



2009 Winter Workshops



Workshops are held Tuesdays from 7:00 pm—9:00 pm at 2326 Brunswick Street (2nd floor), Halifax (unless otherwise noted)*.

HOP on Board — Active Play for Preschoolers

Preschool children are developing and learning at an unprecedented rate, and they learn best when learning is active. Come participate and explore some of the many active play activities that are part of the Healthy Opportunities for Preschoolers program. This program developed in BC by Vivienne Temple and Justen O'Connor offers ideas and resources to care providers so they can support and program for at least 60 minutes of active play each day.

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 St. Joseph's College over the past year.

January 20, 2009

Increasing Personal Effectiveness

Throughout this session, participants are encouraged to challenge themselves to make paradigm changes to both their personal and professional lives. By assessing their current time management practices and goal setting abilities, they can develop new and more effective ways of getting things done.

Brenda Fair, CHRP is a trainer and facilitator with Fairwinds Training and Development. She began her career 25 years ago as an early childhood educator so she understands the childcare environment and the challenges facing ECE professionals.

January 27, 2009

Recruitment, Retention and Selection—It starts with the interview

The interview is a powerful tool in a Director's recruitment arsenal. Participants will discuss some of the fundamentals of the interview process and how to make the most of this opportunity. You'll have a chance to role play an interview; identify the do's and don'ts of interviewing, and discuss how fairness and equity practices need to be considered during the interview process. Come work on your interview skills so that you can hire with confidence.

Sandra Mancera has a long career working in early childhood education both in Canada and the US. She has a background as a paralegal and a Diploma in Human Resource Management. Sandra took our recent workshop for ECE presenters and is looking forward to presenting workshops for the College.

February 3, 2009

Program in a Bag—A Learn and Take (\$5.00 materials fee)

Many of us are used to programming on shoestring budgets but have you ever thought about just how much you can do with a shoestring? Come find out how you can take simple, cheap, everyday objects and create activity bags that will keep your children exploring and learning throughout the day. Participants will have an opportunity to dig in and explore the sample bags provided by the workshop presenters and will also create their own bag to take away and use as inspiration for future activity bags.

Debbie Thompson & Christina McHardy are busy early childhood educators who know the value of being ready with engaging learning activities that can supplement regular classroom materials. They bring creativity, enthusiasm and a solid knowledge of their local \$-stores to their program planning.

February 10, 2009

Respectful Care-Giving with Infants and Toddlers (A two-part series)

What does respectful care-giving look like with infants and toddlers? How do we model respect for the youngest children in our care, and how do we model respect for ourselves as caregivers? Workshop format will be combination of presentation, video, and discussion.

Part 1—Communicating Respect During Infant Toddler Playtime

TOPICS: Slowing down; Refining our observation skills; Fostering self-initiated free movement in infants; Practicing respectful conflict resolution with toddlers; Sharing power and partnering with infants and toddlers during transitions.

Part 2—Communicating Respect During the Care-giving Activities of Diapering, Mealtimes, and Dressing

TOPICS: Slowing down; The quality of the caregiver's touch; Paying attention to the other; the Magic of Pause; Sharing the power; partnering with infants and toddlers during bodily care.

Carol Nasr Griset is a Waldorf-trained early childhood educator with twenty years teaching experience in Waldorf schools, a home-based preschool and community based settings. In recent years, after studying with RIE (Resources for Infant Educators), she has been working as a facilitator for parent/infant and parent/toddler groups and a mentor to caregivers of children from birth to three.

This two-part series is being offered for \$60. It is strongly recommended that participants sign-up for both workshops as they reinforce each other. The regular workshop fee applies if participants choose to take just one. Priority will be given to participants who enroll in both sessions.

February 17, 2009 and February 24, 2009

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 SJC. You will be notified if your workshop is full or is cancelled for any reason.

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

St. Joseph's College of Early Childhood Education, 2326 Brunswick St. (2nd Floor) Halifax, NS B3K 2Z3, 423-7114

Words Can Be Written—Linking Language and Literacy

In this workshop participants will examine the early learning foundations needed for acquiring literacy skills. Together we will look at the importance of PRINT RICH environments in the development of pre-literacy skills. Participants will look at and practice good print role modeling for the classroom, as well as create some materials to take back to share with their children. *What I talk about can be written down ... What is written down can be read!*

Liz Hicks has been working in child care for 25 years. She currently works as an independent consultant and supports early childhood practitioners in thinking about their programs and their goals for children.

