

42nd Annual

CALIFORNIA

Kindergarten
Conference



THE ORIGINAL CONFERENCE FOR TEACHERS BY TEACHERS #CKC2024



Vera Aniyya



Calvie Clement



Amy Nelson



Holly Ehle



Mary Amoson



Dan St. Romain



Keri Brown



JANUARY 12-14 ♥ SANTA CLARA HYATT REGENCY

Our 2024

FEATURED SPEAKERS



Get new ideas
Let your light shine
Open your mind
Wonder and learn

Meet OUR FEATURED SPEAKERS

Vera Ahiyya (Sessions A1, B1 and C1)



Vera Ahiyya was raised in El Paso, Texas with her wonderful mother and amazing grandparents. Vera has taught Kindergarten and first grade for the last 16 years. Her online presence is dedicated to collaborating with other educators by spreading her vast knowledge and love of inclusive children's books. She is the author of *Rebellious Read Alouds*, a professional development book for educators. She is also the author of two picture books, *You Have a Voice* and *KINDERgarten*.

Mary Amoson (Sessions A3, B3 and C3)



Mary is an enthusiastic and passionate Kindergarten teacher from Georgia with 19 years of experience. She holds a Master's Degree in Early Childhood Education and an Educational Specialist Degree in Instructional Technology. In addition to teaching full-time, Mary has been presenting across the country for more than 15 years. She loves sharing engaging ideas, hands-on activities, and rigorous content through her website, <https://sharingkindergarten.com>. Mary is committed to instilling passion in teachers because she believes that passion is truly the secret to increasing learning and achievement.

Keri Brown (Sessions E2, F2 and G2)



Keri Brown is an educator in Alabama who has been teaching for the past 15 years in kindergarten and first grade. She loves implementing hands-on ideas into her classroom as well as implementing tech in meaningful ways. She loves learning new strategies and researching new ideas to help students and teachers all over. She shares all of her teaching ideas and her teaching journey at *Enchanted Kinder Garden*.

Calvie Clement (Session D1)



Calvie is a high-energy, award-winning, veteran TK and Kindergarten teacher with more than 36 years of experience. She has conducted hundreds of local, state, and national conferences and has received many awards over her career. Calvie has been featured on the CBS newsmagazine, "60 Minutes" and "CBS Sunday Morning". Knowledgeable, creative, and passionate, she inspires teachers to make a difference in every student's life.

Holly Ehle (Sessions E1, F1 and G1)



Holly has over 20 years of experience teaching kindergarten and serving as an early literacy specialist. She currently has the opportunity of teaching both beginning readers AND pre-service teachers in her new position as a Professor of Reading Science, teaching both in the college classroom and in the university's science of reading Pre-K - 4th grade model school program. Professionally, her mission is to teach EVERY child to be a proficient reader and writer, including those with dyslexia and/or other learning challenges. Outside of the classroom, her mission is to help teachers bridge the gap between research and practice in fun and engaging ways.

Amy Nelson (Sessions E3, F3 and G3)



"Quirky Kid," Amy Nelson, LCSW, RPT-S, is a prominent keynote speaker, trainer, and children's book author in the field of early learning. Amy is passionate about supporting and empowering early educators to LEAN IN, embracing neurodiversity and inclusion in the classroom. As a Play Therapist, Social-Emotional Learning Coach/Consultant, and founder of Emotional Milestones, Amy is at the forefront of helping professionals prioritize and optimize mental and behavioral support for young children. Amy's unique ability to weave together captivating storytelling and dynamic teaching methods has garnered widespread recognition, making her a highly sought-after speaker at conferences.

Dan St. Romain (Sessions A2, B2, C2 and D2)



Dan St. Romain is a national independent educational consultant who provides staff development and consultative services to educators and parents working with children at all developmental levels. Dan is passionate about helping individuals shift their perspective on discipline, understanding the best ways to provide support given the challenges posed in today's society. Dan's work as a self-contained behavior unit teacher, educational diagnostician, director of a learning resource center and regional educational specialist has afforded him experience at all levels, in both general and special education settings. Dan is now enjoying semi-retirement after having worked in the school system for the past 30 years.

PRE-CONFERENCE INSTITUTE

Friday, January 12, 2024 - Registration 8:30-9:00am



Vera Ahiyya 9:00am-12:00pm

Read all about Vera on page 3.

There's a Book for That!

Join Vera in an engaging and interactive professional development session for early childhood teachers, where we will dive into the world of picture books and their role in enhancing comprehension skills. Explore a variety of captivating picture books across different content areas while discussing corresponding comprehension questions. Together, we will collaboratively design fun and accessible activities that cater to the needs of all learners, ensuring an enriching experience for everyone involved.

