The School For Young Children at the University of Saint Joseph presents

The 13th Annual Keefe-Bruyette Symposium

Monday, March 16, 2015

The Keefe-Bruyette Symposium will be held on the University of Saint Joseph campus, 1678 Asylum Avenue, West Hartford, Connecticut.

featuring
Cindy Hoisington, M.Ed.
Early Childhood Science Educator,
Education Development Center, Inc.

Investigations and Inquiry in Math and Science for Young Children
(Infant/Toddler and Pre-K)
Mathematical Investigations

“Mathematics concepts may be learned and conveyed through activities that children experience as play, but mathematics learning does not automatically happen through play. Play or games can effectively reinforce and expand upon what children learn during more focused instructional times.”

~ Alan H. Schoenfeld and Deborah J. Stipek, 2011

Scientific Inquiry

“Children learn when questions and reasoning are encouraged as they explore the world around them. By providing these opportunities, teachers help children to hone their thinking skills and clarify their informal ideas about science.”

~ National Institute for Early Learning Research Preschool Policy Brief

About the Symposium

The Keefe-Bruyette Symposium promises to be an inspiring day of learning about investigations in mathematics and science inquiry in early childhood. National education experts, as well as experienced classroom teachers, will offer hands-on workshops about math and science teaching for infant/toddler and preschool children.

Workshops are designed with practicing teachers in mind. Our presenters bring a wide range of experience to the workshops, including those who work with children in a classroom setting or conduct research and program development. They come with concrete examples and ideas that can be used in your classroom.

Schedule

8:15 a.m. – 8:45 a.m. Registration Check In – The Bruyette Athenaeum at the University of Saint Joseph, 1678 Asylum Avenue, West Hartford

9:00 a.m. – 10:00 a.m. Keynote Address: “Why Science in Early Childhood Settings?” by Cindy Hoisington, M.Ed. (See page 3)

10:15 a.m. – 11:45 a.m. Morning Workshops (See pages 4-9)

12:00 p.m. – 1:00 p.m. Lunch

1:15 p.m. – 3:15 p.m. Afternoon Workshops (See pages 10-13)

3:30 p.m. – 4:00 p.m. Tour the School for Young Children

How to Register: Please use the registration form on page 17 OR visit www.usj.edu/KB2015 to register online.
Keynote Address

“Why Science in Early Childhood Settings?”

Cindy Hoisington, M.Ed.
Early Childhood Science Educator,
Education Development Center, Inc.

Science and STEM have become hot topics of conversation among early childhood educators, professional developers, and researchers. How do young children actually benefit from science experiences? What science are they capable of doing, learning, and thinking about? This presentation will address these questions within the early childhood scientific world. We will examine a position statement adopted by the National Science Teachers’ Association (NSTA) and endorsed by NAEYC that grounds pre-K science teaching in current research.
1. **Promoting Language through Science**  
*Cindy Hoisington, M.Ed., Early Childhood Science Educator, Education Development Center, Inc.*

Science is accessible and appealing to all children. It also relies on language to communicate observations and ideas. Science provides a great context for supporting language development. In this workshop, we will talk about how teachers can build preschoolers’ language skills while promoting their engagement in science using water explorations. Participants will engage in exploring water drops at an adult level.

**Recommended audience: Pre-K**

2. **The Montessori Approach to Zoology & Botany for the Child Aged 3-6**  
*Orla Black, Director of Programs, Montessori School of Greater Hartford*

The Montessori approach to zoology and botany spans a three-year cycle beginning with concrete representations of animals and plants. Children are later exposed to more abstract representations of zoology and botany. Come to this workshop to learn how classification systems such as living/non-living, plant/animal, and vertebrate/invertebrate are taught in the Montessori classroom. Participants will gain a deeper understanding and a broader view of how children can acquire knowledge of botany and zoology over a three-year span.

