



# Essential Connections IX

Sponsored by Flathead Chapter—MtAEYC

Flathead Chapter-MtAEYC is excited to present the ninth year of Essential Connections, an intermediate level series of workshops designed with early childhood practitioners in mind. This year's focus is on Curriculum Philosophies and is entitled Beyond the Curriculum—Exploring the how and why of reaching children through your teaching. This will be an in-depth series exploring a variety of different curriculum philosophies and how they can be utilized in classroom settings. The training series is set up as 5 stand-alone 2 hour trainings and as a 15 hour series. Information about the workshops to make note of:

- Workshops are on the 2nd Tuesday of the month January 2010 through May 2010 from 6:30—8:30 pm at FVCC Early Childhood Center—715 Grandview Dr. in Kalispell. **Cost for each workshop is \$10.00 for FAEYC members / \$15.00 for non-members.** Pre-registration for individual workshops is not necessary but will be limited to the first 25 participants.
- **The 15 hour series** will include an additional hour each month from 5:30—6:30 to reflect on related activities completed between months as well as email conversations about related topics and tools. Laurie Lapan, Head Start site coordinator and teacher will be facilitating this 15 hour series. Pre-registration is required. **Cost for the 15 hour series is \$60 for FAEYC members / \$85.00 for non-members.** One college credit is available by registering through FVCC for ECE 180. CEU's and OPI credits are available with pre-registration. CEU costs are an additional \$25.
- Learning objectives and outcomes for the series included:
  1. Participants will demonstrate use of the various curriculum philosophies presented.
  2. Participants will utilize reflective teaching practices.
  3. Participants will define what curriculum is for themselves.

To pre-register for the 15 hour series, or for more information about any of the topic areas or presenters, call Collette Box at 261-8366 or email at larkspur@digisys.net.

**January 12, 2010**

## **Emergent Curriculum—What is it?**

What is curriculum in general? How is it developed? Come learn intentional, child-focused strategies that will enhance the learning for the children in your care.

*Facilitated by Marlyn James, FVCC ECE Program Director*

**February 9, 2010**

## **The Project Approach in the Early Years**

Get an understanding of what the Project Approach is. Identify the differences between themes, units, and projects. Get familiar with the phases of the Project approach. Come ready to learn how offering more experiential learning will help you be a better observer of children.

*Facilitated by Debbie Hansen, Director—Curious Minds Child Care-Dillon, MT*

**March 9, 2010**

## **Infant / Toddler Care— Meshing Relationship-based learning with exploration**

A Panel presentation and small group discussions about how to incorporate the best of Infant/Toddler care giving with an environment set up for inquiry and exploration.

*Facilitated by Laurie Peiffer, Director—FVCC Early Childhood Center*

**April 13, 2008**

## **Growing Up Wild-Exploring Nature with Young Children**

Learn about an early childhood education program that builds on children's sense of wonder about nature. Incorporating an early foundation of positive impressions about the natural world into your curriculum philosophy an build life-long social and academic skills and might just save the world.

*Facilitated by Kurt Cunningham & Mary Beth Chappelow—MT Fish, Wildlife, and Parks staff*

**May 11, 2010**

## **Introduction to Reggio Emilio—meshing an environment with a philosophy**

What IS Reggio? What does it mean? How does it affect the environment and the curriculum? Learn about some simple ways to incorporate a philosophy that is built on the belief in and respect of young children.

*Facilitated by Ann Klaas, ECP Project-Bozeman, MT*