

MONDAY, OCTOBER 20, 2008

## CONCURRENT CONFERENCE SESSIONS

Content Level Key:

**Awareness (information sharing)** – Session provides basic information designed for those who know little about the session topic

**Skill Building (strategies)** – Session provides opportunity to build and/or practice skills; designed for those who want to learn how to effectively use their basic knowledge or understanding

**Changing Behavior (Advanced)** – Session provides high level content, with opportunities to problem solve and learn new perspective; designed for those who are already knowledgeable about, or experienced in, the topic area

10:00am-11:30am

### [Administration of the Peabody Picture Vocabulary Test III \(PPVT III\)](#)

*Debra Coe, Grant Specialist, Texas Family Literacy Resource Center*

PPVT-III is a measure of receptive vocabulary for standard English and a screening test of verbal ability. This individually administered, norm-referenced instrument is a required assessment for Even Start programs. This session prepares practitioners to administer the assessment to preschool children. Some test kits will be available for use during the training. Participants are encouraged to bring their own test kit.

Strand: *TX Assessment*

Content Level:

Format:

### [Even Start Works! Proof from Three Research Studies in Texas](#)

*Elizabeth Thompson, State Even Start & Family Literacy Coordinator, Texas LEARNS*  
and Don Seaman, Ph.D., Deborah Stedman, Ph.D

Three separate research studies beginning in 2004 have all shown that Texas Even Start participants have made significant gains academically and in the work force. One study focuses on parent outcomes, one on PPVT results and the other on PALS PreK results. This presentation will share the findings of these studies and discuss their implications for Even Start.

Strand: *Research/Evaluation/Assessment*

Content Level: *Awareness*

Format: *Panel*

### [From Knowledge to Skills: The Next Step in Parent Education](#)

*Michelle Lintott, You Make The Difference® Program Manager, The Hanen Centre*

Supporting parents' efforts in building a strong parent-child relationship that encourages their child's early language, social and literacy learning is one of the foundations of effective parent education. Just as important as what we share with parents is HOW we share it and what we do to support and motivate parents to take that NEXT STEP in turning new knowledge into skills

Strand: *Parenting Education and Interactive Literacy*

Content Level: *Awareness*

Format: *Interactive*

### [I Understand the Curriculum, but How Do I Get Them to Learn?](#)

*Patricia Vacca, Director of Early Childhood, Madison Oneida BOCES*

A common concern heard from family literacy staff is: "How do I manage challenging behaviors or how do I monitor so many children at once?" This session will provide participants with a better understanding on what causes misbehavior, as well as how to create a positive successful learning environment.

Strand: *Early Childhood Education*

Content Level: *Skill Building*

Format: *Interactive*

### [Digital Storytelling with Microsoft Photostory](#)

Denise Guckert, Grant Coordinator, Texas Family Literacy Resource Center, Texas State University-San Marcos and Ysabel Ramirez

Digital storytelling uses project-based learning to integrate language, meaning and technology. In this session, participants watch while pictures, narration and text are integrated into a dynamic video story using free and user-friendly software, Microsoft Photostory 3. Handouts and resource CD-ROM provided. *Participants are encouraged to bring digital photos.*

Strand: *Adults as Learners*  
Content Level: *Skill Building*  
Format: *Interactive*

12:30pm-2:00pm

### [Case Study Research into What Counts and What Doesn't for Even Start Success](#)

Barbara Van Horn, Co-Director, Goodling Institute for Research in Family Literacy and Institute for the Study of Adult Literacy and Drucie Weirauch

This interactive session will share research findings in what counts (numbers) and what doesn't (trust, empowerment, action) from a case study, enlist participants to share their experiences, and investigate how to use this for program improvement.

Strand: *Research/Evaluation/Assessment*  
Content Level: *Changing Behavior*  
Format: *Interactive*

### [Parents and Their Young Children Sharing Books Together](#)

Deborah Stedman, Ph.D., Director, Texas Family Literacy Resource Center

Book sharing (a.k.a., dialogic reading) is a well-researched, effective strategy for parents and teachers to encourage children's language development and emergent literacy. Book sharing fits the parent education, interactive literacy activities, early childhood education, and home-based instruction components of family literacy particularly well and can also be integrated into ESL.

