



Beginning with Books®
Center for Early Literacy

Early Literacy Conference

**Latest Research and
Best Practices**

Friday, October 2, 2009

Community College of Allegheny County
North Campus
8701 Perry Highway
Pittsburgh, PA 15237-5353

Keynote Speaker: Ruth Stoeckel, CCC-SLP, Ph.D.
Mayo Clinic

Early Speech-Language Issues and Later Literacy

Children with slow speech-language development are at higher risk for later literacy and academic problems than children with typical development in this area. The focus of this talk will be on answering the questions "What is the connection?" and "What can we do about it?"

Dr. Stoeckel is a pediatric speech-language pathologist at Mayo Clinic. She has worked as a clinician and independent consultant in schools, private practice, a private rehabilitation agency, and clinical settings. Dr. Stoeckel is on the professional advisory board of the Childhood Apraxia of Speech Association of North America (CASANA) and presents at local and national level meetings. Her interest in early literacy stems from the evidence that children with speech and language disorders are at high risk for later academic difficulties.

Luncheon Speaker: Pat Cummings

Award-winning children's illustrator and author

**I Lik Yor Buks: Creating books for a very
discriminating, highly opinionated, and frequently
surprising audience**

A graduate of Pratt Institute, Pat Cummings worked as a freelance illustrator for editorial and advertising clients before focusing primarily on creating children's books. In addition to the Talking with Artists series and Talking with Adventurers, which she also edited, she has written and/or illustrated over 35 books and received the Coretta Scott King Award, the Orbis Pictus, and the Boston Globe-Horn Book award, among others.

Pat has worked as a producer and writer for Nickelodeon's *Gullah, Gullah Island* and is a frequent lecturer at schools, libraries, and professional conferences on the subject of children's literature. Currently, she is a member of the Writer's Guild of America and serves on the boards of The Society of Children's Book Writers and Illustrators; the Authors Guild, as National Secretary; and Author's League Fund as President.



1A The On-Line Playground

Caralee Sommerer, Senior Librarian and Megan Fogt, Librarian, Carnegie Library of Pittsburgh

Have you given up using on-line tools because it's so difficult to separate those that are effective from those that are junk? Never fear! Join us for a hands-on workshop and discover the fun resources available through the Carnegie Library of Pittsburgh's website. Explore the features of our new Kids Webpage, watch and listen to books read on the computer, create a story, and find lesson plans and curriculum connections. Time saving tips for homework help and literacy building activities will be presented. Also offered as an afternoon workshop. *(All)**

2A Puppetry and Storytelling

Betty Lee Dell, Facilitator, Beginning with Books

This workshop will focus on improving young children's early literacy experiences using puppets and storytelling. Participants will leave the workshop prepared to incorporate puppets and storytelling techniques throughout the day. They will also learn about choosing puppets, props, and other materials to use with young children. *(All)**

3A Comprehension Activities to Share!

Saundy Waseleski, First Grade Teacher, Quaker Valley School District

Stuck in a rut? Vary your Language Arts routines with new comprehension activities. Participants will learn easy and effective activities to implement in their 1st and 2nd grade classrooms. The session is informal and participants will be encouraged to share ideas. *(1-3)**

4A Using Children's Literature in Preschool to Support Comprehension

Heather LeVeck, Early Learning BLAST Program, Carnegie Library of Pittsburgh

Participants will learn a variety of ways to support comprehension in preschool students. We'll discuss how interactive read-alouds, "think-alouds," and vocabulary can work together to build a preschooler's understanding. *(Pre K-K)**

5A Talking About Artists

Pat Cummings, Children's book illustrator, author
Learn more about the stories behind the three volume children's series TALKING WITH ARTISTS. You'll learn how the series came to be and hear stories about some of the best-known illustrators of children's literature and their work. The workshop will also offer ideas on how to incorporate the stories and the artists' work into your curriculum. *(All)**

6A Constructing Meaning with Picture Books: Comprehension Strategy Instruction

Judy Bulazo, Director of Professional Development and Elementary Education, and Mary Quinn, Elementary Reading and Language Arts Curriculum Leader, Upper St. Clair School District

