

Title of Training: CDELS with Infants & Toddlers

Date 11/9/21

Call to Order/Greetings

President

NWAECA board members: Jennifer Bowman – President, Rebecca Dunahoo – President Elect, Natasha Kile – Treasurer, Emma Tempest – VP Communication, Terri Teters – Interim Secretary / Ex-Officio, Nicole Bedard – Benton County Member-at-Large, Anna Cannon – Washington County Member-at-Large, Debbie Mays – Advisory Board, Elizabeth Scudder – Advisory Board, Susan Edwards – Advisor

Number of Participants in Attendance: 40

Call to Order/Greetings

President

Jennifer called the meeting to order at 6:30 pm.

Treasurer Report

Provided by **Natasha Kile**

The current NWAECA affiliate balance is \$919.90 with no outstanding receipts or charges.

Approval of October 12, 2021 minutes

Provided by **Secretary**

NEW BUSINESS:

Jennifer Bowman spoke about the benefits of Membership of NWAECA.

Well-Being Check-In

Emma Tempest

Emma provides opportunities for us to share our “wins or success” on the NWAECA Facebook group page each Friday. We encourage you to toot your horn and celebrate with each other! This will provide long-term self-care and support each other. Emma asked us to share updates on last month’s challenge; check-in on your sleep habits.

Upcoming trainings/conferences/early childhood events

Open Share

Acknowledge/Introduce Guest Speaker

President

Presentation: CDELS with Infants & Toddlers - Jenny Dura, Guest Speaker

Jenny Dura is a Training advisor- for Early Care and Education Projects and

Certified trainer for The Program for Infant Toddler Care (PITC) and a RIE – Resources for Infant Educators enthusiasts.

Jenny began by asking the group, "What's one thing you love about working with Infants and toddlers?"

The census was the Curiosity and Wonder of infants and toddlers.

Jenny spoke about the book *The Scientist in the Crib* by Alison Gopnik. Alison Gopnik says, "Infants are born with the urge to learn."

Every moment we spend with our infants and toddlers matters- we are the brain architects, we facilitate exploration and learning for children.

Jenny started exploring the Arkansas Child Development and Early Learning Standards: with infants and toddlers, Known as the CDELS, by going over the age ranges.

Birth through 8 months

9 months through 18 months

19 months through 36 months

Some children may not master a skill until later on, so meet the child where they are individually. The continuation of the CDELS is helpful because you can see where the children came from and where they are now.

Jenny shared that ECEP offers a course [Infant and toddler CDELS](#)

Jenny went over the 9 Domains of Development and Learning and gave an example of each –

1. Social and Emotional Development
2. Cognitive Development
3. Physical Development
4. Language development
5. Emergent Literacy
6. Mathematical thinking
7. Science and Technology
8. Social Studies
9. Creativity and Aesthetics

As you take a deeper look into the standards, you will notice the following:

- Domain of Development and Learning –
- Domain Component-

- Learning Goal
- Indicator-
- Strand
- Footnote

Jenny went over each and described the process as taking the stairs down getting deeper into the document.

When using then CDELS and trying to implement them in your classrooms, the standards illustrate milestones teachers and parents should expect at various points during a child's development.

The curriculum is the route to reach the milestones- it also provides the teaching tools and content to drive the children's development forward. To help them reach the indicators.

Jenny reminded us that this is an ongoing process and it should be play-based.

Jenny read from the book *Your Self confident baby* by Magda Gerber, which is written for the parents, but you can apply it to your work with infants and toddlers in your classroom. The excerpt read talked about babies that were able to experience free play had higher test scores later on.

Jenny shared about Alison Gopnik's experiment where she had a toy with pulls and different kinds of things for the child to do. Then the researcher went into the room with a child and said, "Look at this toy," and showed the child one thing (there were more than one thing to do with the toy). The researcher said "I will be right back, and you can play with the toy." The child did only the one thing the researcher showed the child. The researcher came in with the second child and said, "Look at this toy, I wonder what we could do with it," then said, "I will be right back." After the researcher left, the child figured out everything on the toy within minutes – because the child could explore the toy by themselves.

Ronald Lally founder of PITC - said, as we think about lesson plans for infants and setting up the environment, we should:

1. Explore ways to help the caregiver get in tune through observation
2. Strategies to broaden the relationship with the child
3. Include approaches to the child's thoughts and feelings

All components for lesson planning should include adaptations for children that need to be stretched or those who need a little more support.

Jenny spoke about the Scientific method for infants and toddlers and explained how an infant would go through each of following:

1. Make an observation
2. Form a hypothesis
3. Perform experiment
4. Analyze data
5. Report findings
6. Invite others to reproduce the results

When you plan, think about babies being little scientists in the classroom.

Ronald Lally, the founder of PITC, said, "Compassionate sense of wonder, this is what we need to instill in our infants and toddlers."

- Want them to be curious but not destructive
- Bright but not manipulative
- Powerful but also considerate
- Creative and Responsive

We should be intentional about the language we use when talking about how to care about others and living things when the opportunity arises.

Jenny showed the contents of the Door prize (the goodie bag) that will go to the 1st 25 participants that registered on the PDR then came to the meeting:

- Scarf – cotton or linen scarf and tin
- two books
- 2 Metal bowls
- Ball
- Pringles container with holes and straws

The participants were divided into 5 groups and sent to breakout rooms. Each group was given one of the 5 items to discuss and figure out the core domain and learning and an activity for the item.

After each group reported back to the whole group, Jenny reminded us not to stretch the activity to meet each domain and give space and time for infants and toddlers to problem solve on their own

In the bag, you will also be receiving if you registered on the PDR and attended tonight, you will be receiving Arkansas Child Development and Early Learning Standards: Strategies and activities for infants and toddlers.

Jenny shared 3 Curriculum resources for infants and toddlers:

- [Adventure for Toddlers](#)
- [Connecting with Infants](#)
- [Explorer curriculum for Toddlers and Twos](#)

Jenny shared The Program for Infant and Toddler Care (PITC) philosophy –Infant care teachers do not focus on teaching specific lessons, Rather, they focus on facilitating natural interests and their urges to learn. The play environment, interactions, and conversations, and caregiving routines are the curriculum.

She also shared two books: Brain-Based Early Learning Activities: Connecting Theory and Practice by Nikki Darling-Kuria and Baby Sign Language

If you want to learn more about Infant and toddlers or have questions, contact Jenny Dura at jheyer@uark.ed

Until We Meet Again

Emma Tempest

Emma shared an assignment for us to think about before our next meeting...using gratitude to improve your wellbeing! Follow along on the [NWAECA Facebook group page](#)

Door Prize

Jennifer Bowman/Natasha Kile

The first 25 that registered on the PDR and attended the meeting will receive a “goodie bag”. We have 15 additional “goodie bags” to give away.

Adjourn

Jennifer Bowman

Jennifer shared about the Community of Practice for infant and toddler teachers and reminded all about the elections for board members. Remember to like us on Facebook and register for our next NWAECA meeting which is scheduled for Tuesday, December 14th at 6:30pm. Our topic will be CDELS with Mixed Age Groups & The Family Child Care Network.

We hope to see you there! Minutes submitted by Rebecca Dunahoo