



Early Childhood Methodist Conference

Track B



A Training Event for
Teachers of Children Ages 0–6
Sponsored by
United Methodist Texas Conference Weekday Ministries

Thursday and Friday, February 1 & 2, 2018

Conference Location:
St. Luke's United Methodist Church
3471 Westheimer
Houston, Texas 77027

Key Note Speaker

Lisa Murphy



Thursday: Many Kinds of Smart!

Understanding the
Theory of Multiple Intelligences

Friday:

10 Little Hot Dogs Frying in the *What?!?!?*
Fingerplays songs and chants for transition
time, circle time or any time!

Lisa Murphy has been involved with early childhood education for over 20 years; teaching and working with children in various environments including Head Start, kindergarten, private preschools, family childcare, park and rec centers, group homes and many child care centers. Lisa is the founder and CEO of **Ooey Gooney, Inc.** where her mission is to assist in the transformation of the industry of early childhood education by offering 1) the best workshops and trainings; 2) the most up to date materials and resources; and 3) insightful conversations and connections through the power of social media. Lisa presents hundreds of workshops each year to both domestic and international audiences on various topics related to early childhood education.

Lisa has an M.Ed. in early childhood education from Champlain College in Vermont. She has authored four books, produced dozens of teacher training DVDs and is a popular keynote speaker at educational conferences. Lisa's standing-room-only seminars have become nationally known for their information, humor, inspiration and energetic delivery. Frequently asked if she has ever been a stand-up comic, Lisa practices what she preaches by blending the learning with the laughing.

Lisa collaborates with Jeff Johnson from Explorations Early Learning on various projects related to early childhood education, including hosting an annual UNConference and producing THE CHILD CARE BAR AND GRILL podcast – which releases two episodes a week to listeners around the globe. Lisa has become known for her ability to link hands-on activities to educational standards, her outspoken advocacy, and her commitment to creating child-centered, play-based early childhood environments. Her understanding of the importance of play is obvious in her personal and professional life.

Registration Information

1. Registration is ONLINE and participants will be able to choose from many workshops! Online payment is a new feature this year.
2. Priority is given to Methodist programs. Online registration begins December 5th for Methodist programs and December 12th for all other programs. Please be prompt with registration, as some workshops will fill early.
3. Participants must be registered individually. Directors may register each staff member or allow teachers to register themselves.
4. Cost per participant is **\$85**. Payment may be made for individuals via Paypal or credit card. An entire staff may register and request to pay via check. The school may submit one check that covers all participants. To ensure that we post your payment correctly, please include the Account Summary of each participant when paying via check. Please make your check payable to ECMC Houston and mail it to the address below.
5. After January 12, 2018, the cost to register increases to \$100.
6. Mailed checks must be postmarked by Monday, January 15, 2018. If your check is not received on time, participants may not be able to attend the conference.
7. Please be sure to contact the registrars, Josette Horaist and Debra Fischer, if you have any questions or problems. Their contact information is listed below.

To Register:

1. Go to our website at <http://www.ecmchouston.com>.
2. Locate your school on the Register page.
3. Choose from:
Conference Registration Advanced Track Registration Directors' Track Registration
4. Choose your workshops and times for the two-day conference.
5. Add all workshops to cart.
6. When you are ready, proceed to check out. Here you will complete your registration information, which will include an email address and a password. **Each person registered will be required to have an email address and a password.**
7. Decide your method of payment and agree to the terms and conditions of registration.
8. **Please be sure to print your confirmed workshops for the conference as we are going paperless this year!**

Please send payment and direct all questions to the Registrars:

via mail:

ECMC c/o Debra Fischer
5501 Main Street
Houston, Texas 77004

via email:

ECMCregistrar@gmail.com

Details of the 2018 conference:

Lunches: The conference fee includes a morning snack and lunch each day plus two (2) drinks. Please note that ECMC is not able to provide for special dietary restrictions. If you have special dietary needs, feel free to bring your own lunch.

Speaker Credentials: All speakers presenting at ECMC 2018 meet the trainer qualifications required by TDFPS effective January 2012. Speaker qualifications are kept on file and can be provided to participants if requested.

Parking: Signage will direct you where to park. We encourage carpooling.

Visit our **website** for more conference information: <http://www.ecmc.com>

Please note: In case of conference cancellation due to inclement weather or other circumstances beyond our control, there will be no refunds. Registered participants will be offered a make-up day at no cost.

