

2025 Early Childhood Conference Planning Guide

This guide is intended to help you plan your sessions for the Early Childhood Conference and should not be used as a registration form. Registrations are accepted online only at <https://www.uww.edu/ce/ecc>. Sessions are subject to change prior to the conference.

Friday, April 11, 2025

Session 1: 8:00 – 9:15am

Attending?	Keynote Session
	You Deserve Joy! Reduce Stress, Break through Barriers, and Make a Plan to Increase Your Own Personal Joy Factor, TODAY. <i>Raelene Ostberg</i>

Session 2: 9:30 – 10:45am

Attending?	Session Number	Session Title Presenter Name
	201	From Struggles to Success: Maximize Your Potential <i>Prerna Richards</i>
	202	Building Your Child’s Executive Function Toolbox <i>Katelyn Mabry</i>
	203	Advancing Work in ECE Programs: Virtual Observations and Panel Discussion focused on Advancing Education, Partnering with Agencies, and Deepening Understanding of Pedagogical Practices. <i>Kiley Vethe</i>
	204	Nature Songs that Tell the Truth! <i>David Stokes</i>
	205	Using Assessment to Support Developmental Concerns <i>Naomi Rahn and Brooke Winchell</i>
	206	Reflection: The First Step to Examine Bias to Cultivate Inclusivity and Civil Discourse <i>James-Etta Goodloe Read</i>
	207	Making Music with Infants and Toddlers: HOW? WHY? WHAT? <i>Carole Stephens</i>
	208	Using Shared Reading to Foster Theory of Mind Development in Young Children <i>Beverly Trezek and Lauren Zepp</i>
	209	Bubbles 101 <i>Terrie Schmoltdt and Marissa Schmoltdt</i>
	210	The Power of Intentional Play: Using Sensory Play Kits to Support Early Emotional Literacy Skill Development & Bridge Other Complex Topics <i>Abbie Pabon</i>
	211	The Language of Behavior: Practical and Proactive Strategies for our Youngest Learners <i>Lizzy Augustin</i>
	212	Routines Rule! <i>Linda Armas</i>
	213	Career Development: Beginnings and Beyond <i>Erica Schepp and Danette Espindola</i>
	214	Adults at Play <i>Edie Baran</i>
	215	Starting Small: Nurturing Fairness, Compassion, and Acceptance <i>Sandy Queen</i>
	216	Taming the Temperament: Those Terrible Twos <i>Cheryl Hovey</i>
	217	The Brain Loves a Song! <i>Mar Harmon</i>
	218	From Frantic to Fun: Tools to Create Classrooms Full of Laughter and Joy <i>Dana Staser and Betsy Diamant-Cohen</i>

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Session 3: 11:00 – 12:15pm

Attending?	Session Number	Session Title Presenter Name
	301	Sensational Science, Stories, & Serendipity <i>Edie Baran</i>
	302	Building Your Child’s Executive Function Toolbox <i>Katelyn Mabry</i>
	303	Every Bookshelf Tells a Story: Using Book Audits to Deepen Diversity, Equity, Inclusion, and Belonging in your Classroom Environment <i>Amanda Burns and Evy Gildrie-Voyles</i>
	304	OH WOW! Not EWE YUCK!! <i>David Stokes</i>
	305	Creating Confident, Capable Children through Music <i>Mar Harman</i>
	306	Reflection: The First Step to Examine Bias to Cultivate Inclusivity and Civil Discourse <i>James-Etta Goodloe Read</i>
	307	Make Music a Super Power in Your PreK/K Classroom! <i>Carole Stephens</i>
	308	Use Shared Reading to Foster Theory of Mind Development in Young Children <i>Beverly Trezek and Lauren Zepp</i>
	309	Bubbles 101 <i>Terrie Schmoldt and Marissa Schmoldt</i>
	311	Flawlessly Unperfect: Thriving as an Excellent Early Childhood Educator <i>Megan Thomburgh</i>
	312	Routines Rule! <i>Linda Armas</i>
	313	Career Development: Beginnings and Beyond <i>Erica Schepp and Danette Espindola</i>
	314	Transition Songs: Moving Your Day Along! <i>Colleen Hannafin</i>
	315	The Essentials: What Every Child Needs to Survive and Thrive <i>Sandy Queen</i>
	316	Babies and Brains: Some Assembly Required <i>Cheryl Hovey</i>
	317	Building Self-Esteem and Self-Regulation Skills Using Rhymes and Songs <i>Betsy Diamant-Cohen</i>
	318	Are you Funnier than a Four Year Old? Learning through Play with STEM <i>Shawn Wolf</i>

Lunch Hour: 12:15 – 1:15pm

Attending?	Session Number	Session Title Presenter Name
	L50	*STEM Playground (Available for Registry Credit) <i>Shawn Wolf</i>

