early childhood education started in 1986. She has an ECE Diploma and a Certificate in Adult Education.

**February 1, 2011**

## Goal Setting is a Powerful Tool

Join us for a relaxed, interactive and personalized evening...together we will explore the difference between a wish and a goal. You will choose your goals for 2011. Why is it important to you? Is it realistic, challenging, and attainable? What's your plan of action? What are your potential roadblocks? How will you measure success? Finally you will write it down. The most important step on your road to success!

**Valerie Hanson** is a well-recognized Professional Organizer and Business Consultant who has a special affinity for the childcare profession. She wrote a bi-weekly column titled *Conquer the Chaos* for the Chronicle Herald.

**February 8, 2011**

## Music and Movement for School-Age Programs

Do you enjoy music? Does music stir up memories and make you start to move? Music is very influential on children and can help them to learn many things in addition to expressing themselves creatively. Come enjoy an evening of sharing ideas and discovering easy ways to implement music into your school-age programming.

**Melissa Connell** has been working with children for many years in various capacities. She also teaches and works with adults. Melissa is currently working with the Halifax and Region Military Family Resource Centre.

**March 1, 2011**

## "Psst, Did you hear about ..." — Dealing with Gossip in Child Care

Email and Facebook make old fashioned chitchatting seem archaic! Unfortunately, social media can contribute to negativity in the workplace when used to share gossip, information and opinions about others. What is done about it is up to each of us. We will discuss the role each employee plays in stopping the spread of confidential, inappropriate, and often hurtful information and examine policies and procedures that support professionalism and ethical conduct.

**Lisa Davies** has been working with children and families in not-for-profit agencies and government for over 20 years. Lisa was a full-time faculty member at the Nova Scotia College of Early Childhood Education and is currently the Director of the Dartmouth Child Development Centre.

**March 8, 2011**

**All questions regarding equivalency accreditation should be directed to the Nova Scotia Department of Community Services at 424-3207.**

**Workshop fees are non-refundable. A voucher will be issued if the College is notified of cancellation by 4:00 PM the Friday before the scheduled workshop date. Non-attendance does not constitute cancellation.**

**Registration is only accepted with a payment. Write down the date and title of the workshop(s) you wish to attend, and forward with payment to NSCECE. You will be notified if your workshop is full or is cancelled for any reason.**

To register, forward payment of \$35 per workshop to:

Nova Scotia College of Early Childhood Education, 6208 Quinpool Rd (2nd Floor) Halifax, NS B3L 1A3, 423-7114 Ext. 227

## **CHOMP! Getting Ahead of Biting in Group Care Settings**

We've all been there—praying the tooth marks fade, just a little, before pick-up time. There is help. Knowing that biting is an unfortunate but not unexpected part of early childhood can help us plan to be proactive about it. Come prepared to sink your teeth into a discussion about policies, procedures, and best practices for infant and toddler programs. In this bite free zone we will not spend time debating ineffective and illegal activities such as biting back!

**Carrie Melsom** coordinates the NSCECE Resource Centre. She has no memories of being bitten as a child but does remember the shock, fear, and shame of the last time she bit someone. As an ECE that memory has helped her be thoughtful about her approach to this common childhood mistake.  
**March 15, 2011**

## **Changing Behaviour With Positive Guidance Strategies**

This workshop is designed to expand your ability to guide children using positive techniques. The presenters will address specific classroom scenarios, and focus on preventing problem situations. Participants will learn to adapt daily schedules, activities, and child guidance techniques to children's individual temperaments.

**Tishe Petite and Jocelyne Merrick** work together in the preschool room at Mawio'mi Child Care Centre. They have worked with all age groups. Between them they have 33 years experience as early childhood educators.

**March 22, 2011**

## **Activities at Your Finger Tips (Extra \$5.00 materials charge)**

This workshop will focus on helping you organize and prepare high-interest, developmentally appropriate activities that can be pulled out at a moments notice. We'll explore the value of having "practical life" experiences and other hands-on learning materials organized on trays, and in bags, so that they are readily available throughout the day. Together we'll explore how these activities can be adapted for a variety of ages and developmental levels. You'll leave this workshop with a handful of great ideas and an activity to take away to get you started.

**Debbie Thompson** is an MSVU Child Studies graduate. She is currently working as an EIBI Program Implementer for the IWK. Debbie has offered a number of upbeat and energetic workshops for NSCECE over the past two years.

**March 29, 2011**

## **Creative Ways to Increase Literacy in Your Classroom**

In this workshop we will explore creative and fun ways to support literacy and a love of books in your program. We'll have some examples of story and literacy bags that we've created for our centre. Please bring some memories of favourite books and your ideas for ways to explore them in the classroom. Come prepared to share, create, and explore in a hands-on environment.

**Trudy Peters and Angie Bryant** work at Fox Hollow Child Care Centre. Trudy is the Family Home Day Care Consultant and Assistant Director; Angie is the Executive Director of the Child Care Centre and Family Home Day Care Agency. Together, they enjoy exploring literacy with children.  
**April 12, 2011**



# **Emergent Curriculum—Experiencing the Cycle**

### **Session 1:**

**Saturday, April 2 9:00—3:30**

### **Session 2:**

**Tuesday, April 5 7:00—9:00**

### **Session 3:**

**Tuesday, April 19 7:00—9:00**

Presenter **Susan Stacey** has been in the field for over 30 years, as a teacher, director, college professor and writer. She often works with ECEs addressing topics such as, documentation, reflective practice, emergent curriculum, and Reggio inspired approaches. Susan currently teaches Junior Primary at the Halifax Grammar School and is the author of *Emergent Curriculum in Early Childhood Settings*.

Cost: \$120 for Workshop Series

This three-part series is a unique opportunity to experience the complete cycle of Emergent Curriculum and to practice its components.

In the first (full day) session, using real-life examples, we will review the basics of Emergent Curriculum so that we are beginning with a shared understanding and vocabulary. We will work with observations, and how to use them – including which ones are useful, how to respond to them, which part of the day our response would fit into, and what to do next. We will also examine the power of reflection, and take the time to experience this 'middle' part of Emergent Curriculum which is so often missing.

In the first follow-up session, held in the evening, we will use participants' own experiences and encounters from their everyday work, and think about how to scaffold whatever is happening. This will be in the format of a 'Master Class,' often used in the Arts, where participants share and discuss their work in order to gather support from others.

In the final session, we will complete documentation of our work, using the participants' real experiences. This will involve reflection and brainstorming about what to include in documentation, how we make those choices, and the various forms that the documentation might take.

**The College will accept in-person debit or credit card payments, in addition to cash or cheque. Resource Centre individual members receive a \$5 workshop discount; organization members receive two workshop vouchers. There is a \$10 fee to replace a lost certificate. There is a \$25 fee for NSF cheques. Please contact Carrie Melsom, Resource Centre Coordinator, 423-7114 Ext. 227 with questions, comments, or concerns about this workshop series.**