

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 21, 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

8:00am-9:30am

[Looking for a Few Good Men](#)

Sarah Hornback, Director of Family Services, LaRue County Schools

Brain research confirms that relationships with other people early in life are the major source of development of the emotional and social parts of the brain. Men can and should be an important part of that relationship. Many family literacy programs, however, report that male involvement is minimal. This workshop will reaffirm the value of male involvement in family literacy and identify strategies for encouraging male involvement. What are the unique barriers for male participants? How can we overcome these barriers? How can we target males and what are the implications for family literacy? What aspects of family literacy can particularly benefit from male involvement? What benefits accrue when the whole family participates?

Strand: *Parenting Education and Interactive Literacy*

Content Level: *Awareness*

Format: *Lecture*

[Educational Activities: It's All in the Bag](#)

Brenda Faz-Villarreal, Coordinator, Northside Independent School District Even Start Family Literacy Program
and *Irene Bosquez Reyna, Lorena Gonzalez, Hilda Rodriguez, Marisa Morga, Sonia Avila*

Gain Ideas to fill your tote bag in this hands-on workshop with parent-child activities that are appropriate for Personal Home Visits and Parent Sessions. Take home samples and directions, ice breakers, and other creative ways to enhance the family experiences with your program.

Strand: *Parenting Education and Interactive Literacy*

Content Level: *Skill Building*

Format: *Interactive*

[Tips and Strategies for Working with Adult English Language Learners](#)

Marla Rea, ELL Dean of Instruction, Bryan High School/Texas A & M University

In this workshop you will learn strategies and ideas for helping Adult English Language Learners acquire English and literacy skills.

Strand: *English Language Learners*

Content Level: *Skill Building*

Format: *Interactive Workshop*

[Having Fun with Project Based Learning!](#)

Ginger Williford, Program Coordinator, Little Elm ISD Even Start

and *Diana Vargas, Vikki Morgan, Luqui Garcia, Heather Talan, Shannon MacDonaland, Rita Rodriguez*

Having difficulties attending professional development as a team? Need ideas on how to motivate your families to work while you are gone? This session will provide ideas on how to implement one theme throughout the four components. Parents are self-starters and are rewarded by their accomplishments.

Strand: *Adults as Learners*

Content Level: *Skill Building*

Format: *Interactive*

8:00am-11:30am

[Administration of the Home Observation for Measurement of the Environment \(HOME\) Inventory](#)

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

The Home Observation for Measurement of the Environment (HOME) Inventory (Caldwell, & Bradley, 1984) is designed to measure the quality and quantity of stimulation and support available to a child in the home environment. The focus is on the child in the environment, child as a recipient of inputs from objects, events, and transactions occurring in connection with the family surroundings. This session will prepare participants to implement the instrument in a family literacy program.

Strand: *TX Assessment*

Content Level:

Format:

10:00am-11:30am

[Interactive Literacy: Parents and Children Building Understanding](#)

Clarena Larrotta, Assistant Professor, Texas State University

and *Monica Valadez*

Using bilingual readings (Spanish/English) and two reading levels (adults/children), presenters will demonstrate literacy strategies (K-W-L, concept mapping, cubing, journaling) promoting active learning, involvement, and dialogue. Workshop participants will practice using strategies and reflective journals as tools to help adults develop literacy and enhance their role as their children's primary teachers.

Strand: *Parenting Education and Interactive Literacy*

Content Level: *Skill Building*

Format: *Interactive*

[Developing Early Literacy Skills in an Early Childhood Setting](#)

Allison Swientek, Lead Literacy Mentor, Education Alliance

This presentation provides participants with early literacy ideas, information and activities that can be integrated into an early childhood classroom setting. The session will provide strategies on phonological and print awareness, story book reading, and developing vocabulary in young children.

Strand: *Early Childhood Education*

Content Level: *Skill Building*

Format: *Interactive*

[Financial Literacy 101](#)

Bill Edyvean, Even Start Coordinator, Northwest Community Action Programs of Wyoming, Inc., NOWCAP

This skill-building session will help Even Start staff to teach parents basic financial literacy. Even Start graduates can earn more, which helps if parents learn to manage their money, spend less and save more by being shown how to set financial goals, track their money and make a spending plan.

Strand: *Working with Families in Poverty*

Content Level: *Skill Building*

Format: *Interactive*