

KANSAS INSERVICE TRAINING SYSTEM

Newsletter



Kansas Inservice Training System

Training for Early Childhood Professionals and Families

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1997 KITS Summer Institute Well Received!

Working Together: Regular and Early Childhood Special Education, the KITS 4th Annual Summer Institute, was held June 17-20 at Kansas State University in Manhattan. Forty-three participants, professors from six universities, and representatives from KSDE and other state agencies were in attendance. Comments on evaluations were positive. Participants were especially impressed with Patricia Wesley and Virginia Buysse from the University of North Carolina and Joan Nicoll from the University of Connecticut Health Center. One person commented,

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The following three-part article is intended to describe developmentally appropriate goals and objectives for young children with disabilities which facilitate instructional inclusion in natural settings. Part I defines developmentally appropriate goals and objectives; Part II (October issue) will present examples of DAP goals and objectives that have been effective with children in natural environments; Part III (January issue) will share some strategies for the development of DAP goals and objectives.

Part I: Writing Developmentally Appropriate Goals and Objectives for Natural Environments

Developmentally appropriate practice (DAP) and its compatibility with recommended practice for early childhood special education has been the topic of much debate (Fox, Harline, Vail, & Galant, 1996). One issue raised is that individual objectives, an integral component of special education, are incompatible with child directed learning and activities (McCullum & Bair, 1994). This issue is critical for early childhood special education (ECSE) because research supports the use of individual objectives as a clear indicator of successful intervention (Wolery, Strain, & Baily, 1992). While proponents of DAP do not require the development of individual plans for all children in early childhood settings, such as the IEP with its individualized objectives, neither do they disagree with its importance for children with disabilities (Bredekamp & Rosegrant, 1997).

DAP was not originally designed for ECSE and therefore should not be expected to accommodate all the issues and challenges of our field without our careful consideration. Through recent efforts of researchers, practitioners, and policy makers, strides have been made to assist both fields in clarifying where and how EC and ECSE converge to accomplish their unique missions for children. While this synthesis of information is crucial for the inclusion of young children with disabilities in natural settings, it is reasonable to expect there could continue to be areas of divergence due to social policy and governmental

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"We had good presenters who had senses of humor, as well as good overheads and videos. Everything was well-organized and time went quickly." Another stated, "I feel better prepared for the coming years. I have many new tools under my belt!"

The Summer Institute provides an opportunity for professional development, networking, and two college credit hours. If you've never attended our Summer Institute, it is a very worthwhile experience. Mark your calendars and make plans to attend the 5th Annual Summer Institute, scheduled for June 16-19, 1998.

Win a Free Book!

It's needs assessment time again! The information gained from the returned needs assessments will be used to assist KITS and KSDE in identifying issues that are important to our consumers. This will give us the basis to provide information, training and technical assistance. Please participate by completing the needs assessment on pages 9 and 10, and returning it in the enclosed envelope. Needs assessment results will be included in the January newsletter.

All needs assessments postmarked by October 31, 1997, will be placed in a drawing for three prizes: 1st prize will be *Themes Teachers Use*, edited by Marjorie Kostelnik; 2nd prize will be *Pathways to Play: Developing Play Skills in Young Children*, written by Sandra Heidermann and Deborah Hewitt; and 3rd prize will be *Family-Friendly Communication for Early Childhood Programs*, edited by Deborah Diffily and Kathy Morrison. You have three chances to win! So return those needs assessments quickly and you might be one of the lucky winners!

KITS has developed a New Administrator's Technical Assistance Packet. This packet is free and includes copies of the Quality Standards for Early Childhood Education, Kansas Guidelines for Implementation of Early Childhood Special Education Services, Administrator's Policy Handbook for Preschool Mainstreaming, DEC Recommended Practices: Indicators of Quality in Programs for Infants and Young Children with Special Needs and Their Families, Early Childhood Education Resource Libraries brochure, KITS brochure, and KITS newsletter. If you are a first year administrator responsible for early childhood special education services, please contact Robin Bayless, 316-421-6550 ext. 1859 for your free copy of this packet.

New KITS Staff Member

Vera Lynne Stroup joined the KITS staff on May 19, 1997, as the Technical Assistance Coordinator. Vera joins us from Pittsburg State University where she worked as an Assistant Professor and Coordinator of the Early Childhood Special Education program. Vera is a graduate of Shippensburg University in Shippensburg, PA, and the University of Oregon. She has worked in the fields of early childhood and early childhood special education for 10 years as a Preschool Teacher and Center Director, an Early Childhood Special Education teacher and an inservice trainer. She has particular interests in linking assessment and intervention, community-based inclusion at the preschool level and working effectively with families. Vera will be housed at the Kansas University Affiliated Program in Parsons. You may phone her at 316-421-6550 ext. 1859 or e-mail her at vera_stroup@parsons.lsi.ukans.edu.

