

31st Annual PK1 (Preschool, Kindergarten and 1st Grade) Conference!

The conference brochure has been posted on our website! [Click here](#) to view our conference website page which includes the conference brochure, online Hyatt Regency hotel reservations and online registration. Register early to take advantage of the early bird registration fee and guarantee yourself a spot in your favorite workshops! Purchase orders will be accepted.

Once again we will feature not one, but two keynote addresses. We welcome back Peggy Campbell Rush, teacher and author of *I Teach Kindergarten* and we are excited to introduce Jim Gill, musician, author and child development specialist. The January conference will also feature a strand on Transitional Kindergarten.

PreConference Institute
 Friday, January 18th

PK1 Conference
 Saturday and Sunday, January 19th & 20th

New Resources for Teachers in TK

New resources from Preschool California are now available on TKCalifornia.org to support teachers across the state with expert-recommended best practices for getting your transitional kindergarten classes up and running this fall for historic statewide implementation.

On TKCalifornia.org, you will find tips for the first weeks of TK to ease the transition for children and their families and teaching tools to equip you with sample teaching strategies. Learn from the experiences of other teachers, administrators and parents in the voices from the field section.

If you are newer to TK, check out the [TK 101](#) section for an overview, and learn about the features that make instruction successful in the TK experience section.

Please alert your school leadership to resources in the website's [roadmap for administrators](#).

You can be confident in the materials you find on TKCalifornia.org, which are the result of a content creation and review process led by 20 experts from across the state, including local school districts, county offices of education, researchers and state-level decision makers.

Did you know you can help support CKA at no cost to yourself? Any time you shop on Amazon after following any link on our site (you'll find one on our home page) CKA receives a percentage of the sale and the price for the shopper remains the same. Thanks for your support and spread the word! Ready to get shopping?

[Click here!](#)



It's Time for CKA Awards!

JBAR - The annual [Judy Brown Administrator Award](#) recognizes administrators who exemplify outstanding leadership and exemplary support of kindergarten educators. Judy Brown, along with a group of dedicated educators, organized the first Bay Area Kindergarten Conference. She also served as the first President of CKA. The administrator who is nominated recognizes and encourages professional development of kindergarten teachers and supports the unique needs of the kindergarten classroom. The nominator must be a current member of CKA. Deadline: November 1, 2012.

ASTE A - This \$500.00 award has been established to honor Audrey Sanchez'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, 2012.

What's New on Our Website?

New to our website this month...

- [PKI Conference Information](#)
- [Physical Development & Movement Follow Up](#)
- [Block Play Follow Up](#)
- [Read Aloud Book Choices for the Start of Kindergarten](#)

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!

[Art Really Teaches 4th Edition](#)

The new, 140 page 4th Edition is bigger and better! The new edition includes new color photos of art projects by four-, five-, and six-year-old artists from throughout the state, tips for framing

As a TK teacher, you can nurture confident, enthusiastic schoolchildren by providing a high-quality experience during this critical period of their development. You are a key player in this exciting and historic opportunity for our young learners. Check out TKCalifornia.org today!

TK Power!

Debra Weller, TK teacher and incoming CKA Co-President, will be updating us regularly from her classroom with a PowerPoint presentation. It will feature photos a brief comments about her TK as well as art projects and some curriculum ideas! To view the first PowerPoint, [click here!](#)

TK Curriculum and Supporting Literature by Judy Crenshaw, CKA Board Member

Pleasant Valley School District in Camarillo, California has put together a [Transition Kindergarten Curriculum](#) to support their current kindergarten curriculum. They designed it to incorporate the same themes the Kindergarten teachers are teaching in language arts from the Houghton Mifflin adoption so TK teachers would be included in kindergarten planning times. They used Big Books that have been previously used in the district to support the language arts and science and social studies themes each month.

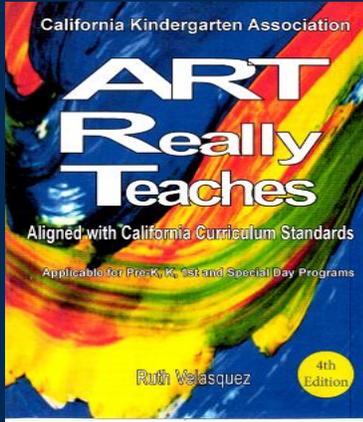
Instead of alphafriends, they chose Zoophonics as the letters and sounds and phonics program (district preschools also uses Zoophonics). They did backwards mapping of math and used common core standards and a lot of Math Their Way and Developing Number Concepts by Kathy Richardson to support math. Harcourt Brace is the kindergarten adopted program and they listed it to comply with Williams Act. Science and Social Science curriculum are supported developmentally through themes, however the adoptions listed are in regards to Williams Act.

[Click here](#) to view the TK big books and literature used to support the monthly curricular themes.

New Technology

In March CKA sent you a link to "[Technology in K-2 Classrooms](#)" that appeared in the Winter 2012 edition of *Connections*, published by the California Association for the Education of Young Children. It was written by our CKA President, Ada Hand, and is available in English and Spanish.

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.

Readers asked for follow-up information on helpful technology websites and resources. Teachers want to know where are safe resources for use with their students. [Click here](#) for an article published in Forbes about educational videos that can be accessed safely. [Click here](#) for a link to an article about several education resources that teachers may find useful to plan curriculum and instruction. It reflects changes in the federal programs that fund technology websites. Hope this helps you!

[National Kindergarten Alliance \(NKA\)](#)

The NKA was formed in 2001 out of a need felt by teachers and others involved in kindergarten education to connect and problem solve across the nation.

The NKA is the ONLY national, non-profit organization dedicated specifically to the needs of kindergarten students and teachers. Members strive to establish, nurture and support the highest quality education for our youngest learners through the identification of appropriate practices based on comprehensive research.

For more information on NKA, including how to become a member, visit the [NKA website](#).

916)780-5331

Fax: (916)780-5330

Email: cka@ckanet.org

www.californiakindergartenassociation.org

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California Kindergarten Association
1014 Chippendale Way
Roseville, California 95661
US

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