

EDUCATOR TRAINING MENU

Rachel Franz, M.Ed. | Twig & Thread Consulting
www.twigandthread.com | rachel@twigandthread.com
802-598-4556



All workshops feature:

- Anti-bias, racial/social equity lens applied to all trainings
- Active learning-style workshops meet differing learning needs
- STARS hours for providers (state-approved MERIT Trainer)
- Customized training based on your organization's context and needs

(Note: Custom workshops available. This menu is subject to change at will to meet community and trainer's needs. Keynotes available upon request).

For Every Educator

- **Implicit Bias in Preschool:** This workshop invites educators to explore tools for uncovering their hidden biases across many aspects of identity, to learn about the impact of that bias, and to apply it to their work with children. Participants will engage in self-reflection and problem-solving around common instances of bias and will come away with new strategies for 'checking themselves' in the context of the classroom. Come ready to be vulnerable *(Recommended duration: 3 hours | Set up: Round tables | Materials needed: A/V Setup).*
- **The Image of the Child: Building an Education for Children, not Adults:** What do we want for the children who enter our programs? What do children want? Using principles from social progressive education theories, this workshop helps educators to remember the "why" behind what they do and how we set up experiences for young children. Participants will come away with a greater sense of purpose for their work as well as some tools for thinking critically and reflectively throughout the school year *(Recommended duration: 3 hours | Set up: Round tables | Materials needed: A/V Setup).*
- **Cultivating Little Consumers: Using Picture Books to Address Materialism in Young Children:** Did you know that many preschoolers already believe that clothes, tech, and toys are a part of their identity and self-worth? This workshop introduces picture books as a tool for helping children to develop critical thinking skills around what they want versus need, what they think about their bodies, and strategies for non-material self-worth. Participants will engage with some of their favorite stories and become critical thinkers themselves in how they read books with young children *(Recommended duration: 1-4 hours | Set up: Round tables | Materials needed: A/V Setup).*
- **Beyond the Marshmallow Test: Supporting Delay of Gratification in Preschoolers:** Let's face it- waiting for what you want is hard; as we grow, we need to develop skills in order to resist temptation on a regular basis. Yet, with the abundance of technology, children

are less likely than ever to be able to cope with disappointment and to control their impulses, which can lead to issues later like addiction, social rejection, and lack of work ethic. This workshop explores the importance of “delay of gratification” and offers strategies for how to promote self-regulation and impulse control in an “instant gratification world” (*Recommended duration: 1.5 hours | Set up: Round tables | Materials needed: A/V Setup*).



Outdoor Learning

- **Can You Write in the Rain? Reframing Materials to Enhance Learning Outdoors:** Without a building, supplies can get wet, muddy, or blown away! Explore how to reframe traditional materials for use in your outdoor space and discover innovative tools and manipulatives. Meet standards and children’s developmental needs, including physical, cognitive, literacy, math, and creative arts, while overcoming the challenges of the elements (*Recommended duration: 1.5-3 hours | Set up: Round tables | Materials needed: A/V Setup*).
- **No Walls? No Problem: Addressing Barriers to Getting Kids Outside:** Nature is a crucial element in a preschooler’s learning experience, but there are many barriers to truly getting children outdoors. This session explores those barriers to access—including gear, equipment, fear/anxiety, socio-cultural context—and seeks to reframe them into manageable challenges that can be overcome. Participants will see examples from an innovative all-outdoor preschool in Seattle, WA and be challenged to get out of their comfort zone and create a plan to spend a whole day outside. Participants will come away from this session with a personalized Action Plan for how they can advocate for increased outdoor time for their preschoolers to families, administrators, and co-workers (*Recommended duration: 1.5-3 hours | Set up: Round tables | Materials needed: A/V Setup*).
- **Intentional Teaching Outside: Rewriting the Potential of “Recess:”** Whether your outdoor space is a lush forest, a busy neighborhood, or a school playground, nature always offers fascinating and imaginative opportunities for STEAM learning. But how do we tie curriculum to outdoor play? This workshop takes up that question through hands-on activities, discussion, and examples from practitioners (*Recommended duration: 1.5-3 hours | Set up: Round tables | Materials needed: A/V Setup*).
- **Preschool in the Park: Anti-Bias, Community-Based Education Outdoors:** Urban parks provide preschool-age children with amazing opportunities for engaging in social and environmental justice. With examples from an all-outdoor urban preschool, we will explore children’s experiences in urban spaces as a platform for anti-bias education in this session (*Recommended duration: 1.5-3 hours | Set up: Round tables | Materials needed: A/V Setup*).