Lunch on your own 12:00-1:00pm



Calvie Clement 1:00-4:00pm

Read all about Calvie on page 3.

An Early Childhood "Tune Up" For You: Let's Chat about Our Young Learners

Join Calvie for this "tune up" that will include ready-to-use ideas for curriculum, management, motor skills, books, music and so much more! Whether you are new to early childhood or are a seasoned veteran, this jam-packed fun-filled session is for you!

It's An Art Party! 4:00-5:00pm

35th Annual YOUNG CHILDREN'S ART EXHIBIT

**Pre-K, TK, K and
First Grade Teachers**

**Showcase Your
Students' Artwork!**

- PAINTINGS • COLLAGES • DRAWINGS •
- PRINTS • CLASS QUILTS • MURALS •
- SCULPTURES •

CLICK HERE

To download required
Art Information Sheet
Submit art by **Friday, Dec. 8, 2023**



We're Having AN ART PARTY!

Hosted by the CKA
Visual Arts Committee

**Friday, January 12th
4:00-5:00pm**

Exciting Hands-On
ART STATIONS

MUSIC
with Winter Hungerford

"ART REALLY TEACHES"
available for the special
party rate of \$35.



Meet
Zelda LeFrak
2024 Recipient of the
Patricia Rees-Miller Award
for Art Advocacy

See Zelda at the award
presentation at CKA's
Annual Meeting on
Sunday morning.

**Art Can Come
Knocking on Your
Classroom Door!**

Guests at the
Art Party will have a
chance to win an
art visitation by the
CKA Art Divas!



LET YOUR LIGHT SHINE

at our

GLOW

Party!



JOIN US SATURDAY EVENING! January 13th from 7:00-9:00pm

WEAR WHITE OR **NEON** COLORS! Bring anything that **GLOWS, SHINES** or **TWINKLES**

There will be activities, a no-host bar, and a raffle!
Warning: Anyone sensitive to blinking lights should not attend.

Saturday

COMMERCIAL EXHIBITS

8:00am-5:30pm

REGISTRATION/ART EXHIBIT/SHOPPING

8:00-9:00am

CONFERENCE KICKOFF

9:00-9:30am

SESSION A 9:45-11:00am

SESSION B 11:15am-12:30pm

Lunch on Your Own 12:30-2:00pm
(Don't forget to visit the exhibits!)

SESSION C 2:00-3:15pm

SESSION D 3:30-4:45pm

GLOW Party! 7:00-9:00pm

Sunday

COMMERCIAL EXHIBITS

8:00am-1:30pm

CKA ANNUAL MEETING

8:00-8:45am

SESSION E 9:00-10:15am

SESSION F 10:30-11:45am

Lunch on Your Own

11:45am-1:15pm

SESSION G 1:15-2:30pm

**WANT TO VIEW THE
YOUNG CHILDRENS' ART EXHIBIT
and browse the commercial
exhibits at your leisure?**

Choose the following
sessions in place of a workshop
when registering:
A10, B10, C10, D10, E10 or F9



SESSION A • SATURDAY 9:45-11:00am

A1

Vera Ahiyya

The Tutu Teacher
Hillsboro, OR

Make Morning Meeting Magical

Good morning! How you start your day sets your day for success. Together we will explore morning meeting routines that engage, build community, and make sure your students start the day off right.
www.thetututeacher.com

A2

Dan St. Romain

Independent Educational Consultant
Universal City, TX

Cultivating Character in Kids: Behavioral Skills for Young Learners

Each year, educators are dealing with more behavior problems in the primary classrooms, so it's no surprise that this is Dan's most requested session. Learn quick and easy ideas for teaching behavioral skills in the areas of social, emotional and ethical development using fun visuals, children's literature, simple chants and engaging activities.
www.danstromain.com

A3

Mary Amoson

Kindergarten Teacher
Sharpsburg, GA

Making Math Hands-On!

Start using the very best high-quality, hands-on skill games and activities in your whole groups, small groups, and with partners to promote cross-curricular learning in fun ways. You won't believe how many examples Mary shares! Get leveled learning activities to help with remediation, skill-building, and accelerated learning.
www.sharingkindergarten.com

A4

Cassia Izaac & Erin Elizabeth Dal Ferro

EC Science Specialist/Materials Prep. Asst. Manager
Berkeley, CA

Through the Looking Glass: An Adventurous Hands-On Approach to Viewing

Refresh your senses as you explore innovative ideas for setting up science centers indoors and outdoors. Investigate natural materials with a variety of optical tools to focus far beyond what the eyes can see, and hands can feel. Incorporate science with mathematics, engineering and language arts.