Conference Schedule 2018 Track B

Thursday		Friday
Registration, Vendors, & Sharing	8:00 – 8:30 a.m.	Vendors & Sharing
Welcome & Keynote	8:30 – 10:00 a.m.	Keynote
Break, Vendors, & Sharing	10:00 – 10:30 a.m.	Break, Vendors, & Sharing
Session 1	10:30 a.m. – noon	Session 3
Lunch, Vendors, & Sharing	noon – 1:00 p.m.	Lunch, Vendors, & Sharing
Session 2	1:00 – 2:30 p.m.	Session 4
PK Advanced Track (includes lunch) 10:30 a.m. – 2:30 p.m.		I/T Advanced Track (includes lunch) 10:30 a.m. – 2:30 p.m.
		Director's Track (includes lunch) 10:30 a.m. – 2:30 p.m.

Please notice that we have tightened the schedule to allow participants to complete 5 hours of training by 2:30 p.m. PLEASE REMEMBER TO USE ALL FREE TIME TO VISIT THE VENDORS AND THE SHARING ROOM. You receive training credit for these activities.

Early Childhood Methodist Conference Etiquette

The conference mission is to provide a quality, professional training experience for quality, professional Early Childhood Educators. Please remember to respectfully represent your school at all times.

- All attendees must arrange their own childcare. No children are allowed at the conference.
- Cell phones should be turned off during the Keynote and all training sessions.
- Beverages and food are not allowed in the Sanctuary.
- Keep in mind that all the "staff" at the conference are volunteers. Please be kind and speak to them respectfully.
- The clock hour certificate will be provided after the attendee has completed her/his evaluation of the conference online. This certificate is provided in good faith. Each attendee is honor bound to attend all required training sessions.

Sharing Exhibit 2018

Show your ECMC strength this year by joining in our Sharing Exhibit!

We are looking for documentation of excellent early childhood activities that illustrate one or more of the three core considerations of Developmentally Appropriate Practices:

- Knowing about child development and learning;
- Knowing what is individually appropriate; and
- Knowing what is culturally important.

Others will love seeing your successful ideas!

New This Year: Please document with photos and brief explanations on a tri-fold board.

NO props necessary.

All submissions must be accompanied by the Sharing Exhibit Description Form which has been sent to your program Director. Bring your trifold board to the SLUMC Fellowship Walk greeting desk on Thursday and pick it up at the close of the conference on Friday.

Questions may be emailed to Debbie Durkin, pandddurkin@att.net

Please Note: Sharing Exhibit contributors who meet all the criteria earn one clock hour of professional development credit!

We are stronger when we share!

Conference Workshops

#	Workshop	Presenter	Ages	Core Knowledge Area
B1	Groovy Geology!	Barbara Cargill	3 – K	Professional Practice, Methods, & Curriculum

Volcanoes, fossils, rock treasures, and dinosaurs! What more could an amateur paleontologist ask for? Experiments include making edible metamorphic rocks, fossil imprinting, digging treasures from sedimentary rock, core sampling the earth, erupting volcanoes, and excavating dinosaurs from ice. Your students will love geology when doing these hands-on experiments and activities!

Barbara Cargill is the Founder/Director of Wonders of the Woodlands Science Camp which just celebrated its 23rd year of offering summer camps, school outreach programs, and teacher professional development.

(www.wowsciencecamp.com) Barbara has an education degree from Baylor University and a graduate degree in science education from Texas Woman's University. Barbara's interest in creative learning for children and a love for science motivated her to found the WOW program in 1995. With over 1,200 children, 3 year olds through 4th grade, attending Science Camp each summer, Barbara brings a wealth of experience to professional development!

#	Workshop	Presenter	Ages	Core Knowledge Area
B2	What I learned as a therapist that I wish I had known as a teacher!	Casey Casteel	3 – K admin	Guidance

Teachers play many roles in the classroom! From a counselor's perspective, we will discuss new ways of understanding, managing and working with students. We will have the opportunity to learn ways to observe, understand, manage and refer challenging behaviors and ways of communicating with both parents and students to help provide a positive outcome.

Casey has an M.A. in professional counseling and works with children and families as a play therapist in a local private therapy practice. She is also an Elementary school counselor at an EC-12th private school. She has twenty years experience in the education field working in various fields from early childhood through middle school, the arts, special education and counseling.

#	Workshop	Presenter	Ages	Core Knowledge Area
B3	Science, Math & Literacy Through Cooking!	Courtney Challis	3 – K	Professional Practice, Methods, & Curriculum

Come and see how integrating cooking into your classroom can be educational, fun and easy! Let's talk about helping kids learn without them even realizing it! Bringing together literacy, science and math skills to create impactful hands-on learning experiences that taste great too!