Welcome Vera!

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NEWSLETTER STAFF

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- SEPTEMBER 20, 27, 1997:** *Art: A Creative Expression.* Sponsor: KCCTO. Location: Wichita. Trainer: Georgia Whitlock, 316-833-3153.
- SEPTEMBER 22, 24, 26, 1997:** *Family Day Care: You & Your Business.* Sponsor: KCCTO. Location: Ottawa. Trainer: Sherry Engelbert, 785-242-9063.
- SEPTEMBER 24, 1997:** NASDSE Satellite Conference: *Curriculum-Based Measuring.* Location: Video conference from 12:00 - 1:30 Central time. Contact: Sheryl Bieker, 785-291-3097.
- OCTOBER 7, 1997:** *Section 504 Training of Trainers.* Location: Ulysses. Contact: Debbie Loftis, 316-356-5577.
- OCTOBER 7, 1997:** *School Improvement Team Training.* Location: Pittsburg. Contact: Jan Heisler, 785-296-3868.
- OCTOBER 8, 1997:** *School Improvement Team Training.* Location: Newton. Contact: Jan Heisler, 785-296-3868.
- OCTOBER 11, 1997:** 1997 Kansas Association for the Education of Young Children (KAEYC) Conference: *It's Just the Beginning.* Location: Pittsburg State University, Pittsburg. Contact: Barbara Fabrycky or Stephanie

Hudson, Kansas University Affiliated Program, 2601 Gabriel, Parsons, KS 67357, phone 316-421-6550 ext. 1859, fax 316-421-6550 ext. 1702.

- OCTOBER 13, 1997:** *Portfolio and Transition.* Sponsor and Location: Northwest Kansas Education Service Center, Oakley. Speaker: June Rempel, Haysville USD 261. Contact: Cindy Schroeder, 785-672-3125.
- OCTOBER 15, 1997:** *Community Fair.* Sponsor: KDHE. Location: Harvey Hotel, Wichita.
- OCTOBER 16-17, 1997:** 1997 Kansas Council for Exceptional Children (CEC) Conference. Location: Harvey Hotel, Wichita. Contact: Susan Bowles, Hays Area Children's Center, 94 Lewis Dr., Hays, KS 67601, phone 785-625-3257, fax 785-625-8557.
- OCTOBER 22-24, 1997:** 21st Annual Governor's Conference for the Prevention of Child Abuse and Neglect: *All Aboard for Healthy Families.* Location: Expocentre, Topeka. Contact: Julie Reid, 785-274-3100 ext. 407.
- OCTOBER 27, 1997:** *Section 504 Training of Trainers.* Location: Burlington. Contact: Martha Newkirk, 316-364-5151.
- OCTOBER 29, 1997:** *Section 504 Training of Trainers.* Location: Great Bend. Contact: Patty Wagner, 316-793-1550.
- NOVEMBER 5, 1997:** NASDSE Satellite Conference: *Comparing ADA, Section 504 & IDEA.* Location: Video Conference from 12:00 - 1:30 Central time. Contact: Sheryl Bieker, 785-291-3097.
- NOVEMBER 6, 1997:** *What Families Have Taught Us.* Sponsor: ACCK Early Intervention Seminars. Location: McPherson. Speaker: Rhodanne Schiller. Contact: Gretchen Conway, 316-241-5150 ext. 115 or Sharon Rosenkoetter, 316-241-7754 ext. 116.
- NOVEMBER 20-23, 1997:** *International Early Childhood Conference on Children with Special Needs (DEC Conference).* Sponsor: The Council for Exceptional Children's Division for Early Childhood. Location: Hyatt Regency, New Orleans, LA. Contact: DEC Conference, 410-269-6801.
- NOVEMBER 21-27, 1997:** *Kansas Learning Disability Association.* Location: Overland Park. Contact: Gloria Dye or Judy McConnell, 785-231-1010.
- DECEMBER 4, 1997:** *Is This Child Hyperactive? ADHD in Children 1-7.* Sponsor: ACCK Early Intervention Seminars. Location: Lindsborg. Speaker: Audrey M. Roberts, M.D. Contact: Gretchen Conway, 316-241-5150 ext. 115 or Sharon Rosenkoetter, 316-241-7754 ext. 116.
- DECEMBER 9, 1997:** *Head Start/Early Childhood Special Education Directors Meeting.* Sponsor: Kansas Head Start Directors Association and KITS. Location: Ramada Inn, Manhattan. Contact: Robin Bayless, KITS, 316-421-6550 ext. 1859.
- JANUARY 28-30, 1998:** *USA/KASEA Convention.* Location: Harvey Hotel, Wichita.
- FEBRUARY 26, 1998:** *Inclusive Creative Movement Activities for Children 2-8.* Sponsor: ACCK Early Intervention Seminars. Location: Lindsborg. Speaker: Carol L. Russell. Contact: Gretchen Conway, 316-241-5150 ext. 115 or Sharon Rosenkoetter, 316-241-7754 ext. 116.
- FEBRUARY 26-28, 1998:** *Autism Conference/Midwest Symposium for Leadership in Behavior Disorders.* Location: Kansas City, MO.
- MARCH 5-7, 1998:** 1998 Annual Kansas Division For Early Childhood (KDEC) Conference. Location: Wichita. Contact: Linda Mitchell, 316-326-8906.
- MARCH 25, 1998:** NASDSE Satellite Conference: *Meeting the Mental Health Needs of Children with Disabilities.* Location: Video Conference from 12:00 to 1:30 Central time. Contact: Sheryl Bieker, 785-291-3097.
- MARCH 31, 1998:** *Lemons to Lemonade: Transforming Conflict from Danger to Opportunity.* Sponsor: ACCK Early Intervention Seminars. Location: McPherson. Speaker: Kirsten Zerger. Contact: Gretchen Conway, 316-241-5150 ext. 115 or Sharon Rosenkoetter, 316-241-7754 ext. 116.
- APRIL 2-3, 1998:** *Transitioning into Developmentally Appropriate Practices (TDAP) Conference.* Location: Airport Hilton, Wichita. Contact: Misty Goosen at 785-864-0725, or Robin Bayless at 316-421-6550 ext. 1859.
- MAY 13, 1998:** NASDSE Satellite Conference: *Honoring Diverse Learning Styles* Location: Video Conference from 12:00 to 1:30 Central time. Contact: Sheryl Bieker, 785-291-3097.
- JUNE 1-3, 1998:** *Supporting Young Children and Families Coping with Violence: What Young Children Can Tell Us About Living with Violence.* Sponsor: ACCK Early Intervention Seminars. Contact: Gretchen Conway, 316-241-5150 ext. 115 or Sharon Rosenkoetter, 316-241-7754 ext. 116.
- JUNE 16-19, 1998:** *5th Annual KITS Summer Institute.* Location and speakers to be announced as confirmed. Contact: Misty Goosen, 785-864-0725.

