Seventh Annual Early Childhood Educator’s Conference
March 13 & 14 2009
On behalf of Concordia University, the Minnesota South District of the Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod and the Early Childhood planning committee, we welcome you to the 7th annual Minnesota Early Childhood Conference.

Our conference strives to provide spiritual enrichment and continuing education for early childhood educators. We believe that early childhood educators must be affirmed, valued, and challenged in their work with young children. We are a Christian conference which strives to help teachers grow professionally but also recognizes that spiritual growth is an area of development as well. To support this mission we will provide worship, motivational keynotes, and sectionals for the unique needs of teachers of children birth to age eight and program directors. Early childhood education is as diverse as the children we teach. We hope to expand your horizons and help you gather information for the best developmentally appropriate practices.

Registration
Pre-registration is preferred. Registration forms must be received by February 20, 2009, for the discount rate. Mail-in registrations will continue to be accepted until March 5, 2009. Conference registration is limited to 400 attendees per day. The conference arrival center is in the Buetow Music Center Lobby on the west side of the Concordia campus. (See map on page 27.) For questions regarding the conference call 651-641-8857 or e-mail mnecec@gmail.com. Form is on page 25.

Fees
Early registration for the two day conference is $110 per person and includes all workshops, lunch and conference displays. If attending one day, the cost is $70. Registrations received after February 20 will be $115 for two days and $75 for one day. Full Time Student Fee (with valid ID) available. See registration form.

Refunds
Full refunds will be granted upon written request through February 20. Cancellations before March 5 will be assessed a $20 processing fee. Cancellations will not be accepted after March 5, however registrants may transfer their registration to another Early Childhood professional. Contact mnecec@gmail.com for registration transfers.

College Credit
Undergraduate credit is available at the conference from Concordia University. An additional fee of $270 for one undergraduate credit is required to apply. To apply for credit, mark the box on the registration form and additional information will be sent to you. Pre-meetings will be held each day of the conference. Individuals seeking college credit must attend both days of the conference.

Minnesota Core Competencies Content Areas
The sectionals at our conference have been categorized by the “Minnesota Core Competency” content areas. Each content area describes the knowledge and skills practitioners need in order to work with children from birth through school age.

- Content area I: Child Growth and Development
- Content area II: Learning Environment and Curriculum
- Content area III: Assessment and Planning for Individual Needs
- Content area IV: Interactions with Children
- Content area V: Families and Communities
- Content area VI: Health, Safety, and Nutrition
- Content area VII: Program Planning and Evaluation
- Content area VIII: Professional Development and Leadership

**With payment please include a name and contact phone number if attending as a center.
Workshop Verification
Certificates of Attendance will be available to all attendees. Full conference attendance equals 13 hours of in-service credit (6.5 hours per day).

Displays and Vendors
There will be a variety of vendor options with exciting displays and materials for you to see and purchase. Plan time to explore this area. The following are a sampling of the vendors who will be present:
- RD Wood and Things
- Rowland Reading Co.
- Concordia Publishing House
- Concordia University

Conference shirts and tote bags will also be available for sale (cash, check, or credit card) at the conference.

Food
Continental breakfast, coffee, and lunch is included in your registration fee. Complimentary morning coffee will be served both days from 7:30 to 9:30 a.m. Evening meals are not provided.

Inclement Weather
If weather conditions are severe enough to warrant cancellation of one or both days of the conference an announcement will be posted to the Concordia University Web Page (www.csp.edu), area media will be alerted, and a message added to 651-641-8857. In case of a cancellation, due to our fixed costs of preparing the conference there is no guarantee of a full refund.

From Our Classroom to Yours
NEW THIS YEAR...Come visit the idea rooms during lunch. You’ll be able to browse a variety of ideas from teachers of activities that they have done with their children infants through early elementary. While it’s not make and take, there will be handouts available and samples for you to snap a picture of so remember to bring your camera. This year’s theme is Holidays Throughout the Year.

Housing
Participants needing housing may arrange accommodations with any of the hotels listed below. Be sure to mention ‘Concordia University’ to receive the special rate. Use only the numbers provided to take advantage of the special rate.

Accommodations
Best Western Bandana Square
1010 Bandana Blvd. W. (Bandana Square, 1 mi. N. of I-94, off Lexington Pkwy). Free parking, indoor pool, whirlpool, sauna; wireless internet in all rooms; complimentary Express breakfast (651) 647-1637

Days Inn
2550 Cleveland Ave. N., Roseville
(651) 636-7939 or (651) 636-6730

Holiday Inn Express East
I-94 and McKnight Rd. So., St. Paul
(5 miles east of Concordia)
(651) 731-2220

Radisson Inn
2540 N. Cleveland Ave., Roseville
651-636-4567
### Schedule for Friday March 13, 2009

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<tr>
<th>Time</th>
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<tr>
<td>7:15–8:00</td>
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### Friday, March 13th Keynote Speaker

**Marilyn Sharpe**

**Imagine the Possibilities: What is God Up to with You in the Lives of Young Children**

Marilyn is the Director of Christian Parenting and Intergenerational Ministries at the Youth and Family Institute. As a parent educator for 28 years, she is committed to helping parents and teachers become the best and most effective influence they can be in children's lives.
F101 Infant
SIDS & Shaken Baby Syndrome: Reducing the Risk!
Sudden Infant Death Syndrome (SIDS) and Shaken Baby Syndrome are unique to our youngest children. Both are associated with significant risk factors that can be recognized and modified through appropriate actions on the part of knowledgeable caretakers. Come and learn the latest information for reducing the risk for both SIDS and Shaken Baby Syndrome. Core Competency: VI
Christine Poe
Certified Pediatric Nurse Practitioner
Clinical Assistant Professor
University of Minnesota
Minneapolis, MN