This workshop will address research-based instructional strategies that allow teachers to move away from using the basal as the sole resource for reading instruction. Strategies for teaching decoding, comprehension, fluency, and vocabulary will be addressed. Information will be based on actual practices. *(K-3)**

7A The Art of Literature

Polly Lipkind, Professional Development Director, Shady Lane

Come have some hands-on fun as we illustrate and write stories! During this session, we will create books using a variety of materials. From the art, we will craft a story. Participants will also design a plan to implement this process with children in their classrooms. *(Pre K-K)**

8A Sparking Interest in Writing

Sally Hobart Alexander, Adjunct Instructor, Chatham University M.F.A. program

Participants will learn and use techniques and strategies for creating excitement about writing. Bring paper and pen and a willingness to tap the child within. *(1-3)**

9A Latest and Greatest: Books that Engage Children

Tess Riesmeyer, Associate Director of Early Literacy Education, Beginning with Books

Finding it hard to keep up with all the latest children's books? This workshop will provide you an opportunity to explore some of the newest and best books available for children. Our discussion will focus on quality multicultural and non-fiction books, as well as other features common to books that engage children and encourage language development. *(All)**

SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

- 7:45 Registration
Continental Breakfast
- 8:45 Welcome
Keith G. Kondrich
Executive Director, Beginning with Books
- 9:15 Keynote Address
Dr. Ruth Stoeckel
Mayo Clinic
- 10:30 Morning Workshops
- 12:00 Boxed Lunch
- 12:45 Luncheon Speaker
Pat Cummings
- 1:45 Author Book Signing
- 2:00 Afternoon Workshops
- 3:30 Afternoon Workshops Conclude



5 Act 48 and/or State Professional Development Hours

Questions? Call 412-361-8560 or email
koeblers@mybwb.org

Afternoon Workshops 2:00-3:30

10P Digital Photography in the Classroom

Cyndi McAleer, *Preschool Program Specialist, PA Key*

Make everyday picture day! This workshop will focus on the use of digital photography as an assessment tool and to enhance curriculum and complement classroom activities. We'll also share information about selecting and utilizing a digital camera. *(All)**

11P "I'm Finished, Now What?" Anchor Activities for Small Groups

Andrea Sanko and Betsey Wilson, *Kindergarten Teachers in the Quaker Valley School District*

A big part of managing the differentiated classroom involves keeping your students actively learning with meaningful and challenging activities so you can work with small groups. Activities are the answer. You'll leave this idea-packed session with a toolbox full of practical and engaging anchor activities.

*(K-3)**

12P Emergent Literacy in Children with Slow Speech-Language Development

Ruth Stoeckel, *CCC-SLP, Ph.D., Mayo Clinic*

Children who have insufficient knowledge of language may not be ready to fully benefit from instruction in literacy skills. Management of risk factors can ameliorate or reduce the effects of early delays. We will discuss important aspects of early literacy development, with an emphasis on evidence-based strategies for supporting acquisition of needed skills in children who are at risk due to slower than average development in speech and language skills. *(All)**

13P The On-Line Playground

Caralee Sommerer, *Senior Librarian and Megan Fogt, Librarian, Carnegie Library of Pittsburgh*

Have you given up using on-line tools because it's so difficult to separate those that are effective from those that are junk? Never fear! Join us for a hands-on workshop and discover the fun resources available through the Carnegie Library of Pittsburgh's website. Explore the features of our new Kids Webpage, watch and listen to books read on the computer, create a story, and find lesson plans and curriculum connections. Time saving tips for homework help and literacy building activities will be presented. *(All)**

14P The Arts Make Learning Come Alive!