Courtney currently teach Pre-K at St. Paul's School. She is certified to teach EC-4th grade and has also taught kindergarten & second grade. She recently completed the year long Story-Telling Project through Rice University. Her love for learning how kids learn and helping them to do so has led her to 17 years of experience working with children in various settings.

#	Workshop	Presenter	Ages	Core Knowledge Area
B4	Bounce from a Book: Creating Writing Experiences Inspired by Quality Children's Literature	Sharon Dworaczyk	PK & K	Professional Practice, Methods, & Curriculum

During this presentation, participants will be introduced to quality children's literature and ways to extend children's understanding of the written word. From class quilts to creative art experiences, find out ways to enhance children's literature that make the reading process a fun and engaging one.

Sharon Dworaczyk has worked with young toddlers through second grade age children for over twenty years. Her education background consists of an undergraduate degree in Elementary Education specializing in Early Childhood and English as a Second Language from Texas A & M University in College Station and a Master's degree in Early Childhood Education from the University of Houston, Clear Lake. She was trained in the Classroom Storytelling Project from the School Literacy and Culture from Rice University in 1996, and has continued with the project as a mentor teacher, seminar leader, and Special Projects Coordinator.

#	Workshop	Presenter	Ages	Core Knowledge Area
B5	Bringing God to Work	James Evans	all	Professional Practice, Methods, & Curriculum

How do we bring God to work? Pastor Evans will show us how to integrate spirituality into the work place. He will share insights into how to allow the spirit to help produce a healthy environment.

James is the founder and president of JC Ministries. He holds a B.A. in communications from the University of Houston - Downtown

#	Workshop	Presenter	Ages	Core Knowledge Area
B6	Ways to Intrinsically Motivate ALL Young Learners	Gayle Fisher, M. Ed., Tech.	T - K admin	Child Development

Self-Directed Learning (SDL) is the bridge between how we teach children (pedagogy) and how adults learn (andragogy). We will look at how you can offer young learners SDL, in-the-flow (Csikszentmihalyi) learning, and intrinsic motivation. This will help them take joy in learning, best insure transfer from short-term working memory into long-term memory, and increase meta-cognition (thinking about their thinking). This also works wonders in behavioral redirects and in assessments when expressive language and other typical tools fail to serve.

Gayle is a mom in the spectrum and an educator who continues to present workshops at LSC-M Academy of Lifelong Learning and out in the community. She helps run OurTrainingCenter.org & SpecialNeedsSibs.org, as well as write at IfWeLearnDifferently.com. She loves to collaborate, and surely speaks from her heart as well as from her experience.

#	Workshop	Presenter	Ages	Core Knowledge Area
B7	Full of Fun Keeping Our Lessons Playful	Janine R. Groth, M. Ed.	T – K admin	Professional Practice, Methods, & Curriculum

Because teachers have curriculum to cover, some lessons have lost the fun. Participants will examine why play is the most important, as well as effective, method of teaching. Activities need to be playful, purposeful and playful to reach our students on a daily basis. Research gives us the proof we need that learning happens for children through play, however teachers have an obligation to identify and create quality materials that teach. Research out of Eastern Connecticut State University has developed a toy study of TIMPANI (Toys That Inspire Mindful Play and Nurture Imagination) that gives teachers useful information to identify quality of play. Participants will leave understanding the stages and components of play in a hands-on, interactive environment.

Janine Groth has been in the Early Childhood Field for over 30 years. She has held many positions in ECE and is currently teaching at the college level. She operated a large NAEYC accredited center for almost 5 years and then moved to the higher education arena in 2005. Janine mentored teachers for a state research grant and worked in collaboration with many of the Houston and surrounding area school districts. Ms. Groth is an adjunct professor for University of Houston–Downtown, LoneStar College and Houston Community College. Janine was an active member of HAAEYC since 1997, finishing her tenure as V.P. of Programs in 2015. Since 1998, Janine has been a Master Level Registered Trainer through the state of Texas. She has trained nationally, regionally and locally for more than 20 years.

#	Workshop	Presenter	Ages	Core Knowledge Area
B8	Sing, Dance and Play the Winkie Way	Winkie Ballas Jamail	all	Professional Practice, Methods, & Curriculum

Let's sing, let's dance, let's play! No time for snoozing, I'll keep you moving. Everyone will receive free MP3's of the music we use in class. Be prepared to LAUGH, LAUGH, LAUGH!

Ms. Winkie taught preschool music for ten years, and she is currently freelance teaching Classroom Management, Diversified Instruction for K-12, and Music & Movement for preschool. www.prepareforclass.com

#	Workshop	Presenter	Ages	Core Knowledge Area
B9	Science Detectives: Birds, Spiders, and Insects	Aileen Kirkham	T – K	Professional Practice, Methods, & Curriculum

This make and take session includes lessons, recommended books, songs and other curriculum based activities.