F102 Toddler
Faith Building Blocks
This workshop is designed to provide educators with tools and ideas that will foster faith development within the children they teach. We will also focus on our role as educators to partner with the families in the faith development of the little ones. Core Competency: IV & V
Carla Wiederhold
Former Director of Children’s Ministry

F103 Director
Stress and Sinking Sand: I Need a Foundation
The joy of ministry in early childhood programs is often stolen by stress and anxiety. We have this Hope, yet we experience fear and stress daily in our work. This fear and stress affects ministry, our families and our own faith walk. The workshop will explore stress in ministry and strategies to effectively move toward a greater sense of wellness. Core Competency: VIII
Michael Walcheski
Associate Dean
College of Education, Concordia University
St Paul, MN

F104 Kindergarten/Primary
Making the Most of Parent Conferences: Strengthening the Relationship
How can teachers make the most of that special time called “conferences”? More importantly, how can the conference serve to strengthen the relationship between the parents and teachers? Tips for conducting successful conferences will be presented and suggestions for communicating effectively will be discussed. There will be time for sharing and problem solving in this session. Core Competency: III and V
Ann Ruhl Carlson
Administrative Associate in Early Childhood Program
University of Minnesota
Minneapolis, MN

F105 Pre-Kindergarten
Successful Small Group Strategies
Are you looking for new ideas for small group time? This sectional will provide a wide variety of small group activities to assess student’s progress as well as strengthening skills in specific curricular areas such as math, fine motor skills and literacy. Core Competency: II
Judy Reynolds
Preschool Teacher
Mt Olive Christian School
Anoka MN

F106 Pre-Kindergarten
Is it Sensory or is it Behavior?
Join this session to explore the impact of sensory processing disorder (SPD) on behavior. This will include a discussion of how a child’s alertness/arousal level is maintained. Resources for developing strategies that are effective tools for improving self regulatory skills will be presented. Core Competency: II, III & IV
Karen Scholl
Adjunct Professor
University of St Thomas
St Paul MN
F107 Pre-Kindergarten
**Wiggly Faith Music for Preschoolers**
They will wiggle anyway, so why not pick preschool praise songs that are full of motions, sign language and wiggling? In this workshop, you will learn to sing preschool songs that incorporate hands-on active participation, you will get ideas for creating rhythm instruments and streamer sticks, and you will celebrate a preschooler’s ability to praise God as they sing! Core Competency: II, IV, V & VII

*Cathy Skogen-Soldner*
Composer and Owner
Cathy’s Music
Arden Hills, MN

F108 General
**Fire Up to Teach Injury Prevention**
Gain ideas on how to present injury prevention in the classroom. Learn about free and inexpensive materials available. Discover the importance of teaching injury prevention at an early age. Walk away with materials to use in your classroom. Core Competency: VI

*Connie Forster*
Fire Prevention Officer
Spring Lake Park-Blaine-Mound Fire Dept
Spring Lake Park, MN

F109 General
**Staying In Step**
How many of the children in your classroom are a member of a stepfamily? Look closely and you may find that an increasing number of your students live in families that include “step” relationships of some kind. Come discuss the unique challenges stepfamilies face, the impact that this type of family organization can have on the children living in them, and strategies professionals can use when dealing with step family dynamics. Core Competency: I, IV, V.

*Cindy La-2020-9-200-9-09-45.png
LaChance-Lindberg*
Parent Educator/Lead Teacher
Anoka Hennepin School District, ISD 11
Stepmom

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**Friday Session I 8:00-9:00**

**F107 Pre-Kindergarten**
**Wiggly Faith Music for Preschoolers**
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*Cathy Skogen-Soldner*
Composer and Owner
Cathy’s Music
Arden Hills, MN

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**Friday Session IIA/or Lunch 11:15-12:15**

**F203 Director**
**What is “Parent Aware” and How Will it Impact our Program?**
Minnesota’s child care ratings system has taken off! Come and learn everything you need to know about Parent Aware! How does it work? What are the benefits/disadvantages? How will this impact our program? Parents can now access, locate and choose child care based on a quality rating from Parent Aware in Saint Paul, areas of North Minneapolis, the Wayzata school district and Blue Earth and Nicollet Counties. This is a “can’t miss” for all directors/LFCC providers in Minnesota! Core Competency: III and V

*Valerie Peterson*
Parent Aware Director
MN Child Care Resource & Referral

**F204 Kindergarten/Primary**
**Let’s Have Some Fun with Science**
Join this session to explore various science experiments involving air, water and a few other household items. Be prepared for a fun hour! Core Competency: II

*Linda Ruesch*
Retired Director & Teacher
Children’s Way Preschool
Saint Paul, MN
F205 Pre-Kindergarten

More than Letters

Literacy education has become an important piece in the early childhood curriculum over the past few years. There are many theories on what is the best approach to helping young children develop literacy skills. The authors of the book titled More Than Letters, observed that children construct phonetic concepts out of their extensive explorations of print. They also found that when children play with sounds of language they develop phonemic awareness. In this sectional, we will look at a variety of activities found in the book. We will also look at samples from children so that we can see how these activities encourage literacy exploration. Core Competency: I & II

Lacey Wellens
Preschool Teacher
Hand in Hand Child Care Center
St Paul MN

F206 Pre-Kindergarten

Strengthening the Bridge to Literacy

We know that children’s literacy development is critical and impacts the present and the future for young learners. As teachers, we play an active role in supporting this blossoming process, however, families do as well. Join in on a discussion of how literacy and children’s literature comes to life within the context of the family and how partnering with families strengthens the bridge to literacy! Core Competency: I & V

