



## California Kindergarten Association

E-News

### 31st Annual PK1 Conference (Preschool, Kindergarten and 1st Grade) January 18th -20th

**There's Still Time to Register!** Come and enjoy up to three days of activities that you will not want to miss, including and all day PreConference Institute, Keynote Speakers Peggy Campbell-Rush and Jim Gill, a transitional kindergarten strand, commercial and art exhibits and much, much more! [Click here](#) to download a copy of the conference brochure. Purchase orders are being accepted.

**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 school**. All five registrations need to be received in the same envelope. Please write "administrator" at the top of the registration form. [Click here](#) for a list of sessions especially relevant for administrators.

**University Graduate Credit!** Earn **university graduate credit** for work related to the PK1 Conference at a discounted price. Courses4Teachers, in partnership with University of the Pacific, offers graduate-level professional growth credit at a special discount: **Only \$200 for three semester units!** For information contact Courses4Teachers at [courses4teachers@courses4teachers.net](mailto:courses4teachers@courses4teachers.net).

#### Join our lively Art Conversation "In a Box" facilitated by Louise Music

**When:** Saturday, January 19, 2013  
4:30-5:30pm

**Where:** PK1 Conference  
Hyatt Regency Santa Clara

**Topic:** Pathways to Spark Creativity in Early  
Grades

**RSVP:** Linda Becker (510) 223-6111 or  
[lfbeccker@sbcglobal.net](mailto:lfbeccker@sbcglobal.net)



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**amazon.com.**

JOIN CKA and become part of a network of educators who want early childhood 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
- More offerings on our website's Members Only Portal

[Click here to join!](#)

### Student Drawings in the Public Eye

This year's ornaments on CKA's tree at Davies Symphony Hall in San Francisco are truly eye-catching! Once again **Pat Rees-Miller** has thought of a novel way to display art work from Pre-School, Kindergarten and First Graders, this time mounted on recycled CD's!

Under Pat's leadership, six Art Committee members, **Linda Becker, Diana Buckingham, Carol Chivers, Stephanie Figula, Marey Richins** and **Carol Seuferer** guided students from private and public schools in Albany, Belmont, El Sobrante, Richmond, San Jose and San Pablo to create delightful drawings on white circles with markers.



The result-hundreds of attractive ornaments for the decorating team of **Linda Becker, Mary Cain, Carol Chivers, Ann Krause, Pat Rees-Miller, Carol Seuferer** and **Milton Williams** to hang on the tree. **Ruth Velasquez** has offered to design thank you certificates for all the student artists.

## TK Power!

The **November** and **December** installments of TK Power, featuring photos, brief comments about TK, art projects and curriculum ideas, is here! These PowerPoints are sent to us regularly by Debra Weller, TK teacher and incoming CKA Co-President.

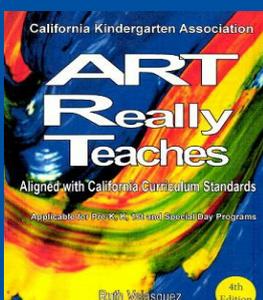
### [CKA on Facebook!](#)

Have a comment? Want to chat about early childhood 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 Tips" every week on Facebook!

## Art Really Teaches 4th Edition

The 140 page 4<sup>th</sup> Edition is bigger and better and includes new color 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.



## ***Read Across California Starts in January***

The Dr. Seuss Read Across America effort brings together community members and children to celebrate literacy. Thanks to ACR 62 (Assembly Concurrent Resolution), every March is Read Across California Month. The whole month of March is devoted to every one – adults and children – reading for 30 minutes for 30 days. Now is the time to start getting ready for March!

The Read Across California website at <http://readacrossca.org> has ideas and resources for teachers and community members. Many pediatricians in California are already taking part as they encourage literacy as part of their Reach Out and Read Program (see [www.reachoutandread.org](http://www.reachoutandread.org)).

CKA encourages you to take part. [Click here](#) for a flyer to inform folks about RAC. For a Fact Sheet on the importance of everyone being literate, [click here](#). For bookmarks in English and Spanish entitled "Read Aloud Daily", [click here](#).

**Please submit your ideas for Read Across California to CKA so we can post them online!**

## ***January and February in the Kindergarten*** ***by Betty Peck***

Now is the time to sing...

Ring it in, Ring in the New Year!  
Bells are ringing, Bells are ringing!  
Peace and Love throughout the New Year  
Joy, Joy, Joy!



This is a wonderful round where each line is sung twice while we ring beautiful Montessori bells! This is a wonderful round where each line is sung twice while we ring beautiful Montessori bells!

The birthday board is white which sets the color for the month! It stands for collecting and being ready to welcome the year. What will it bring?

We count by ones to 100 because it is the first month of the year. We use our bodies to help us count and keep track: (1) left foot, (2) right foot, (3) left hand, (4) right hand, clap on 5!

This is the month we take inventory at home and in the classroom. How many chairs? How many windows? Can you estimate and then count exactly? Make a little book to record your numbers.

Since January is the first month of the year, we celebrate the first born children.

This month we get ready for Saint Valentine's Day. Look at your sweet potatoes growing on your window sill. In each child's jar there is a sweet potato they brought from home in September. They carefully keep the new roots in water. Let the children discover that all the green leaves are heart shapes telling us that Saint Valentine's Day is coming. Search your garden for other heart shapes.

Find a story of Valentine that tells how much he loved to write beautiful letters filled with love. When he died, people found his letters everywhere signed, "From Your Valentine." He was made a saint so we always remember to say, "Saint Valentine."

Even the birds are finding their sweethearts and building their nests. We leave out yarn and wool for them to use. If we find an old bird's nest, we bring it in and take it apart carefully to see how many trips the bird had to make to construct it. We group the twigs in 10's to make

*ART Really Teaches* helps you teach academic standards the way children learn best - with hands-on art projects. The cost is \$35 plus shipping and handling. To order contact First State Publishing at (707)664-0164 or email them at [firststateco@aol.com](mailto:firststateco@aol.com)!

the counting easy. Then I say at the very end, "Now, let's put it back together again!"

In February, we celebrate the second born children and count by 2's. We always use our bodies to help us count: slap you thighs (odds), clap your hands (evens).

For Saint Valentine's Day, choose a Queen and a King for this celebration and have children make their own Saint Valentine boxes. No bought Valentines are allowed.

This is a good time for the children to learn to read the names of all the Kindergarten children. I take cut out a heart on a piece of paper that has been folded over. On the front, I write the child's name. On the inside when you lift up the front, there is a photograph of the child. The children delight in reading both words and photographs.

Of course the letter of the week is V. How many V's do we have in our bodies?

If you need help in celebrating, get my book "[Kindergarten Education: Freeing Children's Creative Potential \(Early Years Series\)](#)".

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