

Integrating Early Literacy in the Curriculum: Selecting and Using Multicultural Children's Books to Teach Social Skills, Equity, and Social Action: A Study Group

Children's literature can be used to address the needs of young children in the area of social and emotional development. Pro-social behavior, positive self-image, and empathy are important skills that should be developed early on.

In today's world of increased diversity and global awareness, children's awareness of themselves in the world is increasingly important. It is also important that today's early care and education professionals have the skills necessary to address this need.

This three-evening study group will support early childhood professionals to integrate early literacy instructional strategies into the teaching of social skills for young children. This study group will utilize the *Authentic Multicultural Literature Checklist* (2007), developed by SERC Consultants, to assess and select books.

Participants in this professional development activity will:

- explore how to use early literacy instructional strategies with multicultural literature;
- understand the development of identity, self, and awareness of others in young children;
- incorporate James Banks' social action stage of multicultural curriculum transformation into instruction using children's literature;
- develop strategies for selecting children's books as a starting point to develop discussion topics on building positive social skills and positive relationships through equity/social action using the *Authentic Multicultural Literature Assessment Checklist*; and
- plan meaningful activities designed to improve student learning as well as support the development of positive self-image and pro-social skills so as to improve learning outcomes for young children, ages 3-5.

Dates, Time, Location:

Wednesdays:
 October 3, 2007
 October 17, 2007
 and
 November 7, 2007
 4:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m.
 SERC, Middletown

Presenters:

Anne Marie Davidson
 Paquita Sims
 Early Childhood Consultants, SERC

Audience: PreK, 3-5

Twenty (20) preschool, early childhood, general and special educators and child care providers, serving children, ages 3-5

CEUs: .7

Includes:
 Full Attendance (3 Evenings)
 Post-Activity Application of Learning

Registration Fee:

\$30.00 per person
 Payable to Rensselaer at Hartford
 Payment is due prior to the session upon confirmation of participation.

Questions/ Special Needs:

Contact: Jennifer Sharpe
 Education Services Specialist
 (860) 632-1485, ext. 268

Register By:

Friday, September 21, 2007



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Early Childhood Education Initiative

Please return application to SERC, ECE Initiative, 25 Industrial Park Road, Middletown, CT 06457-1520. Participants will be selected on a first come, first served basis with regional consideration. Applicants will receive written confirmation regarding participation shortly after the registration closing date. The registration fee is payable upon notice of acceptance.

APPLICATION FORM: **Early Literacy in the Curriculum** (08-46-010-FN/ECE)js (Please print clearly.)

District/Region _____ School/Program _____ Work Phone (____) _____

Name _____ Home Phone (____) _____

Home Address _____ City _____ Zip Code _____

Position/Role _____ Grade Level _____ Email (Please Print.) _____

In which region do you receive/provide services? ___ACES // ___CES // ___CREC // ___EASTCONN // ___ED CONNECTION // ___LEARN