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The Kindergarten Project

THE KINDERGARTEN EXPERIENCE

A Professional Development Series Focusing on Evidence-based Practices in Kindergarten
for Kindergarten Teachers, Paraprofessionals, Instructional Coaches, Administrators

UPCOMING EVENTS

OPEN HOUSE: KINDERGARTEN MODEL CLASSROOM

Visit our model kindergarten classroom to see the types of learning opportunities that help support the development of foundational knowledge and experiences needed for academic success

November 21, 2015 10:00 AM - 1:00 PM
Brooks Community School, Phoenix

SESSIONS AT ALESI GROUP OFFICE @ BROOKS COMMUNITY SCHOOL, PHOENIX

Informational Sessions for Administrators

December 7, 2015 1:00-2:00 PM

Social & Emotional Development in Kindergarten

February 1, 2016 9:00 AM-4:00 PM

Organization of Space & Time in Kindergarten

February 17, 2016 9:00 AM-4:00 PM

STATEWIDE CONFERENCES @ Desert Willow Conference Center, Phoenix

REGISTER TODAY!

English Language Arts in Kindergarten

February 26 & 27, 2016
8:00 AM-4:00 PM

Bringing Math to Life in Kindergarten

April 22 & 23, 2016
8:00 AM- 4:00 PM

REGIONAL SESSIONS

*Regional and Site-based sessions are being scheduled daily!
Please check our website to see if one is scheduled near you!*

www.thekindergartenexperience.com
thekindergartenexperience@gmail.com



About This Project

In 2013, the Arizona Department of Education joined a multi-state consortium led by North Carolina to develop and implement a Kindergarten Developmental Inventory (KDI) that will be rolled out in Arizona for kindergarten classrooms in the 2017-18 school year.

The Kindergarten Developmental Inventory (KDI) is an assessment that kindergarten teachers will use to obtain an in-depth understanding of the developmental strengths and needs of every child. It is intended to be used as a formative assessment—as a tool used throughout the entire school year to help teachers identify the depths of each child's knowledge and abilities in all areas of development: (1) Social and Emotional, (2) Language and Communication, (3) Approaches to Learning, (4) Cognitive, and (5) Physical.

In an effort to prepare teachers and administrators for the implementation of the KDI, the Arizona Department of Education contracted with Alesi Group, to provide a series of dynamic professional development trainings, workshops and opportunities that offer a comprehensive lens for evidence-based practices that support the whole child in kindergarten. These identified practices are the foundation for the effective and successful implementation of the Kindergarten Developmental Inventory as they support the whole child and increase the likelihood of academic and lifelong success.

Alesi Group is charged with the goal of providing professional development to the 3600 Kindergarten Teachers in Arizona and those who provide support to them.

Please contact us to schedule a training at your school and/or district. On-site district/school sessions are free of charge.



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PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT OPPORTUNITIES

Training Modules:

The Significance of Social & Emotional Development

Kindergarteners who get along well with teachers and peers, listen and follow directions, and can stay on task have basic skills essential for academic achievement. Children learn and refine many of the social and emotional skills they need through interactions with both adults and peers throughout the school day. Children who struggle with relationships or rules benefit from teacher support in learning skills they need to be successful, such as problem solving or working through frustration. Teachers can support children's social and emotional development by creating an inclusive classroom community, promoting children's relationships with teachers and peers, and providing daily opportunities and support for children to engage in small group learning activities. Kindergartners thrive when they see themselves as a valued member of the classroom community and when they are confident that they are genuinely valued and loved by their teachers.

The Organization of Space & Time

Kindergarten is a critical year in a child's educational career and the experiences offered during this instrumental year can significantly impact the much needed foundation for both academic and lifelong success. The organization of space and time in a kindergarten classroom creates the stage for optimizing the opportunities for supporting the *whole child* in all areas of development—social and emotional, language and communication, approaches to learning, cognitive, and physical development. Join us as we explore the significance of the ORGANIZATION OF SPACE--the intentional design of the kindergarten classroom environment and the ORGANIZATION OF TIME—scheduling the day to optimize opportunities for discovery, critical thinking and meaningful problem-solving.

Model Kindergarten Classroom

Schedule a tour of our model kindergarten classroom. See the layout of a classroom environment that is intentionally designed to support the learning and development of the whole child.

English Language Arts

According to research, kindergarten is the foundational year that sets the stage for academic success. One of the challenges kindergarten teachers face is that children come to kindergarten with diverse background knowledge and experiences, particularly when it comes to their early language and literacy development. Having a thorough understanding of child development, the connection between oral language and literacy development, the types of experiences that optimize children's learning, and knowing the progressions of skill development is essential in supporting children's learning.

Kindergartners develop a deeper understanding of complex information when they engage in real, relevant, and meaningful experiences. Developmentally, it is also essential that they are able to engage socially, practice and play with language, and have time to express themselves through authentic learning experiences. Developing a balance between teacher led and child initiated experiences provides much needed time for children to practice and strengthen their developing language, listening, speaking, and writing skills.

In this highly engaging session, we will explore ELA through the lens of evidence-based research in kindergarten and will focus on approaches to support the authentic development of much needed foundational skills.

THE KINDERGARTEN EXPERIENCE

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The Kindergarten Experience is a series of professional development sessions targeting best practices in Kindergarten
for Kindergarten Teachers, Paraprofessionals, Instructional Coaches, Administrators

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT OPPORTUNITIES

Trainings Available NOW:

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ARIZONA DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION



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