**Recommended audience: Pre-K**

3. **Beyond the iPad: Using Technology throughout the Science Curriculum to Enhance Scientific Explorations**  
*Brittany Courchesne, Preschool Teacher, University of Rhode Island, Child Development Center*

Children are born in an era where technology is literally at their fingertips. Learn how to incorporate developmentally appropriate technology into your science curriculum in a way that enhances children’s understanding and participation in the scientific process. Using digital media, help children actively contribute to saving, documenting, revisiting, and sharing their real-life scientific explorations through images, dictations, and sounds. See examples of children’s work through a new lens as they explore shadows, water play, and bug investigations!

**Recommended audience: Pre-K**

4. **Nursery Rhyme Science**  
*Elizabeth Guidice, Pre-Kindergarten Teacher, Wintonbury Early Childhood Magnet School*

Humpty Dumpty, Miss Muffet, and Jack and Jill all have connections with science. Come explore strategies to connect nursery rhymes to science during this interactive workshop. Participants will leave with ways to implement nursery rhyme related science experiences into their curriculum.

**Recommended audience: Pre-K**

5. **Science is an Action Word**  
*Patricia Conlon Moran, Supervisor of Early Childhood, Waterbury Public Schools*

Come to this workshop to explore exciting hands-on experiments for pre-K classrooms. Let children discover scientific principles while playing! We will discover ways to foster scientific inquiry aligned to the Connecticut Early Learning and Development Standards. Participants will engage in experiments and leave with materials to use in their classrooms.

**Recommended audience: Pre-K**
6. **The Toddler's Mathematical Mind**
   Tomiko Odorczuk, Toddler Teacher, 15 months–3 years, Montessori School of Greater Hartford

   Children, from the day they are born, are mathematicians. Toddlers have the ability to understand concrete forms of math long before counting and traditional mathematical symbols are introduced.

   This workshop will focus on the unique methods in which toddlers process information. Participants will learn the many ways in which the Montessori teacher aids the small child in the development of his/her mathematical mind.

   **Recommended audience:** Infant/Toddler

7. **Teaching Math & Science through Storytelling**
   Deborah Roe, Librarian & Owner, My Very Own Librarian LLC

   People have long recognized the power of storytelling to communicate knowledge and effect change. Through this fun workshop, we will learn how to use storytelling to teach math and science concepts to preschoolers. Participants will explore various storytelling techniques and props (including felt boards and puppets) and leave with a set of ready-to-tell stories.

   **Recommended audience:** Pre-K

8. **Science “Rocks” in the Preschool Classroom**
   Anastazia Scapellati, Preschool Head Teacher, Imagine Nation Early Learning Center

   This presentation will include hands-on science activities that can be incorporated into the classroom. Discover how rocks can be used to teach the big ideas of physical science from sorting and classifying to observing and measuring. Activities will link to the Connecticut Early Learning and Development Standards and the Preschool Assessment Framework.

   **Recommended audience:** Pre-K

9. **CTELDS throughout the Day: Embedding Math & Cognitive Skills into Developmentally Appropriate Preschool**
   Deb Wegh, Head Teacher, Farmington Collaborative Preschool; Adjunct Instructor in ECE at Tunxis Community College

   Are you wondering how to plan and implement all those new CTELDS? Are you passionate about maintaining a child-centered, developmentally appropriate preschool classroom despite the increasing demands for specific content learning? Learn how to embed the standards into activities, routines, and transitions. Maximize student engagement and develop skills needed for kindergarten while supporting play and active learning!

   **Recommended audience:** Pre-K
10. Reinventing the Counting Song: The Use of Music to Teach Math Skills
Jona Jeffcoat, Director of Services, Infinity Music Therapy Services

This workshop will cover new ways to introduce counting, number ordinance, and other mathematical skills using popular children’s songs and chants. Mathematical activities presented through music will be aligned with developmental milestones related to reasoning and problem solving. Adaptations for children with special needs will be discussed.

Recommended audience: Pre-K

Christina Deptulski, Assistant Librarian, Goodwin College

This session will explore a variety of resources that are used to promote a literacy-rich environment with a specific emphasis on math. Participants will learn how to develop a math-rich literacy environment through the presentation, discussion, and hands-on activities.

