Shining Stars
Charting the Future for Today's Children

Virginia's Second Annual Early Childhood Conference

July 20–22, 2005
Doubletree Hotel • Charlottesville VA

Sponsored Collaboratively by
• The Virginia Department of Education
• The Virginia Department of Education’s Training and Technical Assistance Centers
• The Partnership for People with Disabilities
• Virginia Division for Early Childhood

Location and Lodging
The conference will be held at the Doubletree Hotel, 990 Hilton Heights Road, Charlottesville, Virginia. A block of lodging rooms has been reserved at a special rate of $60 (single/double) at the Doubletree Hotel. To make reservations, call the hotel at 1(800)-494-9467 by June 20 to receive the conference rate. Be sure to mention that you are attending the Shining Stars Conference.

Who Should Attend
• Early Childhood Special Educators
• Early Childhood Educators
• Paraprofessionals
• Head Start, Title I and Even Start Providers
• Childcare Providers
• Administrators
• Families
• Virginia Preschool Initiative
• Related Service Providers
• Early Interventionists

This statewide summer conference is for individuals who support infants, toddlers and preschoolers with and without disabilities. This year’s conference focuses on inclusion.

Topic strands include the following:
• Assessment
• Collaboration
• Curriculum
• Instructional Strategies
• Cultural Diversity

The conference will also feature a variety of vendors and displays!

For More Information
For further information about the conference, contact Jane Todd at 540-231-2014, or e-mail: janetodd@vt.edu.

Featured Speakers
Jan Moss is the Director of Community Leadership and Advocacy at the Center for Learning and Leadership, Oklahoma’s Center for Excellence in Developmental Disabilities. At the Center, she provides technical assistance and training to families, professionals, and agencies. She is Core Faculty for the Oklahoma LEND, Maternal Child Health Interdisciplinary Leadership initiative, OU Department of Pediatrics. She coordinates the training and involvement of family members and self advocates as faculty in course work. She is a frequent presenter at local, state, and national conferences (over 75 in the last four years), has written articles for interdisciplinary publications, and is currently co-authoring a guide for families of children with developmental disabilities with Dr. Mark Wolraich, a developmental pediatrician. Jan Moss is a consultant on family-supportive, self-determining practices and serves on state, regional and national committees. Jan Moss is a caregiver! She is the parent of two adult children with developmental disabilities.

Mara Sapon-Shevin is Professor of Education in the Teaching and Leadership Division of the School of Education at Syracuse University. She teaches in the University’s Inclusive Elementary and Special Education Teacher Education Program that prepares teachers for inclusive, heterogeneous classrooms. This program was the first in the United States to break down the barriers between general education and special education at the level of teacher preparation. The students who graduate from this program are dual-certified in elementary and special education and are prepared to serve as resources and advocates for more inclusionary schooling. She is active in working with schools to promote the full inclusion of all students and the creation of cooperative school communities. She frequently consults with districts that are attempting to move towards more inclusive schools, providing workshops and support for teachers and administrators. She has also served as an expert witness in several due process hearings related to students with disabilities. Mara is a frequent keynote speaker at conferences on inclusion, cooperative learning, and multicultural education.
Experiences through Active Play

- L.E.A.P. into FUN! Learning

Inclusion Project: The Routines-Based Approach for Preschoolers

Requests for refunds will be honored when received seven calendar days prior to the program. However, another person may be substituted at any time for this program. A $15 administrative fee will be deducted for cancellations. In the unlikely event that this program is cancelled or postponed due to insufficient enrollment, the university will fully refund registration fees but cannot be held responsible for any other expenses, including cancellation or change charges assessed by airlines, hotels, travel agencies, or other organizations.