Sue Starks
ECE Faculty
Concordia University
St Paul MN

Friday  Session IIA/or Lunch  11:15-12:15

F210 General

Imagine the Possibilities: Partnering with Parents to Pass on the Faith

You are vitally important in the lives of the children you serve…and in the lives of their parents. You can support, equip, and partner with parents to raise these children in the faith. You model for parents how God calls us to treat our children, to cherish our children and to pass on a life transforming faith in Jesus Christ. Learn how to weave God talk into everything you do with children. Learn four simple, doable spiritual practices that nurture faith in everyday life—EVERY day of life! Core Competency: I, III & IV

Marilyn Sharpe
Director of Cross Generational Ministry
The Youth and Family Institute
Bloomington MN

Friday  Session IIA/or Lunch  11:15-12:15

Break 12:15–12:30

Friday  Session IIB/or Lunch  12:30-1:30

F201 Infant/Toddler

Toddler Development: What to Expect and When to be Concerned!

This is a 2 hour workshop. For the continuation of this presentation, please register for Session F301 also.

Infant and Toddler development is the groundwork toward future development for a child. This interactive workshop will provide an overview of typical and atypical development including the red flags for developmental delays in infants and toddlers having speech, hearing and motor movement. Local referral resources will be presented along with some strategies for specific needs. Attendees will receive useful brochures describing typical child development and red flags for atypical development in addition to other resources Core Competency: I

Cindy Croft
Director, Center for Inclusive Child Faculty, Concordia University
St Paul MN
**F202 Infant/Toddler**

**The Use of American Sign Language with Young, Hearing Children**

This is a 2 hour workshop. For the continuation of this presentation, please register for Session F302 also.

It’s amazing, but true! In just one 2-hour workshop, you can learn 100 child-relevant American Sign Language (ASL) signs to use for communication with preverbal infants, toddlers, and preschoolers. While it often takes as long as 24 months for a child to begin speaking, babies as young as 7 months can learn and use basic signs as a means of expressing their needs. Frustration and temper tantrums generally decrease in proportion to the number of signs acquired in the child’s signing repertoire. Additionally, parents and other care providers are relieved from the burden of playing “20 questions” each time a child cries or whines. Research indicates that children who learn sign language as infants or toddlers may have higher IQ scores and greater verbal, reading and writing skills later in life.

Core Competency: I, III & IV

Denise Meyer  
Author & Infant/Toddler Sign Language Instructor  
Saint Paul, MN

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**F207 Pre-Kindergarten**  
**Linking Language & Literacy Learning to State Standards and to Life!**

Supporting and encouraging language and literacy development as well as learning in young children has a positive lifelong impact! We will discuss how we make literacy come alive for children in our settings and how this can link to meeting the state standards set before us in natural ways for children! Come and share your ideas and celebrate the phenomenon of language and literacy development. Core Competency: I

Sue Starks  
ECE Faculty  
Concordia University  
St Paul MN

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**F208 General**  
**Browsing the Bookshelf**

How do you choose, good, age-appropriate books for children? What is new in children’s literature? Join us at this workshop to learn these answers and more. Core Competency: I

Theresa Schroeder  
Children’s Outreach Librarian  
Anoka County Library  
Blaine MN

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**F209 General**  
**Early Childhood Development**

During this training we will discuss physical, language, cognitive and social-emotional development of children during the early childhood years. In addition participants will construct and discuss developmentally appropriate activities for children. Core Competency: I & VII

Tari Niemeyer  
Child Development Program Manager  
Ridgewater College  
Hutchinson, MN

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**F211 General**  
**Fit-4-U, Fitness and Fun for Kids!**  
1-hour session also offered at F308

How can you make the children in your program be better listeners and have a more positive outlook? How can you help to reduce health risks in children—even at such a young age? Add physical fitness!! Come learn fitness ideas to incorporate into your curriculum. Information on current medical statistics will be provided. Join in with creative movement to children’s music! Core Competency: I, IV, V, & VI

Kathy Juaire Daulton  
Educator of Children’s Fitness  
Twirly Sue and Crew

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**Break 1:30–1:45**
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Infant and Toddler development is the groundwork toward future development for a child. This interactive workshop will provide an overview of typical and atypical development including the red flags for developmental delays in infants and toddlers having speech, hearing, and motor movement. Local referral resources will be presented along with some strategies for specific needs. Attendees will receive useful brochures describing typical child development and red flags for atypical development in addition to other resources Core Competency: I  
*Cindy Croft*
  
Director, Center for Inclusive Child  
Faculty, Concordia University  
St Paul MN |
| **F302 Infant/Toddler**  
**The Use of American Sign Language with Young, Hearing Children**  
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It’s amazing, but true! In just one-2 hour workshop, you can learn 100 child-relevant American Sign Language (ASL) signs to use for communication with preverbal infants, toddlers and preschoolers. While it often takes as long as 24 months for a child to begin speaking, babies as young as 7 months can learn and use basic signs as a means of expressing their needs. Frustration and temper tantrums generally decrease in proportion to the number of signs acquired in the child’s signing repertoire. Additionally, parents and other care providers are relieved from the burden of playing “20 questions” each time a child cries or whines. Research indicates that children who learn sign language as infants or toddlers may have higher IQ scores and greater verbal, reading and writing skills later in life. Core Competency: I, III & IV  
*Denise Meyer*
  