A5

Kayla Harlow

Literary Advocate
Santa Maria, CA

Intentional Tech in the Primary Classroom

This session will focus on the pedagogy of integrating technology into the primary classroom while honoring the developmental and fundamental needs of young learners. Attendees will learn how to translate their tried and true "old school" teaching practices into tools that can be supported through technology integration.
www.kaylaharlow.com

A6

Gretchen Doll

Educational Consultant
Sacramento, CA

Make Your Reading Instruction SOaR!

In this session, educators will learn how to connect the five components of the Science of Reading (SOR) using cross-curricular and collaborative lessons that engage students using multiple modalities.

A7

Liz Franchi & Ann Carey

TK Teacher & Kindergarten Teacher
Santa Monica, CA

Turning Playful Conversations into Mathematical Problems

Engage with images and video examples from a TK classroom to explore how classroom design and children's play facilitate opportunities for posing different types of mathematical problems with young children.

A8

Dwayne Douglas Kohn

Kindergarten Teacher
Oceanside, CA

How to Draw (Almost) Anything in Six Simple Steps

Just as you learn to read and write, you can learn how to draw! Discover how to draw almost anything by breaking down objects into simple shapes. This is a hands-on presentation, and you will sketch 26 different drawings: one for each letter of the alphabet!
www.mrkindergarten.com

A9

Gennie Gorback

ECE Consultant
Orinda, CA

Not Enough Scoopers: Planning Intentional SEL in Your Classroom

What if you intentionally organized classroom supplies to allow your students to practice their problem solving and communication skills? In this presentation, Gennie will share ideas for creating intentional SEL opportunities and strategies for helping your students navigate these interactions independently.
www.kindling-education.com

SESSION B • SATURDAY 11:15am-12:30pm

B1

Vera Ahiyya

The Tutu Teacher
Hillsboro, OR

Exploring Skin Color with Books and Art

Join us for an engaging professional development session tailored to early childhood educators! Discover innovative approaches in utilizing books and art as powerful tools to foster meaningful conversations about skin color with your students. Gain practical strategies and insights to promote diversity, inclusion, and empathy in the classroom while cultivating a positive learning environment for all.

www.thetututeacher.com

B2

Dan St. Romain

Independent Educational Consultant
Universal City, TX

Teach Skills and Break Habits: Growth Mindsets for Better Behavior in the Classroom

How do we create long-term change for students with chronic behavior problems? In this thought-provoking session, attendees will discuss why typical reward/punishment-based behavior strategies often work against our long-term goals. Participants will leave the session with ideas for both targeting and teaching skills based on students' unique gifts and challenges.

www.danstromain.com

B3

Mary Amoson

Kindergarten Teacher
Sharpsburg, GA

Let's Dive into Dyslexia

What is dyslexia and what do you need to know about it? Let's talk about what it is, the key components, what other states are doing to help with dyslexia, and even myths and misconceptions about dyslexia. www.sharingkindergarten.com

B4

Diana Zaragoza

Director UC Davis Math Project/ECE Professor
Sacramento City College, CA

What's Inside Grandma's Purse: A Counting Collections Adventure!

"How do we support children's development of number sense around counting, count sequence, cardinality and 1:1 correspondence?" This session guides participants through research about number sense development and provides them with make and take activities to see how literature can launch exploration of number sense through various Counting Collections activities.

B5

Erin Cooney, Ed. M.

Director of Curriculum & Instruction
El Cerrito, CA

Breathe Easier: Managing Stress with Simple, Science-Based Strategies

What's all the buzz about educator stress and well-being? Experience Breathe, Move, and Rest strategies that will shift your mindset from overwhelmed to focused to relaxed. Learn the science behind why these strategies work. The session will touch on implementing these tools with learners. All attendees will gain access to Pure Edge's full online library of free resources to support well-being in the classroom.

www.pureedgeinc.org

B6

John & Marie Farrell

Songwriters, Author & Peace Educators
Hillsdale, NY

We're All One Family: The Earth is Our Home

This session introduces fun, meaningful songs, and activities that can be used immediately in the classroom to enrich learning about plants, animals, nature, and the interconnectedness of all life on earth. Topics include habitats, endangered species, Earth Day, the ocean, recycling, stars, bears, dolphins, volcanoes, etc., and working for change.

www.johnfarrellmusic.com

B7

Linda Ekstrom & Michelle Woods

Kindergarten Teachers
Galt, CA

Let's Play! SOR-Based Games, Activities, and Centers

Are you looking for games, activities, centers, and interventions that will target beginning reading and math skills? In this session, you will walk away with tons of engaging, game-based activities and strategies to use during whole-class instruction, morning meetings, reading groups, or intervention time. Let's play!

www.kinderbrations.com

B8

Scott Bedley & Ben Cogswell

New Teacher Lead Mentor & Kindergarten Teacher
Irvine & Salinas, CA

The Benefits of Digital Big Buddies: SEL, Academics, and More

Ben and Scott share how their classes (One Kinder/One 4th-Grade) used virtual buddies to boost students' knowledge, connectedness, and emotions through regular online buddy activities. They will share the simple "ins and outs" of how to successfully connect your class so that your littles can have the same benefits, too!

