



## NETWORKING DAYS

The first networking days of the 2018-2019 school year were held in DeKalb and Marion in October. Participants gathered to take a deeper dive into the KIDS measures and discuss best practices regarding implementation. In Marion, they observed playful literacy centers at Longfellow Elementary School and learned how the teachers there have begun to implement play to transition students into the year and assist them with KIDS evidence collection.

Join us for our next networking event scheduled in Bloomington/Normal on Tuesday, November 6! It's not too late to register! Contact Michelle Escapa, KIDS Coordinator, for more information on attending or if YOUR district would be interested in hosting a networking day.

## 40-Day Rating Periods Coming to an End!

KIDStech will be closing out for the Fall 2018 rating period very soon!

Administrators, please ensure that all teachers have been able to access KIDStech accounts to enter ratings for all students.

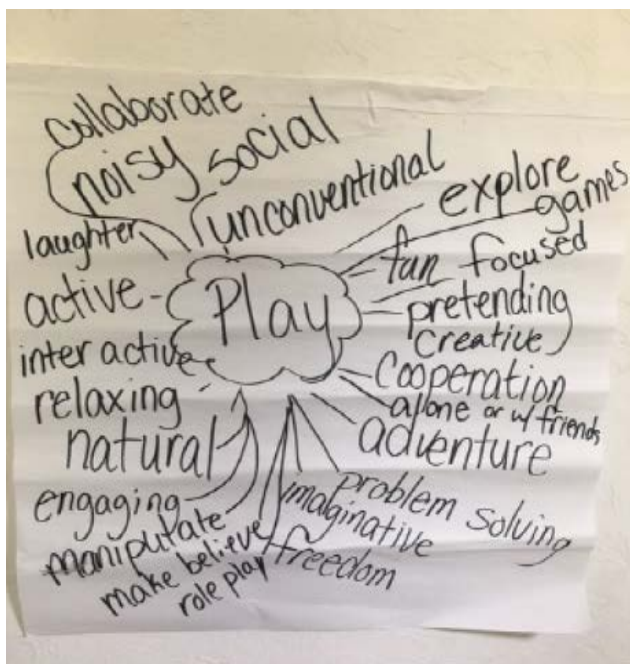
Please consider implementing KIDS for the Winter 2019 and/or Spring 2019 rating periods, as well! Analyzing student growth data is most beneficial to classroom teachers.

## Midwest REL KIDS Data “Train-the-Trainer” Workshops

The Midwest Regional Education Laboratory works in partnership with ISBE to offer professional learning opportunities for utilizing the data provided by the KIDS Assessment. This year, their focus is on training district and teacher leaders to facilitate data use sessions for their own districts. These “train-the-trainer” workshops were held in Grayslake and Springfield in October, and will be held in Centralia on Monday, November 5. If your district was not able to send a representative but would like more information on your KIDS data and how to use it to drive improved instruction, please don't hesitate to contact your KIDS Regional Coach.



(Above)-Kindergarten teachers and administrators met in DeKalb to network and discuss best practices.



Above: Word Web on Play created by participants at the KIDS Summer Retreat in June 2018

## 2018 KIDS Summit

Join us for the 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual KIDS Summit, being held this year in Springfield at the Wyndham Springfield City Center on Thursday, December 13. Sponsored by ISBE, the McCormick Foundation, and the Steans Family Foundation, this event promises to provide a wealth of information and opportunity for gathering insight regarding KIDS, developmentally appropriate practices, and the vision for early childhood in Illinois. Invites were sent to KIDS Contacts in all districts this week!

Register at [www.isbe.net/KIDS](http://www.isbe.net/KIDS) by December 5 to reserve your spot.

They are also holding a KIDS Happy Hour – Networking Reception at the IL Governor's Mansion the evening before the Summit. Plan to attend on Wednesday, December 12 from 5-7 pm for networking, hors d'oeuvres, and fun.

## Professional Learning Opportunities with KIDS Coaches

If getting out of the building for professional learning is difficult, please consider taking advantage of the on-site opportunities available to all districts by your KIDS Regional Coaches! A coaching menu was sent out early in the year. Contact your coach for more information or to set something up that is convenient for your team. ☺

## IL ASCD Pre-K and Kindergarten Conference

The 38<sup>th</sup> Annual IL ASCD Pre-K and Kindergarten Conference is scheduled for March 6-8, 2019 at the Renaissance Hotel in Schaumburg. Last year, the KIDS Project offered scholarships to Kindergarten teachers to attend. We hope to be able to do the same this year. Information will be forthcoming pending funding approvals.

The KIDS Team will be there to present and will have a booth for questions and KIDS goodies! We hope to see many of you there!



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