



• Connecting the Dots: Using Best Practices to Support Young Children and their Families •

A Workshop Series/Course Opportunity for Early Childhood

It's an exciting time in early childhood education! Our work is guided by new Vermont Early Learning Standards (VELS), new Head Start standards, and new professional standards and competencies. We have access to many resources, including Strengthening Families framework, Early Multi-Tiered Systems of Support (MTSS), the Pyramid model, as well as CLASS and TS GOLD assessments. Sometimes it can feel overwhelming.

To help understand and integrate these elements into a body of best practices to support young children and their families, the Vermont Higher Education Collaborative is offering a two-year series of interactive workshops for early childhood professionals. Year One (2016-2017) will focus on children ages 3-5, and the Year Two (2017-2018) will focus on supporting infants and toddlers. Each series consists of four days of interactive, integrated learning experiences that blend theory and practice. Taken as a set, these four workshops will also be available, pending approval, for 3 graduate credits with Lyndon State College.

2016-2017 Series: Focused on Children 3-5 Years Old

Workshop #1 – Strengthening Foundations for Best Practice and Effective Curriculum

November 30, 2016

8:30-3:30

Capitol Plaza, Montpelier

Jim Squires, with the National Institute for Early Education Research (NIEER) and the Center for Early Education Learning Outcomes (CEELO), was part of realizing the first set of Vermont Early Learning Standards (VELS). Jim will share with us his wealth of knowledge of current best practices in Vermont and across the nation.

Workshop #2 – Communication: Language, Literacy, and the Arts

January 25, 2017

8:30-3:30

Capitol Plaza, Montpelier

A member of Dr. Nonie Lesaux's research team from the Harvard University Graduate School of Education will dive deeply into language, literacy, and the arts as children's ways to communicate.

Learn more and register at: <http://www.vthec.org>



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Workshop #3 – Inquiry, Problem-Solving, & Reasoning in Science, Math & Social Studies

March 10, 2017

8:30-3:30

Capitol Plaza, Montpelier

Pat Fitzsimmons, from the Vermont Agency of Education, and Loree Silvis, mathematics consultant, will team up to present an integrated, hands-on learning experience engaging participants in understanding and using the key approaches of inquiry, problem-solving, and reasoning.

Workshop #4 – Connections, Culture, Inclusion, and Relationships

May 18, 2017

8:30-3:30

Capitol Plaza, Montpelier

Junlei Li, the co-director of the Fred Rogers Center and a professor at Saint Vincent College in Pennsylvania, will apply Fred Rogers' philosophy and approach to serve children and their "helpers," and to enhance the quality of human relationships surrounding children.

The VT-HEC has established a Mission Investment Fund to develop new programs and increase access to its offerings. The fund is supporting reduced costs for this learning opportunity, as well as a limited number of scholarships for those without professional development funds. Scholarships will be awarded on a first come/first serve basis.

**Please see below for the scholarship application
or contact Wendy Cohen: wendy.cohen@vthec.org.**

REDUCED COST FOR ALL

Single Workshop:	\$130
All Four Workshops:	\$400
Three-Credit Course Option: (All 4 workshops + on-line participation)	\$1200



Learn more and register at: <http://www.vthec.org>