Author & Infant/Toddler Sign Language Instructor  
Saint Paul, MN |
| **F303 Director**  
**DHS Licensing Update**  
This is a 2 hour workshop. For the continuation of this presentation, please register for Session F403 also.  
Update of Licensing information and legislative changes. Core Competency: VII  
*Department of Human Services*
  
State of Minnesota |
| **F304 Kindergarten/Primary**  
**Center Based Teaching in the K-3 Classroom**  
In this workshop, presenters will share with you how to teach and assess your students through the use of rotating centers in the K-3 classroom. This mother/daughter team represents more than 30 years of experience in the early childhood classroom. Proven activities used in their classrooms will be shared as well as methods used to make the hands on learning meaningful. Core Competency: II  
*Linda Parvey*  
Kindergarten Teacher  
*Emily LaPlant*  
Second Grade Teacher |
| **F305 Pre-Kindergarten**  
**Thought-Less Themes**  
How often do you wish for wonderfully thought-out themes—without having to come up with all the ideas yourself? This session will help you organize ideas for themes that make them quick and efficient to plan. Examples of the thematic planning process, simple teacher made materials, as well as sharing lots of ideas for various themes will have you ready to plan your next theme in no time!! Core Competency: I, II & III  
*Melissa Seehaver*
  
Early Childhood / 4 K Teacher  
New Auburn School District |
F306 Pre-Kindergarten
Intentional Teaching—Using Early Learning Standards and Daily Assessment to Guide Classroom Experiences
The focus of this workshop is on intentional teaching. Intentional teaching occurs when teachers have an agreed upon learning “destination” for the children in the classroom. Using early learning standards and daily, ongoing assessment, teachers create a “blueprint” to guide teaching that is intentional and child focused. Core Competency: II & III
Nedra Robinson
Early Childhood Education Coordinator
Concordia University
St Paul MN

F307 Pre-Kindergarten
Preschool Children’s Development: What to Expect and When to Be Concerned
This course will provide an overview of the red flags for developmental delays in young children, strategies for sharing your developmental concerns with families and local referral resources. Students will receive useful brochures describing typical child development and red flags for atypical development and other resource information. Core Competency: I
Cory Woosley
Eager-to-Learn Program Coordinator
CDEV Faculty at MCTC and DCTC

F308 General
Fit-4-U, Fitness and Fun for Kids! 1-hour session also offered at F211
How can you make the children in your program be better listeners and have a more positive outlook? How can you help to reduce health risks in children—even at such a young age? Add physical fitness!! Come learn fitness ideas to incorporate into your curriculum. Information on current medical statistics will be provided. Join in with creative movement to children’s music! Core Competency: I, IV, V, & VI
Kathy Juaire Daulton
Educator of Children’s Fitness
Twirly Sue and Crew

F309 General
Big Wonders for Little People
By nature, young children have many wonders about our world. They incorporate the senses of sight, hearing, taste, touch and even smell when exploring. In this hands-on training, you will leave equipped with ideas to use with the children you care for. Core Competency: I & II
Tari Niemeyer
Child Development Program Manager
Ridgewater College
Hutchinson, MN

F310 General
Imagine the Possibilities: Communicating with Young Children
Young children wiggle and giggle. They don’t pay attention. And how much do they really understand? Learn that everything that you say and everything that you do communicate to children. What are the messages that you want to send? How can you increase the effectiveness of what you share with them? How can you hear, really hear, what they say to you? We follow the ONE who was the Word made flesh. How can we attend to our words and actions, to make sure they communicate God’s love for each and every child in our care? Core Competency: I & IV
Marilyn Sharpe
Director of Cross Generational Ministry
The Youth and Family Institute
Bloomington MN

Break 2:45–3:00
Friday  Session IV  3:00-4:00

F401 Infant
Transitioning Parents to Childcare
Ever wish you could talk to new parents before they start a child in your infant program? Come and discuss ways to have a smooth transition into childcare—not just for the infant, but for the parents too! Has their infant ever napped in a crib? Do they drink from a bottle? Just a few issues to get you started! Bring any ideas or frustrations with you and join our discussion! Core Competency: V

Kris Spiess
Director at Hand in Hand Childcare
Concordia University
St Paul, MN

F402 Infant/Toddler
2000 Flushes
Whether you’ve been a toddler teacher for 2 months or have helped potty train 300 children, we all have ideas to share and learn from one another. We’ll delve into this topic from several different perspectives including developmentally appropriate thoughts and the realities of this for us. Come prepared to learn and to talk about your program’s plan and philosophy, how to work with parents as well as methods and strategies for potty training children. We will discuss your real life experiences and participate in some hands-on activities—It’s all in the name of good clean fun! Core Competency: I, III & IV

Sara Mulso
Adjunct Faculty
Concordia University
St Paul, MN

F403 Director
DHS Licensing Update
This is a 2 hour workshop. For the continuation of this presentation, please register for Session F303 also.
Update of Licensing information and legislative changes. Core Competency: VII

Department of Human Services
State of Minnesota

F404 Kindergarten/Primary
Global Jam
Discover new ways to incorporate music into your program. Learn about different cultures through song, movement, and games. No previous music experience is required. Come and be prepared to get down and have a good time! Core Competency: II & IV

Diane Mintz
Retired Director
Recreation+School-Age Care Program
Minneapolis Park and Recreation Board
Certified Minnesota School-Age Care Alliance Trainer

F405 Pre-Kindergarten
Charting with Preschoolers
This session has some fabulous ideas for making charts with preschool-aged children. These charts foster language development and give children the opportunity to see their ideas expressed on paper. Interactive charts, rebus chart and charting during the morning message will be discussed. A handout will be provided and LOTS of examples will be shared. Core Competency: I, II, & III

