The 16th Annual
KEEFE-BRYUETTE
SYMPOSIUM
Monday, March 12, 2018

featuring Ellen Doris, Ed.D.
Core Faculty, Education Department
Antioch University New England

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

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

“The word mathematics makes many adults think of rote procedures for getting correct answers, a holdover from our own school days. But mathematics is essentially the search for sense and meaning, patterns and relationships, order and predictability.”

— “The Young Child and Mathematics”
Juanita V. Copley, Ph.D.

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

9 – 10 a.m. Keynote Address: “Connecting Children to Nature: Teachers as Catalysts” by Ellen Doris (See page 3)

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

12 – 1 p.m. Lunch (provided)

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

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

HOW TO REGISTER: Please use the registration form on page 17 or visit www.usj.edu/KB2018 to register online.
Young children construct their own knowledge of the world and how it works as they forge relationships with their surroundings and communities. Try as we might, adults can’t make the connections for them! What is the teacher’s role in the discovery process? This keynote address will offer a closer look at the evolution of nature-based investigations and will illuminate how teachers can support children’s experience and help deepen their understanding of the natural world.
1. **Feathers & Fur: The Science Behind Body Coverings**

   Darlene Yule, Farm Education Manager, 4-H Education Center at Auerfarm

   Noel Margaret, Educator, 4-H Education Center at Auerfarm

   Come explore how to engage children in learning about the life cycle, behavior, and appearance of birds and mammals. This hands-on workshop will allow participants to use developmentally appropriate tools to investigate the many qualities of feathers and fur. Examining alpaca fleece and sheep’s wool will lead us to the connection of human body coverings and how clothes are made. Workshop participants will prepare fleece or wool before using carding brushes and drop spindles to make yarn.

   Recommended audience: Pre-K

2. **Nature Education in a Classroom Setting**

   Amee Borys, Director, Early Childhood Education, Earthplace Preschool

   This workshop will empower early childhood education programs to incorporate the principles of nature-based and play-based education into their curricula. Teachers will learn to use natural materials as tools for inquiry and early literacy. By “bringing the outdoors in,” teachers will allow children the sensory experience of touching and exploring nature materials. Participants will explore how children use scientific tools for observation with handheld magnifiers, specimen collectors, and nature journals.

   Recommended audience: Pre-K

3. **Weaving Math and Science Concepts into Preschool Group Time Experiences**

   Sharon Greenwood, Preschool Teacher, University of Rhode Island, Child Development Center

   Story trays, felt boards, songs, and games are a wonderful and engaging way to weave a variety of math and science concepts into group time experiences with young children! During this workshop, we will explore an array of innovative, hands-on, and developmentally appropriate group time activities that can be implemented with preschool children to support their understanding of many math and science concepts. Bring your imagination and discover how open-ended props and materials in your own classroom can be used to create meaningful math and science group time activities with your preschoolers!

   Recommended audience: Pre-K

4. **Classroom Cooking Without a Kitchen**

   Elizabeth Guidice, Preschool Teacher, Wintonbury Early Childhood Magnet School

   Carolyn Mercer, Preschool Teacher, Wintonbury Early Childhood Magnet School

   Want to try cooking experiences with your students but don’t have a stove? Tired of the same old snack time? Come learn how to incorporate healthy foods and cooking experiences into your classroom without using an oven! Cooking combines literacy, math, and science into one activity. Explore how the CT ELDS Standards can be connected with cooking experiences. We will take allergies and food sensitivities into consideration. Be ready for new ideas and some delicious healthy snacks.

   Recommended audience: Pre-K
5. It’s More Than Storytime: Books That Inspire Curiosity and Support Inquiry in the STEM Classroom
Melissa Russell, Director, The Hundred Acre School at Heritage Museums & Gardens
Alicia Raspa, Assistant Director & Teacher, The Hundred Acre School at Heritage Museums & Gardens
Let’s read a book! Children’s books can provide students with an introduction to new STEM content and vocabulary, extend or challenge current hypotheses, provide conversation starters, or inspire a new hands-on experience. Join us as we share a few of our favorite books and classroom experiences, browse our STEM library, and let’s see what makes us excited about enhancing the STEM curriculum in our classrooms.

Recommended audience: Pre-K

6. Math and Science for Infants and Toddlers
Michelle Slimak, Director, Apple Valley Family Child Care
This workshop will allow participants to explore how to incorporate math and science into their infant and toddler classrooms. Participants will leave with concrete ideas to take back to their classrooms and will learn about new math and science materials to include in their programs.