HighScope Series



- **Starting the Year with HighScope:** The first 8 weeks of school are essential for creating a classroom community and supporting students in joining your program—and often, there’s a lot of pressure to get it right! So, what parts of HighScope do we really need to think about before school starts? This workshop helps participants create an action plan for how they will implement HighScope during the first weeks of school while prioritizing the classroom community and keeping it manageable (*Recommended duration: 3-6 hours | Set up: Round tables | Materials needed: A/V Setup*).
- **The Child-Centered Learning Environment:** Using the core characteristics of a HighScope Learning Environment, this workshop focuses on how to use our class spaces as a tool for reflecting the specific students in our programs and to support children in becoming contributing members of the community. Participants will explore the HighScope Learning Environment elements through discussion, lecture, and hands-on activities and will apply anti-bias and cultural relevancy principles to their own learning environments as they reflect and create a plan for transformation of their own spaces (*Recommended duration: 2-6 hours | Set up: Round tables | Materials needed: A/V Setup*).
- **Scientific Method with Preschoolers: Science in a HighScope Classroom:** Children are natural scientists when they play. Learn how the Scientific Method shows up across the daily routine and how to scaffold scientific language and experiences for young children in this hands-on workshop (*Recommended duration: 3-4 hours | Set up: Round tables | Materials needed: A/V Setup*).
- **The Hundred Languages of Children: Combining Reggio & HighScope during Small Group Time:** This workshop uses open-ended, hands-on exploration to introduce participants to *The Hundred Languages of Children*, a concept by Lois Malaguzzi, founder of the Reggio Emilia Approach. The *Hundred Languages* idea can be adapted to HighScope and is especially useful for Small Group Time (SGT). Participants will come away with new SGT ideas, strategies for finding learning opportunities in open-ended materials, and perhaps a creation of their own (*Recommended duration: 3 hours | Set up: Round tables | Materials needed: A/V Setup*).
- **Participating in Play: Interacting to Support Children:** Early education is all about connecting with your inner child. Explore the concepts behind HighScope’s Principles of Adult-Child Interaction while connecting to the importance of play in this fun, hands-on workshop (*Recommended duration: Full day | Set up: Round tables | Materials needed: A/V Setup*).
- **The HighScope Daily Routine for Busy Practitioners:** Why is a consistent daily routine important? How can I make sure my schedule is flexible enough to follow children’s

needs? What can I do to keep my students engaged during Small Group Time? Learn about all components of a HighScope Daily Routine and apply them to your own setting through hands-on practice and discussion. This workshop is offered as a condensed one-day training, or it can be broken into a series of 3 hour workshops (Intro to the Daily Routine, Small Group Time, Large Group Time, Greeting Time, Transitions, Plan-Do-Review, Outside Time). *(Recommended duration: Series | Set up: Round tables | Materials needed: A/V Setup).*



- **The “Good Job” Dilemma: Praise v. Encouragement:** Stickers, prizes, and the classic “good job” phrase are part of how many of us were parented and taught. But, research tells us that in order for children to be motivated on their own, they need a different type of support. This workshop helps participants to distinguish between “praise” and “encouragement” through fun, interactive practice and planning. *(Recommended duration: 1.5-3 hours | Set up: Round tables | Materials needed: A/V Setup).*

Fee information and other financial considerations:

1.5 hour, Half-Day Trainings: Part-day trainings with 100 miles of Seattle are available at a rate of \$400/hr, inclusive of materials and travel costs. Additional travel costs apply to non-local trainings. A non-refundable \$100 deposit and signed contract are required to hold all dates. The deposit is placed towards the balance due. The balance due is payable on or before the event date or late fees of 5% per day will be applied.

One Day Trainings (6 hours+): Daily all-inclusive rate of \$3200.00 (inclusive of all travel expenses, coordination time, presentation time, and all materials). A non-refundable \$1000.00 deposit and a signed contract are required to hold all dates. The deposit is placed towards the balance due. The balance due is payable on or before the event date or late fees of 5% per day will be applied.

Multi-Day Trainings: Two+ day trainings are available at a daily rate of \$2700 (inclusive of all travel expenses, coordination time, presentation time, and all materials). A non-refundable \$1000.00 deposit and a signed contract are required to hold all dates. The deposit is placed towards the balance due. The balance due is payable on or before the event date or late fees of 5% per day will be applied.

Keynotes & Lecture-Style Sessions: Keynote presentations are available upon request. Please contact us for more details.

Payment Methods: We accept check, PayPal, bank transfer and credit cards for payment. The Booking Party is responsible for any bank/wire transfer/PayPal fees. Additionally, a 2% charge will be added for any credit card payment over \$1500 USD. Checks must be made out to: Twig & Thread Consulting. Please note: rates above refer to workshops held in the U.S. (including AK & HI) and Canada. If you have international inquiries, please contact us.



Cancellation: Cancellation offers a refund, less the \$1000 deposit. Cancellation once Rachel is in transit for the event requires payment in full. Additional cancellation and rescheduling details are outlined in the presentation agreement.

Do you have a non-profit discount? Yes, non-profit and social justice organizations benefit from a 10% discount on the fee. Deposit requirements still apply. If you're looking at my rates and thinking "there's no way we can afford this," contact me anyway and we'll work together!

How do I reserve a date? Contact us via email at rachel@twigandthread.com!