<https://bit.ly/44WEJvQ>

B9

Robyn Stone

Coordinator
Santa Clara County Office of Education, CA

Equity-Focused STEM in PK-2: Integrating Investigating, Sensemaking, and Communicating Practices

Mathematical and science & engineering practices are best grouped into three categories: investigating, sensemaking, and communicating. Students benefit from integrating these practices in hands-on investigations to optimize engagement and make thinking and learning visible. Explore teacher moves supporting equitable student-centered classrooms and structures that amplify students' voices.

SESSION C • SATURDAY 2:00-3:15pm

C1

Vera Ahiyya

The Tutu Teacher
Hillsboro, OR

Rebellious Read Alouds

Children yearn to see themselves in our classrooms. Discover how our culture reveals itself in the classroom and make connections between diversity and our students using children's books. Confidently engage in conversations about diversity and inclusion and identify higher order thinking questions to use with children's books about diversity. Walk away with a toolbox full of strategies to help you talk about diversity.
www.thetututeacher.com

C2

Dan St. Romain

Independent Educational Consultant
Universal City, TX

Lessons Learned Through Puppy Training

If you have ever played with new puppies, you know they are terribly cute... and very challenging, all the same. In this session, participants will have fun learning specific ways to positively shape behaviors based on both identifying and meeting the diverse needs of our youngest learners.
www.danstromain.com

C3

Mary Amoson

Kindergarten Teacher
Sharpsburg, GA

Classroom Management

The same classroom management strategies don't work for all students or all teachers. In this eye-opening session, identify tried and true teaching tricks for managing your class and creating a positive and fun learning environment.
www.sharingkindergarten.com

C4

Karen Recinos

Math Coach
UCLA Mathematics Project, CA

Counting Collections Adventure: Leveraging Children's Brilliance

Explore the task of counting collections and how it opens opportunities for children to show what they know and can do. We will detail the power of noticing and listening to children's emerging understandings of counting and problem solving and how to use this knowledge to inform instruction.

C5

Cindy Pahr, M.Ed., CBIST

Educational Consultant
San Diego, CA

Improve Motor Skills, Accelerate Progress!

Learn the importance of brain development and motor skills. Walk away with fun, practical strategies and activities to improve motor skills related to classroom performance! Ideas for rapid improvement of handwriting will be covered along with many activities to help ADHD students. Brain research supported. Beneficial for all!
www.educlime.com

C6

Jackie Nefdt

Inclusion Specialist
Fremont, CA

Supporting Students with Disabilities Transitioning Into and Out of Kindergarten

This presentation discusses the kindergarten transition practices that support preschool students with disabilities and their teachers as they enter elementary schools. It also looks at the elements of educator and organizational capacity that support educators in their kindergarten transition practices.

C7

Amelia Manes

Kindergarten Teacher
San Francisco, CA

No Risk, No Reward: The Benefits of Risky Play

We've all said it... 'Be careful!' or 'That's too dangerous' when students are playing. This session will challenge that idea and explore the proven benefits of observing, promoting and guiding different types of risky play with young learners. Together, we will learn simple risk-taking activities to integrate into your classroom!

C8

Marey Richins

Retired Kindergarten & 1st Grade Teacher
Florence, AZ

Books, Correspondence & Beyond- Literacy Across the Curriculum!

Get your K-1 students excited about writing and reading with a bazillion creative ideas to supplement your language arts program: writing across the curriculum with science logs, Home School Journals, story questions, book making, book boxes and author nights, classroom books, and memory albums and more.

C9

Palma Lindsay

International Presenter
Greenwood, CA

Integrating Fun with Science Across the Curriculum: Make and Take

Are you looking for ways to include interactive science lessons in your busy day? Come and have FUN discovering hands-on activities that integrate science with literacy and math while fostering language development and learning about Five Senses, Magnets, Sink/Float, Weather, Plants, Animals, plus more! Perfect for E.L.L.s and E.O. students.
www.teacherspayteachers.com/store/kfundamentals

SESSION D • SATURDAY 3:30-4:45pm

D1

Calvie Clement

TK Teacher
Hanford, CA

Stories, Songs and So Much More: Fun for You and Your Students Galore!