Only Once A Child Project

Due to the growing awareness of the benefits of including young children with disabilities in general education settings, the "Only Once A Child" project was developed. To enlarge the circle of experts beyond the traditional special education team, this project supports staff persons in early childhood programs and parents in rethinking what we do and how we do it. This grant makes it possible for local early childhood staff to cope with, accept and teach children with special needs within their general education programs. By focusing on a child-centered environment, staff and parents collaborate on a level playing field, as no individual has all the answers. We need to work together with existing programs to provide learning opportunities for children with and children without IEPs.

The mission of the "Only Once A Child" grant is: children needing early childhood special education and young students through the age of eight years will experience developmentally appropriate early childhood programming in mixed-ability settings, thereby making long-term gains in cognitive/intellectual development, social and emotional skills. The goal of this grant is to increase the use of DAP in kindergarten through third grade classrooms.

To start the year out, David Burchfield presented a two day workshop on "Establishing DAP in Primary Years: Offering Children Time, Choice, Responsibility, and a Sense of Community." This workshop was very well received by all that attended.



Throughout the year, the teachers involved with the grant will receive a variety of benefits. They will be able to visit other primary programs in Kansas using developmentally appropriate practices, use monthly instructional modules filled with DAP materials to be used in the classroom, and receive consultation from the Grant Facilitator.

On October 13, 1997, we will be offering a workshop entitled "Portfolio's and Transition" by June Rempel. We are excited to have June present on this topic. For more information on this workshop, contact Cindy Schroeder at 785-672-3125.

—submitted by Cindy Schroeder, Only Once A Child project, Northwest Kansas Educational Service Center, Oakley

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regulations. It will be up to practitioners working in both fields to seek common ground on issues of importance. The following offers a description of how individualized goals and objectives can be merged with DAP, and hopefully improve practices in both EC and ECSE for young children with disabilities by providing the best of both fields.

Developmentally appropriate goals and objectives:

—**are age and individually appropriate**

While normal development provides a basic framework, goals

and objectives are based on individual strengths and deficits. They are reflective of the child's overall learning, development and individual needs, not just narrowly defined basic skills (Bredenkamp & Rosegrant, 1992). This assures that each child's unique learning patterns and timing of growth are considered within the predictable sequences of each developmental domain. The subskills, identified as objectives, are individually determined and should be required for each specific child to accomplish the long range goal. A

child's plan is developed individually, not as a whole class ("everyone has cognitive goals") or a disability group ("all children with autism work on this"), and it is rare to find similar IEP documents.

—**are linked to child's programmatic assessments**

While the use of an outcomes based assessment with the intent to accelerate a child's learning may appear to be a divergence from the concept of DAP, it is one of the distinctive principles of ECSE (Atwater, Carta, Schwartz, & McConnell, 1994). IEP goals and

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