Melissa Seehaver
Early Childhood / 4 K Teacher
New Auburn School District
### Friday Session IV 3:00-4:00

#### F406 Pre-Kindergarten
**Chapel through a Child’s Eyes**
Chapel/Worship ideas for children ages three to eight will be shared at this session. The presentation will look at the elements that should be included in weekly Chapel Services. Take back with you practical information to share at your school in order to lead age appropriate Chapel Service. At the completion of the workshop every teacher will be empowered to teach Early Childhood Chapel. Core Competency: I & V  
**Sharon Savard**  
Hugo MN

#### F407 Pre-Kindergarten
**Tools for the Toolbox: Strategies to meet Challenging Behaviors**
This workshop offers many ‘tools’ for working with the children who have challenging behaviors, including specific guidance strategies such as directions for making picture schedules and fidget toys. This interactive course has very practical information for implementing strategies in early childhood programs. Core Competency: IV  
**Cory Woosley**  
Eager-to-Learn Program Coordinator  
CDEV Faculty MCTC & DCTC

#### F408 General
**Hidden Heroes: How Deployment Impacts MN Youth and Families**
Attendees will gain insight into military culture and the deployment cycle. Participants will also learn how they can provide support to military kids and their families as well as how to recognize and help youth coping with stress, separation anxiety and the fear of having a parent or family member deployed. Core Competency: IV & V  
**Kia Harries**  
4-H Youth Development Extension Educator  
Worthington MN

#### F409 General
**What’s an Educator to do about Bullying?**
This presentation will give educators an overview of bullying behavior and what they can do with young children to prevent it. The participants will receive handouts with strategies for the classroom and to share with parents. Core Competency: II & IV  
**Marion London**  
Training and Education Consultant  
Minnetonka MN

#### F410 General
**Five Keys to Unlocking the Alphabetic Code: Early Reading Instruction Using The Super Kids Reading Program**
Welcome to The Superkids Reading Program! Come explore five key principles of early reading instruction: language foundation, explicit instruction/application, multi-modal immersion, integration of the language arts and motivation. This engaging session is targeted to pre-K through Grade 2. Core Competency: II  
**Mary Eret**  
Sales Consultant  
Rowland Reading Company
Schedule for Saturday March 14, 2009

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<td>3:00-4:00</td>
<td>Session IV</td>
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Saturday, March 14th Keynote Speaker

Keri Krout

What I Know for Sure: Gifts to Give Children

Keri has learned her greatest lessons over the past 20 years as she has taught thousands of children. She'll share eight essential gifts that she gives to these children - gifts that you can give, too.
**S101 Infant/Toddler**
**Healthy Attachments in Early Childhood Settings: Relationships and Regulation**
This presentation will review the foundational role of attachment in children’s development and learning. Knowing that young children also form separate attachments with caregivers, in addition to their parents, this workshop will discuss strategies for promoting healthy attachments in very young children with teachers, care providers and parents. Core Competency: I & II

Michele Fallon
Infant and Early Childhood Mental Health Consultant
Minneapolis MN

**S102 Infant/Toddler**
**Stress Free and Happy: Using Transitions and Routines to Create a Positive Environment.**
Routines and transitions are an important aspect to any early childhood program. They offer a framework on which the day hangs. By successfully creating routine and using transitions in your daycare you will see that children are calm and relaxed. You will notice your day will flow and the children will participate with clear cut understanding and enthusiasm. Learn ways to design your own routine as well as ideal transitions to create a dynamic and positive environment. Core Competency: I & IV

Barbara Wagner
Early Childhood Educator
Coon Rapids MN

**S103 Director**
**Beyond Childcare: Becoming a Place of Faith**
Early childhood centers provide safe, enriching environments for children through age appropriate programming provided by quality staff who are nurturing caregivers. But what about the faith of these little ones? Through Bible texts, findings form developmental psychology and research on children in worship, this workshop will explore how you can create a place of faith for the children in your care. Core Competency: I, IV & V

Dawn Rundman
Curriculum Developer
Augsburg Fortress Publishers

**S104 Kindergarten/Primary**
**Going Green! Modeling Waste and Toxicity Reduction in your programs for your Families.**
It ain’t easy being green, or is it? Learn ways to reduce waste and toxicity in your programs and teach the steps to the families you serve. Also, discover ways to save money and find resources to make green changes that will make our community more viable for the future. Core Competency: V & VI