Looking for ideas to make your circle and storytime out of this world for your youngest learners? This session is for you! Calvie will share the latest in children's literature, music and celebrations that are kid tested and teacher approved. Get ready for a fun and fabulous time!

D2

Dan St. Romain

Independent Educational Consultant
Universal City, TX

Positive Behavior Principles: Shifting Perspectives and Aligning Practices in Schools

Although behaviors in the school system have changed a great deal in the past few decades, our strategies for supporting those behaviors have not. In this fast-paced interactive session, participants will learn nine principles for positively shaping the behavior of our students.
www.danstromain.com

D3

Kimberly DeMille

Intervention Specialist
Carlsbad, CA

Google Slides for Meaningful Transitions

Make every second count! Discover how you can map out your entire day using Google Slides and embed meaningful transitions throughout your day. In this session, you will also discover how your Google Slides can make learning accessible to all students. (Bring your laptop!)

D4

Mandi Bottoms

CA Foundation for Agriculture in the Classroom
Sacramento, CA

Life on the Farm: Incorporating Agriculture into Early Childhood Classrooms

Discover Ag in the Classroom's new early childhood unit, Life on the Farm. This flexible program introduces young learners to modern agriculture through daily themes, including livestock, fruits and vegetables, machines, and summary. With four multidisciplinary learning experiences each day, this FREE resource reinforces age-appropriate knowledge and skills. www.learnaboutag.org

D5

Christina Torres

Thinking Mats Founder
Pasadena, CA

Building Strong Foundations - A Workshop for Teachers, Admins, and Caregivers

Join us for a dynamic and informative workshop focusing on post-pandemic teacher and students' needs. Participants will have a clear understanding of how to effectively help students self-regulate and connect in a positive learning environment. You will gain insight, strategies, and resources so you can focus on student success. www.thinkingmats.com

D6

Monica Rollins

Founder of Rooted: A Wellness Collective
Woodland Hills, CA

R.O.O.T.E.D. + Regulated: Trauma-informed Yoga for ECE Professionals

Do your students struggle with transitions, managing big feelings and finding confidence? Are YOU grappling with compounded stress and burnout from classroom pressures? This interactive workshop highlights how trauma impacts our ability to cope effectively and introduces mindfulness tools to boost resiliency, confidence, and self-regulation for you and your students!
www.rootedwellnesscollective.org/freebie

D7

Scott Nielsen

PreK-12 Coordinator, AIMS Center for Math & Science Educ.
Fresno, CA

The Power of Wind and STEAM: Students Engineering Fun

In this hands-on STEAM session, we will show how to make a wind tunnel tube with easily accessible materials. Come play, tinker, and engineer together and experience a project that began as a fun activity, then turned into a months-long engineering adventure with opportunities for measurement, counting, writing, and more.
www.aimscenter.org

D8

LeAnna Wolkis-Goldstein, M.Ed., NBCT

@WolkisWonderland, Kindergarten Teacher, National Education Speaker
Phoenix, AZ

Purposeful Play with Writing Realia

Create a student-centered literacy environment that's designed to WELCOME opportunities for exploring hands-on tools. See inside meaningful spaces where students take ownership of their learning by working collaboratively and accessing writing purposefully. Stretch your young author's imagination with exciting novelty resources. Leave with storytelling experiences and book binding techniques.
www.instagram.com/wolkiswonderland/

D9

Alayna M. Kramer, M.S. Ed.

Kindergarten Teacher
San Francisco

Constructivism in Action: A Study of Mail

Want to create social studies units that are truly hands-on but struggle with how to make them a reality? Using the topic of mail, I will share with you my approach to building out content that is truly constructivist and engaging for you and your students!
www.msalayna.com/

SESSION E • SUNDAY 9:00–10:15am

E1**Holly Ehle**

Kindergarten Teacher
New Haven, IN

The Importance of Sound to Spelling Activities and Orthographic Mapping

Review why teaching using a speech-to-print approach is so important at the primary level and learn dozens of engaging activity ideas on how to put this into action in your classroom! You will understand why phonemic awareness is essential to mapping words into permanent memory, why we do NOT want to teach high-frequency words as images on flashcards, and why decodable texts are so important for beginning readers! www.instagram.com/thescienceofliteracylearning/

E2**Keri Brown**

Primary Educational Consultant
Pleasant Grove, AL

Creating Independent Writers in Primary - Yes!