Recommended audience: Infant/Toddler

7. Exploring Sound with the Littlest Learners
Michelle Russell, Music Therapist, Musical Moments Music Therapy Services
Introduce children to the concepts of pitch, timbre, loud/soft, fast/slow, vibration, active listening, and resonance. Explore the sounds of nature, as well as those that are human made. Participants will learn approaches that encourage children to explore, describe, and create sounds. Music and sound play are an integral part of early childhood. Learn how to incorporate developmentally appropriate activities in the infant, toddler, and preschool classroom.

Recommended audience: Infant/Toddler and Pre-K

8. The Buzz Behind Pollinators
Kim Read, Farm Educator, 4-H Education Center at Auerfarm
Lynn Bestor, Farm Educator, 4-H Education Center at Auerfarm
Provide an opportunity for young minds to buzz by incorporating pollinator science play in your classroom. Learn about pollinators and the important role they play in our food system. Spend time in this hands-on workshop exploring the life cycles, body parts, and favorite plants of bees and butterflies. Participants will spend time becoming familiar with beehive materials, making native wildflower seed balls, and creating butterflies out of regular household items.

Recommended audience: Pre-K
9. Make a Game of It
Rebekah Seaton, Kindergarten Teacher, International Magnet School
Former Preschool Teacher at The School for Young Children

Mention the word “game” and watch children's eyes widen with interest! Rote math activities can provide children with productive and satisfying skill practice. But turning tasks into a cooperative game adds the valued dimension of social skill development through play. This workshop will present you with small group games and cooperative activities that develop children's mathematical skills and cooperative play skills, including sharing, turn-taking, communication, and decision-making. Games will include skills from the four math strands of CT ELDS. Use of everyday materials and simple templates will be shared, along with practical tips for collection and storage.

Recommended audience: Pre-K

10. Little Farmers: Enhancing STEM Programs Through Agricultural Education
Christy Page, Assistant Naturalist, Westmoor Park

Come explore the connections between agriculture and STEM development! Through hands-on activities, live animal demonstrations, and group discussions, we will explore the role of agricultural education in developing scientific, mathematical, and social skills in children. You will leave this workshop with activities you can bring back into your own classroom.

Recommended audience: Infant/Toddler and Pre-K

11. She Blinded Me With Science
Melanie Billings, Preschool Director, New Haven YMCA Youth Center

Get ready to put your scientist coat on and learn how ECSTEM (Early Childhood Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics) can be used in all preschool classrooms, no matter what curriculum you use! This workshop will have direct links with the CT ELDS, hands-on activities, experiments, and projects to try in your own centers. This workshop would be most suitable for preschool/Pre-K teachers and administrators; however, all are welcome to join!

Recommended audience: Pre-K

12. Loose Parts in Linkin Logs
Kimberly Mansfield, Assistant Professor in the Education Department, Mitchell College

This workshop will connect Reggio Emilia-inspired loose parts play with CT ELDS math and science standards. Participants will gain an understanding of how to incorporate open-ended materials into their math and science lessons. Come prepared to leave with new ideas and an open mind to further develop children’s curiosity.

Recommended audience: Pre-K

13. From Recycle to Up-Cycle!
Margaret Byrne, Teacher Assistant, The School for Young Children
Phyllis Winer, Teacher, The School for Young Children

Don’t throw it away; don’t even toss it into the recycling bin – reuse it! Come discover how you can take materials from recycle to up-cycle and use them throughout your classroom. You’ll learn where to find items, where to get materials, and how you can reuse and repurpose them. Walk away with no- or low-cost resources, ideas, and a bag of “good stuff” to get you started. Remember, one person’s trash is another person’s treasure!

Recommended audience: Pre-K
14. Doing What Scientists Do
Ellen Doris, Core Faculty, Education Department, Antioch University New England

Young children are curious and intrigued by the world around them. How can teachers build upon children's sense of wonder? How can we develop children's capacity to notice, raise questions, and make sense of their surroundings? This workshop introduces an approach to early childhood science that integrates observation and inquiry, indoor and outdoor explorations, and language and literacy. Participants will engage in scientific exploration during this workshop. Time will be spent analyzing children's drawings and discussing what teachers can learn from children's interests and questions. Leave this workshop with an understanding of how to bring these ideas back to your program.

Recommended audience: Pre-K

15. Math, It's as Easy as 1, 2, 3 – Right?
Melissa Russell, Director, The Hundred Acre School at Heritage Museums & Gardens
Heidi Anderson, Teacher, The Hundred Acre School at Heritage Museums & Gardens

The word mathematics can cause adults to either quiver or smile in fascination. As educators, we should instill an excitement about numbers, patterns, relationships, shapes, and just talking about the math found all around us. Join us as we have some fun with mathematics through games and meaningful experiences that help students develop skills needed for future school success.