Louise Miller
Activities Supervisor
Kids & Company Program
Hopkins Public Schools
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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Session</th>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Description</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>S105 Pre-Kindergarten</td>
<td>8:00-9:00</td>
<td>Book Making 101&lt;br&gt;Learn about making books with children. Core Competencies: I, II &amp; III&lt;br&gt;&lt;br&gt;Lynne Mulso&lt;br&gt;Lead Teacher&lt;br&gt;St James MN&lt;br&gt;&lt;br&gt;Elizabeth Sherman&lt;br&gt;Family Support Specialist&lt;br&gt;St Paul MN</td>
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<tr>
<td>S106 Pre-Kindergarten</td>
<td>I'm Great – You're Terrific&lt;br&gt;Explore stories and activities that promote self-esteem, cooperation, teamwork, and character trait development. Core Competencies: I, II, IV &amp; V&lt;br&gt;&lt;br&gt;Tina Rohde&lt;br&gt;WonderWeavers-Storytellers&lt;br&gt;Eden Prairie MN</td>
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<td>S107 Pre-Kindergarten</td>
<td>Happily Ever After: Purposefully Teaching Essential Pre-K Skills with Traditional Tales&lt;br&gt;In this interactive session, educators will learn about the Happily Ever After reading readiness program. Core Competencies: I &amp; II&lt;br&gt;&lt;br&gt;Mary Eret&lt;br&gt;Sales Consultant&lt;br&gt;Rowland Reading Company</td>
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<td>S108 General</td>
<td>The Peanut Pickle: Surviving Food Allergies in Your Classroom and LOVING it!&lt;br&gt;Explore strategies for keeping students safe and teaching about food allergies. Core Competencies: V &amp; VI&lt;br&gt;&lt;br&gt;Michelle Moe&lt;br&gt;Food Allergy Support Group of Minnesota&lt;br&gt;Board of Directors, Chairperson&lt;br&gt;Volunteer Food Allergy Educator</td>
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<tr>
<td>S109 General</td>
<td>What a Difference a Dad Makes&lt;br&gt;Learn how to support fathers and encourage them to be involved in their child's life and education. Core Competencies: I, IV &amp; V&lt;br&gt;&lt;br&gt;Keri Krout&lt;br&gt;Early Childhood Specialist, Consultant &amp; Trainer</td>
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Break 9:00-9:15<br>Keynote Speaker 9:45-11:15
Saturday Session IIA/ or Lunch 11:15-12:15

S203 Director
Training and Retaining Quality Early Childhood Educators
Rookies and seasoned administrators - join us as we share the struggles and joys of being an administrator. Bring your challenges and together we'll turn them into triumphs. Core Competency: VII & VIII

Keri Krout
Early Childhood Specialist, Consultant & Trainer

S204 Kindergarten/Primary
Mean Girls Start Young
Why is she so mean? Examine the social and emotional development of girls 3-12 and learn how to support positive interactions. Discover the effects of relational aggression and the victims and aggressors. Core Competency: I

Gloria Deziel
Early Childhood Trainer & Consultant
Woodbury MN

S205 Pre-Kindergarten
No Time to be Naughty
Three simple strategies will be emphasized during this workshop: 1. Refresh your interest centers for non-stop learning! 2. Reorganize your classroom to minimize boredom and maximize interest! 3. Develop meaningful discipline strategies! Use them in your classroom to say “No More” to naughtiness. Core Competency: II & IV

Allison Cloeter
Early Childhood Creative Consultant
Chaska MN

Saturday Session IIA/ or Lunch 11:15-12:15

S206 Pre-Kindergarten
Fe Fi Fo Fun
Participants will learn the basics of how to tell a story. We will play with folk and fairytales as well as nursery rhymes to create new stories with multi-curriculum themes. We will explore the power of storytelling to develop problem solving skills and language development. Core Competency: I, II, IV & V

Tina Rhode
WonderWeavers-Storytelling
Eden Prairie MN

S210 General
Architect of Early Brain Development: The Critical Role of Early Care and Education Providers
Children's early experiences contribute to the developing architecture of the brain in profound ways. As early care and education providers, we contribute to these formational early experiences which become the foundation for all future relationships and learning. This session will review brain development in very young children and discuss ways in which we can promote healthy brain stimulation for optimal developmental outcomes in our settings, particularly with regard to the regulation of arousal, attention and emotions. Core Competency: I, IV, VII & VIII

Michelle Fallon
Infant and Early Childhood Mental Health Consultant
Minneapolis MN

Break 12:15–12:30
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<tr>
<th>Session</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Instructor(s)</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>S201</td>
<td>Fearful, Feisty and Flexible - The Temperaments of Your Infants</td>
<td>Marjorie Zakrzewski (PITC Trainer and Child Care Provider, Anoka MN)</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>This is a 2 hour workshop. For the continuation of this presentation, please register for Session S301 also.</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Infants come into the world with different temperamental tendencies that play a major role in their behavior. Come learn how the relationships that develop between infants and their caregivers both at home and in child care are strongly influenced by temperament. Core Competency: I &amp; III</td>
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<td>S202</td>
<td>Having Fun with Music</td>
<td>Barbara Wagner (Early Childhood Educator, Coon Rapids MN)</td>
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<td>This class will share with you ways to create activities and homemade instruments to use in your program to help foster growth and development using music. The best part is that it is all easy fun—and you don’t have to be a music teacher to do it!! Core Competency: I, II &amp; IV</td>
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<td>S207</td>
<td>Math Made for Little Hands</td>
<td>Joni Warzala (School Readiness Instructor, Anoka Hennepin School District)</td>
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<td>1-hour session also offered at S407</td>
<td>Jessica Nichols (School Readiness Instructor, Anoka Hennepin School District)</td>
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<td>This workshop will focus on activities designed specifically for math. Learn how to create simple math activities, targeting the components of Early Childhood Math. Incorporate these games, songs and finger play into your large group, small group and activity centers. Core Competency: II</td>
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<td>S208</td>
<td>Using Joy and Laughter to Enhance Health and Wellness</td>
<td>Edna Thayer (Registered Nurse)</td>
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<td>A fun, interactive approach will be used to present the benefits of joy and laughter for one’s health and wellness. Included will be tips for intentionally including mirth in the work and home environment. Core Competency: II, IV &amp; VI</td>
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<td>S209</td>
<td>The ABC’s of ASD</td>
<td>Susan Nyvold (Education Coordinator, Autism Society of Minnesota)</td>
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<td>Join this workshop to learn about ASD-Autism Spectrum Disorders.</td>
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<td>Information on defining what Autism Spectrum Disorders are in addition to early identification and red flags of autism will be shared. Leave with simple strategies you can implement into your classroom. Core Competency: I &amp; VII</td>
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**Break 1:30–1:45**
### Saturday, March 14th

**S301 Infant**

**Fearful, Feisty and Flexible—The Temperaments of Your Infants**

This is a 2 hour workshop. For the continuation of this presentation, please register for Session S201 also.