Recommended audience: Pre-K

12. Talk Math; Play Math
Niloufar Rezai, Director, Child and Family Development Resource Center, Eastern Connecticut State University
Cindy DeJesus, Preschool Teacher, Child and Family Development Resource Center, Eastern Connecticut State University
Amy Doyle, Preschool Teacher, Child and Family Development Resource Center, Eastern Connecticut State University

In this session, explore ways to promote and expand mathematical thinking by incorporating math talk into daily play experiences with young children. Participants will learn how to incorporate math talk into all aspects of the day including eating, using board games, and playing in centers such as blocks and dramatic play. We will share a video highlighting the value of math talk based on research conducted at Eastern Connecticut State University.

Recommended audience: Pre-K

13. May the Forces Be with You: Balls and Ramps
Anne Sousa, Education Manager, Manchester Preschool Center

Children are developing their own theories about the world around them. They are able to represent their understanding in many ways. Come explore some of the physical forces that children encounter during play. Together we will examine the forces of gravity, weight, energy, and friction as we investigate balls and ramps. We will plan learning experiences that engage children in the process of science inquiry and discuss how we can document children’s learning.

Recommended audience: Pre-K

14. Using Outdoor Nature Play to Enhance Math & Science Skills
Kate McCormack, Preschool Teacher, New Canaan Nature Center
Anna Zielinski, Preschool Teacher, New Canaan Nature Center

Preschool science involves much more than sink and float activities. This workshop will explore ways to use natural materials and your own outdoor space to create play experiences that enrich preschool math and science skills.

Recommended audience: Pre-K
Afternoon Workshops
2-Hour Blocks

15. The Teacher’s Role in Children’s Science Learning
Cindy Hoisington, M.Ed., Early Childhood Science Educator, Education Development Center, Inc.

The teacher has a critical role in planning for, facilitating, and assessing children’s science learning and inquiry. In this workshop, teachers will be introduced to specific frameworks and strategies that support science teaching and learning using classroom videos of ball and ramp explorations. Teachers will also build content and inquiry skills in physical science through a direct exploration of balls and ramps.

Recommended audience: Pre-K

16. Hidden In Plain Sight: Children Discovering the Great Outdoors in their Own Backyards
David K. Leff, Essayist, Poet, Former Deputy Commissioner of the Connecticut Department of Environmental Protection

We will focus on stimulating children’s curiosity about the natural world, which will lead to a sense of self-discovery. Looking, noticing, and questioning will be emphasized. We will start with a classroom overview, spend significant time outdoors rain or shine (dress appropriately), and then return to the classroom for discussion.

Recommended audience: Pre-K

17. Three Cheers for Trees with Project Learning Tree
Lori Paradis Brant, Education Director, Connecticut Forest & Park Association (CFPA)

Join us for a lively, hands-on environmental education training that will give you a host of fun nature activities designed to incorporate music, movement, math, science, and literacy into your early childhood program. Explore ways to use trees as a means to facilitate active student learning and participation. Join us for activities that can be done in your classroom and on your school grounds as quickly as next week. Receive the PLT Guide and become eligible for grants. Bring your coats; we’ll experience activities both indoors and outdoors.

Recommended audience: Pre-K

18. Music, Math, and Movement, Oh My!
Colleen Sprague-Bretthauer, Music Specialist, Hopewell School
Susie Sandall, Math/Science Specialist, Eastbury School

Need to add some spice to teaching patterning, counting, or the concept of more or less? This session is for you! Learn songs, finger plays, and movement games to teach and reinforce math concepts that are aligned with the new Connecticut Early Learning and Development Standards. Each participant will receive a booklet of all the song lyrics and activities, a CD of all original and folk songs, and a bibliography/discography of materials used.

Recommended audience: Pre-K
19. Five Little Freckled Frogs - Counting & Math Rhymes
Talhaht Mannan, Program Director, Early Learning Program, Inc., Central Connecticut State University

Math is everywhere in our lives and in the preschool classroom. This hands-on workshop will explore ways to use counting and math rhymes to teach concepts. Learn how to thoughtfully plan the classroom environment and provide meaningful math experiences each day. Leave this workshop understanding ways to incorporate math language into conversations with children as they play.

