



California Kindergarten Association E-News

30th Annual California Kindergarten Conference!

The conference brochure has been posted on our website!

[Click here](#) to download a copy. Purchase orders **will** be accepted.

Last Chance for Early Bird Registration Fees! Save \$10 on your conference registration fees by registering by the November 1st early bird registration deadline. Registration must be postmarked by November 1st!

Administrators Free! Would you like your administrator to spend some time in kindergarten? Bring them with you to the conference **free of charge with four paid registrations from the same district.** All five registrations need to be received in the same envelope. Please write "administrator" at the top of the registration form.

For information visit
<http://www.californiakindergartenassociation.org/>.

Common Core State Standards!

The State Board of Education adopted Common Core State Standards for K-12 students in language arts and mathematics to replace the California Academic Standards in those subject areas. Each month CKA will select a standard and offer activities, lesson plans and/or resources to help teachers meet these new standards.

October's CCSS is contributed by Nancy Cappelloni of Reed Union SD. [Click here](#) to view the activities, that address the Common Core State Standards based lesson in English/Language Arts. This month's lesson provides you with a number of activities the teacher can implement for children to successfully demonstrate their understanding of retelling key ideas and details of a story.

Want to contribute your ideas? CKA posts the next month's standards on the CKA website. [Click here](#) for November 2011. If your idea is selected you will receive a special CKA gift!

JOIN CKA and become part of a network of educators who want kindergarten to be the best it can be! This year CKA members can look forward to:

- TKP Implementation
- Common Core State Standards lesson plans
- More You Tube videos
- Development of a Members Only portal on our website.

[Click here to join!](#)

CKA on Facebook!

Have a comment? Want to chat about kindergarten issues? Wondering what we've been up to? Come join us on Facebook and connect with other CKA members!

Be sure to check out our "Tuesday Teaching Tip" every week on Facebook!

Thanks to our Sponsors!

We would like to thank the sponsors of the 30th Annual Conference!

Discount School Supply

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Santa Clara Convention &
Visitors Bureau

[Kindergarten Transition:
From Kindergartner to
Kindergartner
What's Important For You
To Know](#)

Preschoolers (and their parents) wonder what kindergarten will be like. Kindergarten students in Capistrano USD explain what to expect. Thanks to Debra Weller of Bathgate Elementary School and Services for Early Education and Development of Orange County for providing this helpful video which is now available on the CKA website. [Click here](#) to view the video.

[It's Time for CKA Awards!](#)

ASTE A - The \$500 Audrey Sanchez Teacher Enhancement Award has been established to honor Audrey's spirit, talent, leadership and dedication to CKA and Kindergarten by recognizing individual educators for achievement and excellence in early childhood education. The nominee must believe in the philosophy of the CKA Mission Statement.

Deadline: November 1, 2011.
[For application, click here.](#)

[Art Really Teaches
4th Edition](#)

The new, 140 page 4th Edition is bigger and better! The new edition includes new color

California Early Childhood Educator Competencies

The California Department of Education's (CDE) Child Development Division (CDD) has just announced the online publication of the [California Early Childhood Educator \(ECE\) Competencies](#). These competencies describe the knowledge, skills, and dispositions that the CDE and CDD believe early childhood educators * need in order to provide high quality care and education to young children and their families.

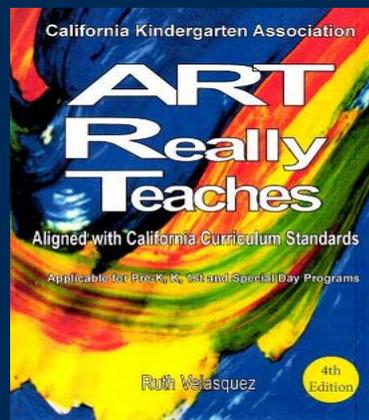
The ECE Competencies are organized into twelve overlapping areas: (1) Child Development and Learning; (2) Culture, Diversity and Equity; (3) Relationships, Interactions, and Guidance; (4) Family and Community Engagement; (5) Dual-Language Development; (6) Observation, Screening, Assessment, and Documentation; (7) Special Needs and Inclusion; (8) Learning Environments and Curriculum; (9) Health, Safety, and Nutrition; (10) Leadership in Early Childhood Education; (11) Professionalism; and (12) Administration and Supervision.