Kindergarteners can be independent writers. Change your students' mindsets – they really CAN do it! Gain writing ideas and teaching strategies to make it happen. I'll cover minilesson ideas to kick off the start of the school year. Find out how to showcase seasonal and themed words and how to give each of these words to your students. www.instagram.com/enchantedkindergarden

E3**Amy Nelson**

Professional Trainer and Coach
Independence, MO

Sensory Smarts! Exploring the Four Sensory Processing Patterns

We are all sensory beings, however, we do not all process sensation in the same way! You will be introduced to Dunn's sensory processing model, explore the four unique sensory profiles, and learn how these processing differences play out in the classroom environment. After, you will better understand your students' needs and identify strategies to adapt to the environment to support everyday learning and participation. www.emotionalmilestones.com

E4**Joe Kencke**

1st Grade Teacher
Eureka, CA

Math in Motion

Join Joe as he shares how you can easily combine math concepts with fun, interactive P.E. games! On your mark, get set, let's get ready to move!

<https://www.instagram.com/mr.k1stgrade>

E5**Peg Oliveira, Ph.D.**

Director, Gesell Program in EC at Yale Child Study Center
New Haven, CT

Sparking Wonder:**Learning to Play and Playing to Learn**

In this workshop we will unpack the latest research on the relationship between play and brain growth in early childhood. Importantly, we will investigate the importance of free play in the development of young children's executive function skills, and the power of guided play in addressing explicit learning goals.

www.gesell-yale.org

E6**Ronald Mah, M.A., Ph.D.**

Licensed Marriage & Family Therapist, Author, Consultant
Castro Valley, CA

Building Powerful Children in Stress-Filled Times

Learn to identify emotional issues underlying children's behavior, especially in response to stress: how stress is brought to school, stress builders and stress releasers, and the continuum of stress to trauma, the Adverse Childhood Experiences Study affecting health. Learn how to build a strong and resilient child (including resiliency theory). www.ronaldmah.com

E7**Chantal Touryan-Schaefer**

Early Literacy Coord., Reading Specialist, Dyslexia Advocate
Monterey, CA

Beyond the Letters:**Understanding Dyslexia and Unlocking Potential**

In this informative session, teachers will get an overview of the science behind how the brain learns to read, learn the neurodiversity specific to dyslexia, common characteristics in young learners (K-3), screening and assessment, support for students within the general education classroom, and when to refer to Special Education.

E8**CKA Art Divas**

Pre-K, K, Grade 1 and Art Educators
Bay Area, CA

Let's Be Creative:**Let's Celebrate Young Children's Art**

Join Linda, Pat, Stephanie, Winter and Zelda to enjoy new and favorite hands-on art activities that will enrich your curriculum. Come create exciting standards-based projects to bring language, literature, math and science alive for all your young learners!

www.artreallyteaches.com

E9**Dr. Kimi Waite**

Asst. Professor of Child & Family Studies
California State University, Los Angeles

Partnerships with TK-2 Students & Scientists for Environmental Civic Learning

Learn about a three-step interdisciplinary learning framework for partnerships between TK-2 students and scientists, created by two former kindergarten teachers/National Geographic Explorers. The learning framework is rooted in the social studies' curricular themes of science, technology, society, and people, places, and environments. Gain actionable curricular ideas and resources!

www.kimiwaite.com

SESSION F • SUNDAY 10:30-11:45am

F1**Holly Ehle**

Kindergarten Teacher
New Haven, IN

Letter Confusions & Reversals: Why They Occur and How We Can "Fix" Them!

Interested in learning about why students confuse visually similar letterforms? Want to know why (or how) some children write their names mirror-image backwards? Holly will share the educational neuroscience behind why letter confusions and reversals occur and exactly what you can do to "fix" them!

www.instagram.com/thescienceofliteracylearning/

F2**Keri Brown**

Primary Educational Consultant
Pleasant Grove, AL

The Read Aloud Playbook

Delve into the key elements that contribute to successful read aloud sessions: comprehension, vocabulary development, critical thinking, and fostering a love for reading. Leave with a playbook of strategies, activities, and resources to enrich your read aloud sessions. Whether veteran or new to the classroom, "The Read Aloud Playbook" will help make read alouds an integral part of your literacy instruction.

www.instagram.com/enchantedkindergarden

F3**Amy Nelson**

Professional Trainer and Coach
Independence, MO

Play the Wiggles Away! Strategies for Building Self-Regulation

In this high-energy, hands-on workshop, participants will learn about the benefits of play and how it contributes to the development of self-regulation. Participants will learn how to intentionally utilize dyadic play-based activities to target specific skill development in young children.

www.emotionalmilestones.com

F4**Gabriella Ibarra**

TK Teacher
Menifee, CA

Little Hands Big Minds: A Multi-Sensory Approach to Learning the Alphabet

Are you an early childhood educator looking for new ideas to introduce the alphabet in your classroom? During this interactive workshop you will learn various multi-sensory activities to get your students excited about learning and leave them asking for more!