Strand: *Parenting Education and Interactive Literacy*  
Content Level: *Skill Building*  
Format: *Interactive*

### [Migrants Cross the Digital Divide](#)

Terry Kinzel, Director of Family Literacy Services, Big Bend Community College and Jennifer Brathovde, Diana Villafana

It is difficult to provide literacy education to migrant families when they move from the program area to work in another area, state, or country. Presenters demonstrate how they engage migrant families in on-line learning that is flexible, responsive, and available when the student is available to learn.

Strand: *English Language Learners*  
Content Level: *Awareness*  
Format: *Lecture*

### [What Am I Doing? How Am I Doing It? Connecting Toddler Curriculum with Developmental Standards](#)

Melissa Kaden, *Early Childhood Consultant, etc, educational training and consulting*  
and Julie Culhane

This session will introduce participants to the Ounce Scale, a collaborative, functional assessment for children age birth to 42 months. This presentation will maintain a special focus on the Developmental Standards for Toddler Communication and Language. Presenters will use sample materials from the Ounce Scale as well as case studies to explore the receptive, expressive and conversation abilities of the 18-24 month old.

Strand: *Early Childhood Education*

Content Level: *Skill Building*

Format: *Interactive*

2:30pm-4:00pm

### [Administration of Phonological Awareness Literacy Assessment for Preschool \(PALS Pre K\)](#)

Ysabel Ramirez, *Grant Specialist, Texas Family Literacy Resource Center*

PALS-PreK is a scientifically-based phonological awareness and literacy screening that measures preschoolers' developing knowledge of important literacy fundamentals and offers guidance to teachers for tailoring instruction to children's specific needs. Administration of the upper and lower-case alphabet recognition section of the assessment is required for Even Start. This session prepares practitioners to administer the assessment to preschool children. Some test kits will be available for use during the training. Participants are encouraged to bring their own test kit.

Strand: *TX Assessment*

Content Level:

Format:

### [Partners Working Together to Sustain the Project?](#)

Sallie Wilson, *Education Program Consultant, California Department of Education*

Communicating with our partners, our schools, our staff, our community leaders and each other is of utmost importance to the success of literacy program(s). This learning event is designed to provide you with the strategies, tools and tips to communicate and advocate for commitment, sustainability and funds.

Strand: *Program sustainability/Accessing Resources*

Content Level: *Awareness*

Format: *Interactive*

### [Parents Make the Difference!](#)

Debra Coe, *Grant Specialist, Texas Family Literacy Resource Center*

Based on Hanen Centre curriculum, participants will learn effective strategies for teaching parents how to increase purposeful communication with their young children. Participants will examine research in adult learning theory and early language acquisition and will explore ways to integrate this training into all components while tailoring it to meet their needs.

Strand: *Parenting Education and Interactive Literacy*

Content Level: *Skill Building*

Format: *Interactive*

### [Simple Reading and Writing Strategies \(SRWS\) that Support the Literacy Development of English Language Learners](#)

Veronica Bacigalupo, *Bi-lingual Literacy Specialist, Education Alliance and Stacy DeCuir-Graupner*

SRWS will show practitioners how they can meet the needs of English Language Learners by using simple strategies that incorporate current classrooms themes, materials, and supplies that they may already have in their classrooms.

Strand: *English Language Learners*

Content Level: *Skill Building*

Format: *Lecture*

[Relationships: The Foundation to Positive Learning](#)

*Heather Peterson, Title I Coordinator Organizational Development, Hampton City Schools*

Successful learning is built on a strong foundation of relationships. Examine the key elements of what makes a positive relationship and the implications for both parent and student success. Understand the impact of relationships on lifelong learning through an interactive exploration of proven research-based tools and resources.

Strand: *Adults as Learners*

Content Level: *Skill Building*

Format: *Interactive*