Margaret Hooton, *Early Childhood Music Teacher*

Music, movement, chants, puppetry and storytelling all make favorite books even more exciting! In this active workshop, we will jump off the page and expand the stories to make reading appealing to children with different learning styles. *(All)**

15P Creative Parent-Child-Teacher Interactions

Tom Straw, *Web & Multimedia Designer, Southwestern Pennsylvania Commission (SPC) and Kenda Hammer, Early Literacy Specialist, Fox Chapel Area School District*

Learn some unusual ways journals and websites can teach story comprehension to young children. Our discussion will feature creative projects inspired by children. We'll begin with ideas for journals you can create with and for your children. We'll also discuss an interactive website, designed by Mr. Straw to teach his preschool child and others about coral reefs, wildlife, conservation, and counting. *(All)**

16P Behavioral Strategies and Diagnostics for Preschoolers

Sally A. Hoover, *Director of Pupil Services, Quaker Valley School District*

This presentation will focus on behavioral management strategies that are developmentally appropriate for the preschool population. Additionally, diagnostic questions about ADHD and Autism Spectrum in young children will be discussed. *(Pre K-K)**

17P Easy Readers: Engaging Books for Beginning Readers

Tess Riesmeyer, *Associate Director of Early Literacy Education, Beginning with Books*

Easy Readers as a genre of children's literature have a tough job. To be useful, they must be written at a child's reading level and focus on sight words which makes for a less than engaging read. To be successful, they should be leveled, but also interesting and informative. This workshop will highlight truly successful Easy Readers. *(K-3)**

Registration Form Early Literacy Conference

Name _____

Position _____

Pre-school Kindergarten 1st Grade 2nd Grade
 3rd Grade Librarian Student Admin

School/Agency _____

School District _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Phone _____

Fax _____

Email _____

Morning Workshop

1st choice: _____ Alternate: _____

Afternoon Workshop

1st choice: _____ Alternate: _____

Cost for the full conference is \$75.00

Full-Time Students (with ID) \$25.00

Includes: workshops, continental breakfast & lunch

Lunch Selection:

Turkey Ham Veggie

NEW! Online registration and payment
www.beginningwithbooks.org

METHOD OF PAYMENT:

Check enclosed*

(payable to Beginning with Books)

Total amount enclosed \$ _____

Purchase order attached

Please bill my credit card:

Master Card VISA

Name on card

Address with zip

Account number

Expiration date

*Please send this form, with payment, to:

Beginning with Books

5920 Kirkwood Street • Pittsburgh, PA 15206

412-361-8560 phone • 412-361-8567 fax

www.beginningwithbooks.org

Registration deadline: September 28, 2009

Sorry, no refunds or cancellations after this date.

Space is limited.

** Suggested audience*

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Pittsburgh, PA 15206
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The 2009 Early Literacy Conference is presented by:



Beginning with Books Center for Early Literacy

Beginning with Books' mission is to increase meaningfully the numbers of children who become capable and enthusiastic lifelong readers. This is accomplished through research-based programs respectfully offering the information, materials, skill development and encouragement that enable parents and other adults to promote the literacy development of the children in their care. Beginning with Books® programs operate in partnership with other organizations serving low-income families.

www.beginningwithbooks.org



CCAC North Campus

CCAC's North Campus began humbly in a trailer in a North Hills Passavant Hospital parking lot in 1972. It since has grown to serve the thousands of students enrolled in its community service classes and academic and continuing education programs. The North Campus serves Pittsburgh's northern and western suburbs, and now occupies a well-equipped, 150,000-square-foot facility in McCandless, about 12 miles north of Pittsburgh. North Campus students enjoy access to an excellent library, outstanding computing facilities and superb educational and athletic programs.

www.ccac.edu



University of Pittsburgh School of Education

Students, faculty, and staff share a commitment to providing every person a strong formative education, the skills of lifelong learning, and the continual re-education needed in the Information Age. The school's research, development, and outreach efforts extend to nearby schools, urban systems nationwide, and educational institutions in many developing countries. Pitt's School of Education offers a wide range of high quality degree and certification options.

www.education.pitt.edu



Pittsburgh Association for the Education of Young Children

The Pittsburgh Association for the Education of Young Children works to support high quality early care and education for young children through professional development, collaboration with community resources and advocacy for the needs and rights of children, their families and the individuals who work with them.

www.pghaeyc.org