Infants come into the world with different temperamental tendencies that play a major role in their behavior. Come learn how the relationships that develop between infants and their caregivers both at home and in child care are strongly influenced by temperament. Core Competency: I & III

**Marjorie Zakrzewski**  
PITC Trainer and Child Care Provider  
Anoka MN

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**S302 Toddler**

**From Thrift Store to Classroom**

We know that teachers are very creative people. They know how to turn thrift store "treasures" into developmentally appropriate teaching tools and then use these tools in all areas of the curriculum. At this workshop many examples will be shown and you will leave with ideas for an “Ocean of Fun” theme unit and much more! Core Competency: II

**Ann Koktan M.Ed.**  
ECFE Toddler Primary Planner  
Parent Educator and Infant Home Visitor

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**S303 Director**

**Director’s Forum: What’s on Your Mind?**

This session offers us the opportunity to practice what we preach to the children; “Be a Problem Solver, Not a Problem Teller!” Throughout your time at the conference, write down topics, questions or situations you would like to discuss with your fellow directors. **Drop your note in the container provided at the registration counter.** You choose our discussion topics! What will it be? Accreditation, challenging families, or staffing issues? What better opportunity to share stories, ideas and solutions. Come; spend an hour with those who truly relate to what your work day is really like! Core Competency: VII & VIII

**Roz Zuest**  
Director  
Mount Olivet Child Learning Center  
Early Childhood Trainer & Consultant

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**S304 General**

**Behavior and Beyond: Good Kids & Great Days**

Educators spend more time dealing with behavior issues than ever before. Learn to provide effective guidance to children and give them a priceless gift that lasts a lifetime. Create an environment where children thrive and teachers teach. Practical examples will be presented to assist you in formulating your own “plan of action” and philosophy on behavior guidance so that you, too, can have great day and love teaching again! Core Competency: I & IV

**Natalie Marose**  
Preschool Teacher  
Bloomington MN
### Saturday, Session III 1:45-2:45

#### S305 Pre-Kindergarten
**No Time to be Naughty**  
1-hour session also offered at S205
Three simple strategies will be emphasized during this workshop: 1. Refresh your interest centers for non-stop learning! 2. Reorganize your classroom to minimize boredom and maximize interest! 3. Develop meaningful discipline strategies! Use them in your classroom to say “No More” to naughtiness. Core Competency: II & IV  
Allison Cloeter  
Early Childhood Creative Consultant  
Chaska MN

#### S306 Pre-Kindergarten
**Spring into Science**  
We’ve all found ourselves needing a jump-start from time to time as we consider activities, especially science related, that are age appropriate and interesting. There are many books that can provide just that boost! We’ll link engaging and hands on science activities with books that support the concepts and help to create meaningful connections for children. Hand outs will be provided but feel free to bring your camera also! Core Competency: II  
Sara Mulso  
Adjunct Faculty  
Concordia University  
St Paul, MN

#### S307 Pre-Kindergarten
**Fast & Fun Learning Activities**  
Learn about these easy to make games that students love to play. You choose the specific skill, letter, numeral, color, shape or word recognition. Games can be used in a variety of ways—anywhere from story introduction to centers—in large or small groups or during transition times. Core Competency: II  
Joni Warzala  
School Readiness Instructor  
Anoka Hennepin School District  
Jessica Nichols  
School Readiness Instructor  
Anoka Hennepin School District

#### S308 General
**We are all Alike; We are all Different**  
This is a 2 hour workshop. For the continuation of this presentation, please register for Session S408 also.  
A panel of Early Childhood classroom teachers representing various cultural communities will lead us in a discussion on cultural differences within our field. Bring specific questions that you have (these can be asked anonymously) and help us learn from each other. Core Competency: IV & V  
Nedra Robinson  
Early Childhood Instructor  
Concordia University  
St Paul MN

#### S309 General
**Why Even the Little Ones had Mental Health Disorders and How We Can Help Them at School**  
*Fulfills MN Literacy Licensing Requirement*  
This is a 2 hour workshop. For the continuation of this presentation, please register for Session S409 also.  
This session will include a description of the early warning signs of children’s mental illness and the roots of these problems. Learn how to integrate mental health support and services into education program planning. Most importantly learn how to help children and their families deal with these tough issues. Core Competency: I, III & V  
Sally Bass  
Coordinator of Special Education Programs  
Concordia University  
St Paul MN
S310  General  
Love & Logic  
This is a 2 hour workshop. For the continuation of this presentation, please register for Session S410 also.

Love and Logic is a common sense approach that provides educators and parents easy-to-learn skills that create respect, responsibility, and good decision-making in youth. Love and Logic rests on four scientifically-based principles:

1. Logical consequences delivered with empathy.
2. Collective thinking and problem-solving.
3. Shared control.
4. Adult-child relationships that build mutual respect and self-esteem.

Come learn about this exciting new philosophy!