For each of these twelve competencies, there are four competency contexts describing the knowledge, skills, actions, and scope of responsibility for each topic within a performance area. These competency contexts are: (1) Supporting Early Learning and Development; (2) Planning and Guiding Early Learning and Development; (3) Creating and Maintaining Program Policies and Practices; and (4) Advancing the Early Childhood Profession.

The new ECE Competencies are of great importance, given that they have been developed based on a vast body of current research related to early childhood education. This research demonstrates the importance of positive teacher-student interactions, high qualifications for ECE staff, and professional development, and it recognizes recent findings suggesting that the first five years of a child's life is a critical time in which early learning and development occurs. By articulating not only the characteristics, skills and abilities that are important for children to demonstrate during the preschool years, but to additionally clarify research-based teaching strategies that support early childhood educators, significant steps have been taken to insure that our youngest students are being given the most optimal early childhood education as possible, preparing them for kindergarten. Most impressive, the ECE Competencies recognize the growing diversity and the increasing amount of English language learners in California, the necessity to differentiate learning for children with special needs, and the importance of family engagement and partnerships with schools. Finally, the ECE Competencies acknowledge the professionalism of the ECE field and of all those professionals working in the ECE field.

The ECE Competencies are aligned with the [California Preschool Learning Foundations](#)** and the [California Infant/Toddler Learning & Development Foundations](#)***to guide professional development and related quality improvement activities.

photos of art projects by four-, five-, and six-year-old artists from throughout the state, tips for framing artwork, and a project title index as well as over 400 activities to help you teach the standards in Math, Language Arts, Social Studies, Science and Visual Art.



ART Really Teaches helps you teach academic standards the way children learn best—with hands-on art projects. It's a must for Kindergarten teachers. The cost is \$35 plus shipping and handling. To order yours today and put it to use in your classroom, please contact First Stage Publishing at (707)664-0164 or email them at FirstStageco@aol.com

*The term *early childhood educator* includes everyone responsible for the care and education of young children.

** The California Preschool Learning Foundations outline key knowledge and skills that most children can achieve when provided with the kinds of interactions, instruction, and environments that research has shown to promote early learning and development. The foundations can provide early childhood educators, parents, and the public with a clear understanding of the wide range of knowledge and skills that preschool children typically attain when given the benefits of a high-quality preschool program. In an effort to partner with parents in the education of their preschool children, key sections of the publication are available and have been translated to support parents' understanding of the preschool learning foundations. The translations include traditional Chinese, simplified Chinese, Hmong, Korean, Pilipino (Tagalog), Spanish, and Vietnamese, and are based on the prevalent non-English languages spoken by parents of preschool children in California.

*** The *California Infant/Toddler Learning and Development Foundations* describe research and evidence-based expectations for the way most infants and toddlers make progress in the major domains of social-emotional, language, cognitive, and perceptual and motor development. A common language facilitates the communication among families, infant care professionals, community members, and policymakers, building an understanding about the importance of the early years in children's learning and development. Twenty-eight foundations in four domains describe the competencies that infants and toddlers typically attain in the first three years of life.

Nancy L. Cappelloni, Ed.D.
October 1, 2011

Technology in the K-2 Classrooms Article

Thanks to all the educators who responded to our request of August 19th in which we asked you how you use technology in your classroom. Stay tuned for the article, to be published in the January 2012 edition of *Connections*, the journal of the California Association for the Education of Young Children, our collaborative early childhood education partner. As soon as it is published, we will post it on our website.

Your ideas were so tremendous and they opened up such rich discussions about the appropriate role for technology in a developmentally appropriate classroom that stimulates students' social, emotional, physical, and intellectual development. We decided to do periodic postings in e-News about promising technology resources, websites, search engines, software, and hardware and research links. We hope you will continue to contribute to the dialogue about how best to use technology with young children. We will start these postings in November.

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