Recommended audience: Pre-K

16. Are You Smarter Than a Preschooler?
Monisha Gibson, Founder and Director, The Maritime Odyssey Preschool

Have you ever wondered how your preschooler managed to navigate a smartphone or tablet in a matter of seconds? Do they tell you things about apps and technology that you never knew? This workshop will provide teachers with hands-on technology used in preschool classrooms. Teachers will play games using technology, visit popular technology preschool websites, and receive a list of resources to incorporate technology in the classroom. When you leave this workshop you will feel smarter than a preschooler.

Recommended audience: Pre-K

17. 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

Colleen Sprague-Bretthauer, Pre-K–2nd Grade Music Teacher, Colchester Elementary School
Susie Sandall, Math & Science Specialist, Eastbury School
Stefanie Goodie, Art Teacher, Colchester Elementary School
Jennifer Yuris, Preschool Teacher, Colchester Elementary School
Eliza Welling, Preschool Teacher, Colchester Elementary School

The Month of May!

Children are drawn to the outdoors, but often education occurs inside. Come to this session and see how to integrate preschool math and science objectives with music, art, and movement through using the book *The Outdoor Classroom in Practice, Ages 3-7* as a guide. We will focus on the month of May using picture books, art and science projects, singing, and chanting. All attendees will receive a handout of all activities, a bibliography, and a CD of all songs used.

**Recommended audience:** Pre-K

19. Engaging Young Engineers

Diane Gozemba, Director of Early Childhood Initiatives, EASTCONN
Melanie Smith-Cervera, Early Childhood Specialist, EASTCONN

Young children are natural problem solvers and ready to find solutions to everyday problems. Learn how to intentionally design learning experiences that support science, technology, engineering, and the cognitive development of children in your class using a developmental continuum of thinking skills.

**Recommended audience:** Pre-K

20. Techs For Tots

Stephanie Kadam, Senior Manager of Education, Stepping Stones Museum for Children
Lois Logan, Museum Educator, Stepping Stones Museum for Children

Even children can benefit from exposure to technology. It’s important that technology is introduced in a constructive way - as a supplement and a support for real interaction and real materials, rather than a replacement for them. Join us to learn about hands-on experiences that are relevant to young children. Participants will discuss the drawbacks and benefits of technology.

**Recommended audience:** Pre-K

21. STEM for English Language Learners

Tiffany Pettway, Toddler Teacher, The Maritime Odyssey Preschool
Jasmine Jones, Toddler Teacher, The Maritime Odyssey Preschool

Infants and toddlers are curious explorers. STEM education is a natural and enjoyable way for young learners to explore science, technology, engineering, and math concepts. However, for teachers of English Language Learners (ELL), communicating these concepts may require strategies to ensure optimal learning experiences and language acquisition for ELLs. This workshop will incorporate STEM activities that allow English Language Learners to explore through auditory, visual, and tactile activities. This is a fun hands-on workshop with materials that you can take back to your classroom.

**Recommended audience:** Infant/Toddler
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

To schedule a visit, contact Sue O’Donnell at sodonnell@usj.edu

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 Annual Symposium, Fall 2002

Pictured left to right: Gene F., H’04, and Kathleen Bruyette ’49, H’04, Beth Bye, and Anita and Harry Keefe
**REGISTRATION**

**KEEFE-BRUYETTE SYMPOSIUM | MARCH 12, 2018**

**Name:** ________________________________

**School/Organization:** ________________________________

**Address:** __________________________________________

**City:** ____________________________ **State:** _______ **Zip:** ____________

**Daytime Telephone:** ( ) ___________ **Email:** ___________________________

*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 1-13)**

1st Choice: ____________________________

2nd Choice: ____________________________

3rd Choice: ____________________________

**Afternoon Workshop Selection (Workshops 14-21)**

1st Choice: ____________________________

2nd Choice: ____________________________

3rd Choice: ____________________________

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**GENERAL INFORMATION**

Questions or special needs can be directed to:

Sue O’Donnell, Director
The School for Young Children
Phone 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 tune in to WFSB-3 or WVIT-30 for event information.

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

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OR Send/Fax registration forms with payment/purchase order to:
The School for Young Children, 238 Steele Rd., West Hartford, CT 06117-2791.
Fax: 860.231.5581. Please make checks payable to: University of Saint Joseph

Registration closes on Wednesday, March 7, 2018.

Registration is non-refundable | On-site registration will NOT be available.
The School for Young Children
238 Steele Road
West Hartford, CT 06117

KEEFE-BRUYETTE SYMPOSIUM | MARCH 12, 2018
Hands-on Workshops on Math and Science Teaching for Infant/Toddler and Pre-K

Where Nurture Meets Nature