March 3, 2009

Creating a Musical Circle of Fun

Music is more than just singing. Come explore the many ways music can be part of your program. In this workshop participants will investigate many musical experiences that can be enjoyed in the preschool classroom. Share and learn creative ideas for supporting children's play and imagination by using music in a wide variety of activities. Choose a favourite song and create a circle of fun!

Valerija Karlović has a Master's in Child and Youth Study and a BA in Psychology. She currently works with children and youth in the Mental Health and Addictions Program at the IWK. Valerija plays piano also has an educational background in music with a focus on music for young children.

March 10, 2009

What's Your Problem??

This workshop will focus on problem solving techniques for school-age children. Through open discussion and group work we can discover techniques that will work in various situations for all school-age groups. Come find out more about using strategies such as peer mediators and how to manage your own emotions and avoid power struggles. Problems are an opportunity to practice problem solving techniques; that's important learning at any age.

Amanda Whitman graduated from Mount Saint Vincent University in 2007 with a Child and Youth degree. She has been working in the child care field for 8 years and is currently the school age director for a program in Halifax.

March 24, 2009

Supporting Foster Families in Early Childhood Settings

Early Childhood Educators serve many kinds of families. Being sensitive and responsive to the needs and challenges of diverse types of families is important. In this workshop the presenter will give a brief history of foster care in Nova Scotia and provide some background about the types and needs of children in foster care. Through small group activities and discussions participants will problem solve ideas to support foster families in our programs.

Paula Leblanc worked in child care for 20 years as an ECE and resource specialist. Presently she is an Educational Program Assistant with the Halifax Regional School Board. Paula and her family have been fostering for more than 9 years.

March 31, 2009

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 SJC 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.

April 7, 2009

Curriculum Materials—Learn and Take (\$5.00 materials fee)

In the past women got together for work bees because they knew many hands and a good conversation made light work. Today we still do—come enjoy an old fashioned take on learning and sharing that fits into today's busy lifestyles. Join our presenter for lots of opportunities to share ideas and make some materials to spruce up learning and play in your classroom.

Sonja (Kendell) Bellefontaine has been an Early Childhood Educator with the Dartmouth Family Centre for the past six years. She works primarily with children from birth to 5 years of age. Sonja is always interested in learning new ways to encourage children in their growth and development.

April 14, 2009

Yummy, Nourishing, Safe—Food Policy & Practice (+Centre Tour)

Preparing and serving food is one of the most important ways people care for each other. Food service in child care settings can reflect the best of "family style" mealtimes when we plan appropriately. Come visit **Dutch Village Road Child Care Centre** to learn about how this program creates a positive and nourishing mealtime atmosphere. Participants will discuss food policies, menu ideas and planning for a safe, allergy aware environment. (Workshop location—2965 Dutch Village Road, 454-6340)

Bronwien Richardson has been involved with food preparation with/for children since her first job in ECE as a cook in a childcare centre. Bronwien still prepares the meals for her centre and is the NSCCA representative on the Food & Nutrition Support in Licensed Child Care Facilities Provincial Advisory Group.

April 21, 2009

Communication Strategies for Parent Friendly Early Learning

To work well with parents we need to develop warm, confident relationships with them. Participants will explore common roadblocks to communication and discuss ways to better understand the parent's perspective in order to address parent fears and share information in positive ways. Come discuss common points of friction that can lead to problems, get some hints on how to avoid problems and on how to handle conflict when it does occur.

Stefanie Hazelden has been working in the childcare field for 9 years with both children and adults. She has taught many workshops and has also taught courses at the College part time for 5 years. Stefanie is currently working with the Shearwater Military Family Resource Centre.

April 21, 2009

The College is happy to announce that we are now able to accept in-person debit, Visa and Master Card payments, in addition to cash or cheques. Resource Centre individual members continue to receive a \$5 workshop discount; organization members receive two free workshop vouchers with their memberships. There is a \$10 fee to replace a lost or misplaced workshop certificate. There is a \$20 fee for NSF cheques.


Note
location