Recommended audience: All

20. Creating Math & Science Manipulatives Based on Books by Jan Brett
Priscilla Woyke, Early Childhood Education Consultant, former Preschool Director at New Canaan Nature Center, Co-President of Fairfield County AEYC

Jan Brett’s many books about nature and animals will be the focus of the workshop. Participants will create math and science manipulatives and games to take back and use in the classroom.

Recommended audience: Pre-K

21. Science Says: Build It!
Stephanie Kadam, Family Programs Manager, Stepping Stones Museum for Children
Manirah Agans, School Programs Manager, Stepping Stones Museum for Children

Do you need fresh ideas for the block center in your classroom? Release your imagination into the scientific world of building and design! Build towers, ramps, roller coasters, and more in this hands-on workshop. Rediscover all the possibilities of building during play and the impact it has on your students’ development.

Recommended audience: Pre-K

22. “Luce:” Reggio-Inspired Exploration and Interaction with Light in Early Childhood Environments
Brandi Wirz, Owner/Director of Natural Learning Community Children’s School

Children learn, explore, and interact with the world using their senses. Inviting children to interact with light in the classroom adds another dimension of sensory play. Children explore cause and effect, build hypotheses, test theories, and reflect on the world around them. Come explore light firsthand, and learn how to build a light table for under $20. Make light a fundamental element in your early learning environment.

Recommended audience: All
Looking for new ideas to add to your curriculum?

Visit the School for Young Children for an evening Open House.

Individuals and groups have the opportunity to:
- Use teacher resource materials
- View documentation panels and teacher display shelves
- View classroom environments
- Gather new curriculum ideas to use in the classroom

For dates, visit the Professional Development section of our website at www.usj.edu/syc
Follow us on Facebook at www.facebook.com/schoolforyoungchildren

“... It is our fervent hope that this Keefe–Bruyette Symposium will assist you in doing your work more effectively. And if through your participation it enhances your personal passion for your calling, it will indeed be a huge success.”

— Gene F. Bruyette H’04, First Symposium, Fall 2002
Keefe-Bruyette Symposium Registration
March 16, 2015

Name: ____________________________________________________________

School/Organization: ______________________________________________

Address: __________________________________________________________

City: ___________________________ State: _________ Zip: ______________

Day Time Telephone: (   ) ____________ E-mail: _______________________

Please indicate your choice from the following registration options:

☐ Full Day: Keynote Address, Morning Workshop, Lunch, Afternoon Workshop, Tour the School for Young Children - $80

☐ 1/2 Day a.m.: Keynote Address, Morning Workshop, Lunch - $65

☐ 1/2 Day p.m.: Lunch, Afternoon Workshop, Tour the School for Young Children - $65

☐ Student Fee: $50 (full-time student)

Morning Workshop Selection (Workshops 1-14)

1st Choice: _________________________________________________________

2nd Choice: _________________________________________________________

3rd Choice: _________________________________________________________

Afternoon Workshop Selection (Workshops 15-22)

1st Choice: _________________________________________________________

2nd Choice: _________________________________________________________

3rd Choice: _________________________________________________________

Please make checks payable to: University of Saint Joseph

Send registration forms with payment or purchase order to:
The School for Young Children, 238 Steele Rd., West Hartford, CT 06117-2791
Fax: 860.231.5581 OR visit us at www.usj.edu/KB2015 to register online.

General Information

Questions or special needs can be directed to:

The School for Young Children
Sue O’Donnell, Lab School Coordinator, at 860.231.5561
Email: sodonnell@usj.edu

Please note that every effort will be made to assign you to your first-choice workshop selection. Confirmation of workshop registration will not be provided.

Directions

Visit the University of Saint Joseph website for directions: www.usj.edu

Weather

In the event of severe weather, please call 860.231.5560 on the morning of the event, or tune to WFSB-3 or WVIT-30.

The Keefe-Bruyette Symposium will be held on the University of Saint Joseph campus, 1678 Asylum Avenue, West Hartford, Connecticut.
Keefe-Bruyette Symposium, March 16, 2015
Hands-on Workshops on Math and Science Teaching for Infant/Toddler and Pre-K