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Session 4: 1:15 – 2:30pm

Attending?	Session Number	Session Title Presenter Name
	401	Joyful Noise: Enriching Early Education with Music <i>Steve Girman</i>
	402	Instructional Strategies to Develop Early Literacy Skills in Alignment with Act 20 <i>Lauren Zepp</i>
	403	Raise Educators Wages, Lower Turnover and Increase Quality through Scale: A Secret to Greater Success <i>Bob Davis</i>
	404	Welcoming Children Who Were Adopted and Their Families through Our Language, Actions and Understanding <i>Robin Fox</i>
	405	So You Need to have a Parent Meeting <i>Michelle Doughy</i>
	406	Getting REAL: Using Repeats, Edits, Authors, and Leads to Promote Young Children’s Language <i>Patty Becker and Liv Thompson</i>
	407	Understanding Play through the Lens of Infants and Toddlers <i>Bonnie Spencer</i>
	408	A Collaborative Process of Discovery <i>Jenalee Johnson</i>
	409	Art and Gift Ideas for Your Children to Make <i>Kathy Lathrop</i>
	410	Empowering Voices: Advocacy Strategies for Early Childhood Education <i>Tanya Wooden and Kayla Gardner</i>
	411	Use your Program’s Protective Gear: Policies, Contracts, and Risk Management <i>Kimberly Yehle and Dan Eckhardt</i>
	412	Adventures with Printmaking <i>Anne Tillett and Cara Craig</i>
	413	Wisconsin Registry: Building your Career Pathway <i>Devan Valona and Jackie Bleskacek</i>
	414	Circle of Friends: Circle Time Songs and Activities <i>Colleen Hannafin</i>
	415	Roots of Resilience: Stress Less, Connect More – Discover the Transformative Power of Relationships <i>Cheryl Hovey</i>
	416	Getting it Done Right: Four Leadership Tools to increase Staff Retention, Collaboration & Satisfaction <i>Dana Staser</i>
	417	Classroom Experiences Designed to Prepare Early-Stage Clinicians to Work with Children and Families Affected by Cleft Lip and Cleft Palate <i>Michael Hammer and Payton Navis</i>
	418	Not Your Usual STEM Stories: Finding STEM Concepts Hiding in our Favorite Books <i>Shawn Wolf</i>

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Session 5: 2:45 – 4:00pm

Attending?	Session Number	Session Title Presenter Name
	501	Nursey Rhyme Math <i>Terrie Schmoldt and Marissa Schmoldt</i>
	502	Skills and Strategies for Children with Hearing Difference to Promote Language Development <i>Kacie Jajducki and Alyssa Meier</i>
	504	Planning Your Physical Environment to Reduce Challenging Behaviors <i>Nina Bottomly</i>
	505	So You Need to have a Parent Meeting <i>Michelle Doughy</i>
	506	Stress and Resilience: Strengthening Well-Being for Early Childhood Professionals <i>Anna Barthen</i>
	507	Understanding Play through the Lens of Infants and Toddlers <i>Bonnie Spencer</i>
	508	Budgeting at its Best: When Your Heart and Head Meet Head-On <i>Kimberly Yehle and Dan Eckhardt</i>
	509	Optimizing Home/School Communication <i>Linda Armas</i>
	510	Hootenanny: Led by Carole Stephens and David Stokes in collaboration with other presenters

Session 6: 6:00 – 8:00pm OPTIONAL

Attending?	Session Number	Session Title Presenter Name
	601	Make a Circle Documentary Screening and Discussion <i>UW-Whitewater and WECA Staff</i>

Saturday, April 12, 2025

Session 1: 8:30 – 11:30am

Attending?	Session Number	Session Title Presenter Name
	1A	Challenging Behavior Triage: Exchanging Stressful Moments for Joyful Learning <i>Prerna Richards, MBA, CEO & Founder Together We Grow LLC</i>
	1B	Working with Challenging Behaviors: Why Children Misbehave and What You Can Do About It! <i>Raelene Ostberg, M.Ed, National Keynote Speaker and Director, Thriving Together LLC</i>

Lunch Break: 11:30 – 1:00pm

Attending?	Session Number	Session Title Presenter Name
	L51	OPTIONAL SESSION: Art Gallery Walk, Jenalee Johnson

Session 2: 1:00 – 4:00pm

Attending?	Session Number	Session Title Presenter Name
	2A	Challenging Behavior Triage: Exchanging Stressful Moments for Joyful Learning <i>Prerna Richards, MBA, CEO & Founder Together We Grow LLC</i>
	2B	Working with Challenging Behaviors: Why Children Misbehave and What You Can Do About It! <i>Raelene Ostberg, M.Ed, National Keynote Speaker and Director, Thriving Together LLC</i>