

Meaningful Engagement Through Active Learning: Early Exploration, Communication and Literacy for Children with Complex Special Needs

Sponsored by Minnesota Low Incidence Projects and the Minnesota Department of Education

March 18, 2022. Online registration deadline: February 18, 2022

Virtual Workshop: 9:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.

For: Teachers of Blind/Visually Impaired, Teachers of Deaf/Hard of Hearing, Early Childhood Special Education Team Members Who Teach Young Children with Complex Needs, Including DeafBlindness

Cost: No cost to Representatives of the following State and Statewide Communities of Practice: Blind/Visually Impaired, DeafBlind, and Early Hearing Detection and Intervention

Workshop Description: This workshop will open with an overview of Lilli Nielsen’s Active Learning Approach for children who have vision/hearing loss and additional special needs. Practical active learning strategies for jump-starting early exploration, communication and literacy will be presented through video clips and other concrete examples. Methods to evaluate child progress and resources for additional information will also be shared. Participants will complete the day with a “make-and-take” tactile bar project and a brainstorming session on ways that various active learning principles and activities can be used with the children they serve.

Presenter: Kay Clarke is a certified early intervention specialist, orientation and mobility specialist (COMS), teacher of children who are visually impaired (TVI), and preschool teacher. For over 35 years, Kay has served infants, preschoolers and school-age children and their families in California and Ohio. She developed and implemented the Infant-Family Program at the Foundation for the Junior Blind in Los Angeles, California and the Infant-Preschool Outreach Program at the Ohio State School for the Blind. In addition, Dr. Clarke has served as an advocate for state-wide visual impairment early intervention services in Ohio, taught at the Ohio State University to train new vision professionals entering the field, and provided a series of statewide EI/VI trainings for developmental specialists through the Ohio Department of Health. Kay has authored several publications designed to support parents and professionals as they work with their young children, including “Hold Everything!” and “Making Sense of Early Intervention” through the Ohio Center for Deafblind Education and “Laptime and Lullabies” through the American Printing House for the Blind.

Register online at: [myQuickReg - March 18, 2022 Workshop Registration Link](#). Immediate confirmation will arrive at the email address submitted. If a confirmation does not arrive, email Gail Jankowski to confirm the registration.

This training is funded with a grant from MDE using federal funding, CFDA 84.027A, Special Education - Grants to States. This event does not necessarily represent the policy of the federal Department of Education or the state Department of Education. You should not assume endorsement by the federal or state government.