F5**Mamie Pepper & Chloe Scholes**

Kindergarten Teachers
San Francisco

Project Based Learning with Legos

How can we use the buy in of Lego blocks to "hook" students in both the design process and mathematical thinking while having fun? In this hands-on workshop, participants will use Legos to engage their classes in a student-driven, project-based lesson.

F6**Crystel Patterson**

Author
Sacramento, CA

Celebrating Diversity: Using Culturally Responsive Books in the Kindergarten Classroom

Explore incorporating diverse books into kindergarten curriculum and choosing culturally sensitive and developmentally appropriate literature aligned with Common Core Standards. We will highlight specific books and provide insights on evaluating cultural sensitivity, accuracy, and authenticity while promoting critical thinking, empathy, and cultural awareness. www.crystelpatterson.com

F7**Kim Adams**

Educator and Speaker
Palo Alto, CA

Play It Forward. Advocating For Play in Early Learning.

We know children learn best through play, yet many educators struggle with embracing this practice. Understanding current research, having skills for communicating its importance, as well as the conviction to implement, is key. Discover how to communicate the valuable outcomes that happen when children direct their own learning through play.

www.itmightgetmessy.com

F8**Ben Cogswell & Jennifer Dean**

Kindergarten Teacher & 1st Grade Teacher
Salinas & Palm Desert

Out of This World Communication: Using EduProtocols to Build Language

Language is one of the doorways to literacy! Creating language experiences for our young students sets them up for success but can sometimes be difficult. With the two EduProtocols, "Sketch and Tell" and "Thin Slides", the doorway to language is open wide for all learners. www.primaryeduprotocols.us

SESSION G • SUNDAY 1:15-2:30pm

G1**Holly Ehle**

Kindergarten Teacher
New Haven, IN

Introduction to the Science of Writing

Like speaking, writing is a form of communication. However, unlike learning to speak, which can be learned through immersion, learning to write does NOT come naturally. It requires explicit instruction. Learn what the science of writing has revealed about the most effective ways to teach kiddos to become proficient writers. And the best part is that planning and teaching in a science-of-writing aligned way is easier and less time consuming than what we've done in the past!

www.instagram.com/thescienceofliteracylearning/

G2**Keri Brown**

Primary Educational Consultant
Pleasant Grove, AL

Revitalizing Small Groups and Reading Centers with SoR

Are you ready to adjust your centers with the Science of Reading in mind? We will explore how to breathe new life into small groups and reading centers using the highly effective approach of SoR. Teachers will learn practical strategies to engage and empower students through interactive reading experience, enhance comprehension skills, and promote a love for reading in primary students.

www.instagram.com/enchantedkindergarden

G3**Amy Nelson**

Professional Trainer and Coach
Independence, MO

Neurodivergent Play! A Different Way

To truly nurture neurodivergent students, we must recognize that different brains need different approaches! Uncover educators' most common mistakes regarding neurodivergent play, why it can be harmful, and what to do instead. Embrace affirming approaches designed to be inclusive of all learners, exploring creative strategies for overcoming barriers, and promoting engagement. Because when we know better, we do better! www.emotionalmilestones.com

REGISTRATION

PRE-CONFERENCE INSTITUTE: JANUARY 12, 2024 CALIFORNIA KINDERGARTEN CONFERENCE: JANUARY 13-14, 2024

☐ This is my first time attending the California Kindergarten Conference

• PLEASE TYPE OR PRINT CLEARLY IN INK •

Name _____ CKA Member # _____

Work ph _____ Cell ph* _____ Home email* _____

Home address _____ City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Grade/position _____ School _____

School district _____

****Cell phone and home email required.**

2024 CALIFORNIA KINDERGARTEN CONFERENCE

Please indicate by NUMERALS your 1st through 3rd choice for EACH session.
Each session is limited. Assignments are made in the order received.

Your t-shirt size: ☐ S ☐ M ☐ L ☐ XL ☐ 2XL ☐ 3XL ☐ 4XL

SESSION A

Sat. 9:45-11:00am

1st Choice	2nd Choice	3rd Choice
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

SESSION B

Sat. 11:15am-12:30pm

<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
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SESSION C

Sat. 2:00-3:15pm

<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
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SESSION D

Sat. 3:30-4:45pm

<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
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Sat. 7:00pm

• GLOW PARTY!

Sun. 8:00-8:45am

• CKA ANNUAL MEETING

SESSION E

Sun. 9:00-10:15am

<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
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SESSION F

Sun. 10:30-11:45am

<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
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SESSION G

Sun. 1:15-2:30pm

<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
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☐ **American Disabilities Act -**
If you have special requirements, please check this box. We will contact you for details.