Kari Bappe, Ed.S.  
School Psychologist/Independent Facilitator of Love & Logic  
Moville, IA

S401 Infant/Toddler  
Tiny Hands & Growing Brains-The Connection between Brain Development and Fine Motor Development  
This presentation will examine fine motor development in infants and how closely it is related to brain development. Attendees will be given specific activities to do with infants to facilitate appropriate brain and fine motor development. Core Competency: I, II, III & IV

Shelly Jarnot  
School Readiness Teacher  
Parent Educator

S402 Toddler  
What NOT to Expect of Toddlers  
Toddlers are at a very special time of life. Children’s’ minds bodies and emotions go through many changes from the age of 12-36 months. Toddlers understand the world in a very different way than adults and older children do. When you know what to expect of the toddlers in your care, it can help you to become a better child care provider. Come to this workshop to explore and discuss the wonderful, sometimes frustrating, world of toddlers! Core Competency: I, III & IV

Joan Mick  
Early Childhood Educator and Consultant  
Ham Lake, MN

S403 Director  
Creating a Stronger Bottom Line: Making More Money and Keeping It!  
Participants will understand the scope of the First Children’s Finance Services available and sample self-assessment tools and products in the areas of business practices, marketing and governance. Core Competency: VIII

Mara O’Neill  
Economic Development Director  
First Children’s Finance  
Minneapolis MN
### Saturday Session IV 3:00-4:00

**S404 Kindergarten/Primary**

**Reaching Beyond Invisible Wounds:**
**Creating a Trauma-Response Environment**

Children carry more than a backpack to school; they carry traumatic experiences ranging from family violence to war trauma. Come explore how to reach beyond the barrier of invisible wounds and create a trauma sensitive responsive environment. Learn to foster an environment that helps children in troubled times. Core Competency: I, IV, & V

*Cookie Onaiwu*
Certified Independent Trainer
Family Recovery Systems

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**S405 Pre-Kindergarten**

**Around the World in 200 Days! A Kindergarten or Preschool Look at the World around Them!**

Take a trip around the world with your class. An integrated look at different countries that make up our world through the eyes of a Kindergarten or Preschool student. Each month focuses on a different country. During that time you examine that country's language, music, food, dance, stories, homes and customs. Help the students learn with hands on activities, books and field trips. This is a great way to introduce diversity discussions into your classroom and a great way to tap into families and colleagues as resources! Core Competency: II & V

*Rachel Anderson*  
Kindergarten Classroom Teacher  
Central Lutheran  
St Paul MN

*Libby Wegner*  
Music Teacher  
Central Lutheran  
St Paul MN

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**S406 Pre-Kindergarten**

**Look! I’m in a Book!**

Join us to learn how to put our kids in books for the classroom—an activity that supports literacy, letter recognition and cognitive growth. You will leave with ideas for you to take back to your classroom and start on Monday! There will be examples available of books made by preschoolers thru 1st grade. Core Competency: II & IV

*Pam Going*
Teacher/Director  
St John’s Lutheran Preschool  
Chaska MN

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**S407 Pre-Kindergarten**

**Math Made for Little Hands**  
*1-hour session also offered at S207*

This workshop will focus on activities designed specifically for math. Learn how to create simple math activities, targeting the components of Early Childhood Math. Incorporate these games, songs and finger play into your large group, small group and activity centers. Core Competency: II

*Joni Warzala*  
School Readiness Instructor  
Anoka Hennepin School District

*Jessica Nichols*  
School Readiness Instructor  
Anoka Hennepin School District
### Saturday Session IV 3:00-4:00

**S408 General**

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**Nedra Robinson**  
Early Childhood Instructor  
Concordia University  
St Paul MN

**S409 General**  
*Fulfills MN Literacy Licensing Requirement*

**Why Even the Little Ones had Mental Health Disorders and How We Can Help Them at School**

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**Sally Bass**  
Coordinator of Special Education Programs  
Concordia University  
St Paul MN

**S410 General**

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Come learn about this exciting new philosophy!

**Kari Bappe, Ed.S.**  
School Psychologist/Independent Facilitator of Love & Logic  
Moville, IA
Please complete this form and return it to: Minnesota South District, 14301 Grand Avenue South Burnsville, MN 55306-5790

ONE NAME PER FORM

Please duplicate this form for additional attendees.

Name: _________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________

Address: ☐ Home ☐ School ___________________________________________________________

City: ______________________________________________________ State:_______________________ Zip: _________________________________

Workplace: _____________________________________________________________________ City:________________________________________________________

Age of children you serve: ___________________________ Grade level : ________________________________

Telephone: Day ___________________________ Evening: _____________________________________

Cell: __________________________________________________________________________

Email Address: ________________________________________________________________ CSP Alumni: ___yes___no

Registration form continued on back
Conference Registration

Please make check payable to: MN Early Childhood Educator’s-LCMS. (Checks only please)

Payment must accompany registration to guarantee a space.

Before February 20th  Friday ($70) _______ Saturday ($70) _______ Full Conference ($110) _______
After February 20th  Friday ($75) _______ Saturday ($75) _______ Full Conference: ($115) _______

Student Rate:  Friday ($25) _______ Saturday ($25) _______ Full Conference ($40) _______

University Name ___________________________________________ Student I.D. # ______________________

Register for sessions by number:

**Friday, March 13, 2009**

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<td>II A/Lunch</td>
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<td>II B/Lunch</td>
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<td>III</td>
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☑ Please check for undergraduate credit. (Additional information will be sent to you, and there is an additional fee.)

The conference admits participants without regard to age, sex, creed, race, color, national or ethnic origin or disability.

The availability of all sectionals for walk-in registration cannot be guaranteed.

Return this form before February 20, 2009 to receive the discounted rate. Questions or to confirm your registration contact mnecec@gmail.com or call 651-641-8857. Mail-in registration accepted until 3/5/09.
Parking Information:
Parking is available at any Concordia University parking lot. No permit is required while attending this workshop, but please honor all signs for reserved and metered parking.

**Registration is in the Music Center Lobby (Building #2)**