

Infant-Toddler or Mixed-Age Options

Preschool Options

8:15 – 10:15AM

Science and Technology in the Infant-Toddler Classroom

Participants will discover how scientific concepts are embedded within activities that are already being implemented in the classroom. We will discuss the Scientific Thinking and Technology Key Learning Area of the Pennsylvania Infant-Toddler Early Learning Standards and how to identify activities that fall under this scope. Furthermore, various technology will be introduced and demonstrated in a way that is useful in the classroom. Participants will have the opportunity to engage in some hands-on activities, discussion and question-answer session.

STEAM Meets Reggio: How to Renew Your Classroom

Participants will learn how to use the Reggio Emilia concept of “the environment as the third teacher” to plan space and design activities focused on STEAM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts and Mathematics). We will offer hands-on examples and resources for teachers to take back to their classrooms. We will practice using open-ended questions to guide children through inquiry and problem-solving.

[This course is intended for preschool educators, although concepts can be adapted for younger learners.]

10:15-10:45AM

BREAK + POSTER SESSIONS

10:45AM - 12:45PM

Simple Science for Toddlers

In this session, we will be discussing the importance of including science activities in your curriculum and offer a variety of hands-on, mind-on engaging activities appropriate for infants and toddlers. We will also discuss ways to ensure that your materials are culturally appropriate and reflective of the diversity of the children in your care.

Representing Diversity through STEAM

This session provides early childhood educators with an understanding of developmentally appropriate expectations for teaching young children science within the context of STEAM. It encourages them to embark on a path toward open-ended and child-led activities aimed at fostering exploration and discovery. It specifically focuses on ways that STEAM can promote diversity and inclusion by disrupting stereotypes and showcasing the contributions made by under-represented groups.

[This course is intended for preschool educators.]

12:45-2:00PM

*****LUNCH ON YOUR OWN*****

2:00 – 4:00PM

Woods Walks: An Ecological Emergent Curriculum

*Children are learning everywhere, all the time; therefore, incorporating nature into the curriculum is essential to nurturing the whole child. Participants will take a walk through the adjacent Hort Woods Heritage Grove in the backyard of the Child Care Center at Hort Woods. Topics of discussion will include safety, risk taking, journaling, nature collections, photography, art and anything else that emerges!
Please dress appropriately for weather and uneven terrain.

[This course is intended for toddler and preschool educators.]

A Play-Based Approach to STEAM

Participants will explore a play-based approach to planning and facilitating curriculum that focuses on science, technology, engineering, art and mathematics (STEAM). We will first discuss the key components of a play-based approach. Using this foundation, we will delve into how to use child-initiated interests and observations to plan curriculum activities that support learning in the areas of STEAM. Participants will engage in hands-on activities and discussion during this presentation.

[This course is intended for preschool educators.]

THE DEADLINE FOR REGISTRATION IS FRIDAY, JANUARY 26TH