☐ **I wish to submit my students' art in the Young Children's Art Exhibit.**

• OFFICE USE ONLY •

REG _____

PAYMENT _____

REGISTRATION FEES

Pre-Conference Institute ☐ I will attend the Art Party **FREE**
\$150 CKA Member \$

2-Day Conference Registration ☐ Presenter **FREE**
Early bird through November 1st ☐ Principal **FREE**
\$325 CKA Member / \$375 Nonmember*
Regular Pricing
\$355 CKA Member / \$405 Nonmember* \$

1-Day Conference Registration ☐ Presenter **FREE**
Early bird through November 1st ☐ Principal **FREE**
\$235 CKA Member / \$285 Nonmember*
Regular Pricing
\$285 CKA Member / \$325 Nonmember* \$

☐ I will attend Saturday Night's Glow Party **FREE**

☐ I will attend the CKA Annual Meeting

*Please apply \$50 of my nonmember registration towards CKA membership or membership renewal ☐ Check if yes

TOTAL FEES

\$

PAYMENT INFORMATION

☐ Check enclosed - made payable to CKA

☐ Purchase order attached

☐ Charge: ☐ Amex ☐ MasterCard ☐ VISA

Card No.:

<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
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Exp. Date _____ Card Security Code: _____

Name on card _____

Signature _____

Billing address _____

Please Note: Any pictures taken during conference weekend can be used for promotional materials.

..... Send this form & payment to: CKA, 1014 Chippendale Way, Roseville, CA 95661 / E-mail: cka@ckanet.org / Fax: 916-780-5330

THE FINE PRINT

CREDIT COURSE INFORMATION

EARN 3 GRADUATE-LEVEL PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT CREDITS FOR ATTENDANCE AT THE CALIFORNIA KINDERGARTEN CONFERENCE

Courses4Teachers Inc/University of the Pacific is offering a special discount for the CA Kindergarten Conference: 3 Graduate-Level Professional Development Semester Credits for only \$200 (\$79 savings)

Note: These graduate-level professional development semester units/credits are designed as professional development for salary advancement and to renew credentials. These units/credits are not designed towards attainment of a Masters or higher degree within the University of the Pacific.

To be awarded these units/credits, you will need to do the following:

1) To register for university credit during or after the Conference, please use this link: courses4teachers.net/california-kindergarten-conference/
For questions, please email courses4teachers@courses4teachers.net

2) Be prepared to turn in a log of 25 hours of reading, research and/or curriculum development. Your participation at the California Kindergarten Conference will award you 20 hours (this will be the first entry on your log.) In addition you will need to log 25 hours of reading, research & curriculum development you have completed prior to or after the conference. Thus, a total of the required 45 hours for 3 graduate-level professional development semester credits.

Instructions on how to log your hours of extra work is provided on the website link.

Please note: It typically takes 2 – 4 weeks to obtain an Official Transcript. E-transcripts are now available.

Courses are available for 3 units for a total cost of \$200. Should you need prior approval for courses with your District, all courses are listed on the Courses4Teachers registration webpage.

Hotel Info:

HYATT REGENCY SANTA CLARA

5101 Great America Parkway
Santa Clara, CA 95054
Toll free (800) 233-1234
santaclara.hyatt.com
Rates single/double \$199



If making reservations by phone, you must identify yourself as a California Kindergarten Conference registrant to receive the discounted conference rate.

Don't want to wait for your reservation in the mail? For instant availability and confirmation, please register only at: <https://bit.ly/30Q9qwa>

Cancellation/Change date is Monday, January 8, 2024, by 3:00 pm PST
Parking: \$36 overnight charge, \$20 day parking

Group rate is available until December 21, 2023 (based on availability).

PRINCIPALS ATTEND FREE

Bring your principal to experience the joy of early childhood! They don't even have to pay! Principals attend the conference for free – make sure to check the box on the registration form and send in together with a teacher's registration.

REGISTRATION PROCEDURES

REGISTER ONLINE HERE or complete the registration form on page 14.

Prior to the conference you will receive an email confirming your attendance. **GROUP DISCOUNT:** Are you coming with 6 of your favorite colleagues? Groups of 7 or more from the same school district receive \$25 off each registration! Call the CKA office at 916-780-5331 for details.

REFUND POLICY *No registration refunds will be made under any circumstances.* Registrations are fully transferable to a substitute registrant up to, and including, the day of the conference. **Note:** In the event the conference is cancelled due to circumstances beyond our control, registration fees will be refunded, minus a \$20 administrative fee.