Aileen is an author of children's works, Professional Storyteller PK-6, and Staff Development Presenter in Houston and area preschools and conferences.

#	Workshop	Presenter	Ages	Core Knowledge Area
B10	Play: The Springboard to Learning	Marlyn Kramer	3 – K admin	Professional Practice, Methods, & Curriculum

Is it really “just playing”? The participants of this workshop will discover the characteristics of play; the importance of play on the neurological and cognitive development of young children; and how play can foster problem-solving, premath, pre-reading, and science skills in the young child. Classroom management techniques to promote play and open-ended play manipulatives will also be introduced.

Marlyn Kramer is the Founder/CEO of ECE Training Dynamics, LLC, and a Master Registered Trainer (#3620) with the Texas Early Childhood Professional Development System. She holds a Master’s Degree in Early Childhood Education from the University of Texas and an undergraduate degree in ECE from Southwest Texas State University. Ms. Kramer is passionate about young children and incorporating developmentally appropriate practices in the early childhood classroom! Prior to her current position as a Pre-kindergarten teacher, she taught hearing impaired students for Hays ISD and 1st grade for Austin ISD.

#	Workshop	Presenter	Ages	Core Knowledge Area
B11	Classroom Activities to Foster Healthy Eating, Activity, and Family Routines	Laura Laine	T – K admin	Child Growth & Development

Overweight conditions now affect 25% of children ages 2–5 years. It has been shown that children in childcare were protected from overweight condition compared to those cared for by parents and relatives. This talk will discuss the causes of overweight in preschool children and offer ideas for classroom activities to foster healthy eating, activity, and family routines.

Laura Laine is a registered dietitian, spiritual director, and owner of Sophia Grace Center for Nutrition, Health and Spirituality. Laura worked at Texas Children’s Hospital for 22 years and served as Parish Administrator of St. Laurence Catholic Church for 8 years. She and her husband Greg have been married for 33 years and have 2 grown children who are both gourmet cooks!

#	Workshop	Presenter	Ages	Core Knowledge Area
B12	Touchable Literacy	Literacy Enrichment and Play	T – PK	Professional Practice, Methods, & Curriculum

Learn how to take your literacy lessons to the next level by creating an environment where all of the children’s senses are engaged. Providing a mix of open-ended and guided multi-sensory play materials enhances imagination and allows for children to invent and discover. During this workshop, teachers will learn the importance of multi-sensory learning, as well as how to apply it to their literacy lessons.

Wesley Gibson and Sarah Williams have a combined over twenty years of teaching experience in early childhood and elementary schools, as well as master degrees in education. Their passion for literacy led them to create Literacy Enrichment and Play, an enrichment program that aims to teach of love of literacy and learning in the early years. Wesley and Sarah continue to teach their literacy program throughout Houston schools, as well as train early childhood teachers using their multi-sensory/play methods.

#	Workshop	Presenter	Ages	Core Knowledge Area
B13	Together Time for Infants and Toddlers	Susan MacHugh	1 & T	Professional Practice, Methods, & Curriculum

Come and discover the importance of creating an age-appropriate setting for the youngest children. See how you can engage these children by designing an inviting and tranquil setting where infants and toddlers can come together to explore and learn through play. Learn how the singing bag, puppets, and musical activities become the necessary tools for making gathering time and transitions a fun and educational part of each school day.

Susan MacHugh has worked in the field of Early Childhood for over 30 years as a Preschool Founding Director/Head Teacher, Early Childhood Specialist, and Trainer with the Texas Early Childhood Professional Development System (TECPDS). She is the owner of The Singing Bag Solution and serves as a support group leader for the Kingwood/Humble/Atascocita Chapter of Attention Deficit Disorder–Southern Region (ADDA–SR).

#	Workshop	Presenter	Ages	Core Knowledge Area
B14	Sing Across Texas With Me: Greatest Hits	Devora Miller	3 – K	Professional Practice, Methods, & Curriculum

Celebrate the great state of Texas with songs and games that embrace our diverse culture. Rodeo, farm, and bilingual songs and activities will be included. Curriculum connections to reading, math, and social studies will be demonstrated. Come a ki yi yippy yippy yay!

Devora is the music specialist at The Briarwood School in Houston and has been sharing her love of music with children and educators for the past 27 years. She also teaches creative dramatics at Grace Presbyterian Church and is the found of Big Books That Sing!

#	Workshop	Presenter	Ages	Core Knowledge Area
B15	Let's Get Physical with Zoo-phonics!	Dana Schuetze	T –K admin	Professional Practice, Methods, & Curriculum

Come and experience how our animal friends can help you teach phonemic awareness, phonics and word blending using a multi-sensory, brain efficient approach. We will demonstrate how to incorporate Zoo-phonics throughout your day into small groups and/or literacy centers. This will be a fun and active session using music and movement.

I have taught for 35 years. I have taught in Montessori Preschools, public school Kindergarten, First Grade, Reading Specialist/Coach. In 2000, I left the classroom to begin my Educational Consulting business full time. I am a national presenter for Zoo-phonics. I set up and present my own full day workshops, as well as participate in conference session and exhibiting. I also work in classrooms helping teachers implement Zoo-phonics.

#	Workshop	Presenter	Ages	Core Knowledge Area
B16	Why They Do What They Do: Brain Development in Early Childhood	Tom Wilbeck, MA, LPC	I – PK	Child Growth & Development

3 key regions of the brain will be explored to understand why children act the way they do in various stages of development. Teachers will be challenged to look for typical childhood behaviors and shape their classroom to meet the needs of the developing child.

Tom Wilbeck is a Licensed Professional Counselor specializing in child and adolescent therapy. He is in private practice and mainly serves children in CPS custody. Tom is also known as “Mr. Tom” from Tom’s Fun Band, a top ranked children’s musical group.

Advanced Track

Designed for very experienced teachers, this is a 4 hour long workshop (including lunch) and will be offered on one day only. Participants will still go to the keynote address on the day they attend this workshop. If you choose the Advanced Track, please ensure that you ONLY attend the workshop that is relative to the age that you teach.

#	Workshop	Presenter	Ages	Core Knowledge Area
B17 AT/PK	Thursday: Meaningful Math for Young Minds	Chrissy Liverman	PK-K	Professional Practice, Methods, & Curriculum

Learn ways to foster the development of mathematical concepts and skills in a fun and meaningful way! We will discuss ways to enrich implementation so that strong mathematical foundations of learning are being formed in each of your students.

Chrissy Liverman is currently in her 17th year of teaching. She has taught kindergarten and first grade in Katy I.S. D. and she is currently teaching Transition at Holy Covenant Child Development Center. In her career, she has had the privilege to serve in the role as Lead Campus Mentor which allowed her to work directly with mentors to better support first year teachers. In 2005, she was awarded Teacher of the Year at McRoberts Elementary School. This past Fall, she had the honor and privilege to speak and train teachers at other schools.

#	Workshop	Presenter	Ages	Core Knowledge Area
B18 AT/IT	Friday: Nursery Rhymes with Infants, Toddlers, & Twos	Susan Meriwether	I & T	Professional Practice, Methods, & Curriculum

Children who listen and learn to rhyme become readers. Become aware of the importance of introducing nursery rhymes early and their influence on child development. Learn to use nursery rhymes as a teaching tool with infants, toddlers, and twos.

Susan has been in the field of early education for over 20 years and has a Masters degree with a Specialization in Working with Infants, Toddlers, and Families. Recently, she graduated from the Rice University’s School for Literature & Culture Early Literacy Leadership Academy (ELLA). She teaches two and three-year-old children at St. Francis Episcopal School.

Directors' Track

Designed for directors, this is a 4-hour long workshop (including lunch) and will be offered on Thursday only. Participants will still go to the keynote address on the day they attend this workshop.

Friday Directors' Track

#	Workshop	Presenters	Ages	Core Knowledge Area
B19 DT	Friday: Follow the Leader & Ask the Experts	Mark Lukert, Jodi Carroll, Anna Williamson, Janie Gallagher	admin	Professional Practice, Methods, & Curriculum

Mark Lukert will start us off with an inspiring workshop, Follow the Leader, where he will discuss how as school leaders you instigate, facilitate, evaluate, delegate, and most importantly CELEBRATE! Leading your school by example is of utmost importance. He will share team-building ideas that focus on valuing your teachers, and building your staff through the intentional use of team-builders and motivators.

Following the lunch together, you will have an opportunity to "ask the experts." We've brought together a panel of experts moderated by Jodi Carroll, Director of Holy Covenant Child Development Center. Our experts include: Mark Lukert (retired principal and national leadership speaker), Anna Williamson (Infant/Toddler Team Leader and Assessment Coordinator, St. Luke's Day School), and Janie Gallagher (Human Resource Manager, St. Luke's United Methodist Church)

Make sure you come ready to do some shopping!

This year, the vendors will be in the

The Activity Center