

## **Burnaby Start UP! Series 2015 Primary Workshop Descriptions:**

*Start Up! K/1 sessions in Burnaby (note: some minor changes are still possible)*

### **Sunday August 30<sup>th</sup> - Day 1**

#### **Play Based learning in K/1 -**

**Sheri Brattston**

Play, when choreographed thoughtfully, is one of the most powerful learning contexts available. In the hands of a skilled teacher, play is a rich laboratory that can be used to teach multiple concepts simultaneously (*Full Day Kindergarten Program Guide, British Columbia*). In this **full day workshop**, participants will explore play and its profound importance for learning and brain development. While moving through the "Shape of a K/1 Day", participants will discuss their images of a child, investigate the concept of playful inquiry, and examine the role of a teacher. There will also be an opportunity to explore play-based materials that support children's innate curiosity and sense of wonder.

### **Monday August 31<sup>st</sup> - Day 2**

#### **The Learning Environment in K/1 –**

**Sheri Brattston** (morning), **Fiona Morrison** –(aft)

Children's learning thrives when they are in environments where learning occurs in meaningful contexts and they are encouraged to follow personal interests. During the morning, participants will have an opportunity to discuss the learning environment as a third teacher, capable of provoking wonder, curiosity and intellectual engagement. Participants will also explore various aspects of the curriculum where materials will be arranged as "invitations" that encourage playful inquiry and help children articulate their questions and make sense of their discoveries.

During the afternoon, we will use puppets and authentic Aboriginal texts to explore storytelling as a powerful learning tool. We will be guided and informed by First peoples Principles of learning.

A wide range of Aboriginal Resources, helpful lesson plans and websites will be shared.

## Tuesday September 1<sup>st</sup> - Day 3

### **Components of a Joyful Early Literacy Program: Every Child Every Day – Jennifer King and Fiona Morrison**

In this **full day session**, participants will examine the “what “why “and “how “ of a joyful balanced literacy program.

Meaningful circle/opening activities, Morning Message, Interactive writing, and Shared reading will all be explored.

A segment on “Thinking Together About Books” will provide participants with 10 interactive read alouds to start off their year with excitement and joy. We will focus on starting up your writing program in developmentally appropriate ways and share some wonderful word wall activities. Establishing engaging literacy centres that provide authentic literacy experiences will be a focus.

We will look at small group reading instruction – what is appropriate and when, sharing tips on establishing a cozy classroom library that engages all learners.

## Saturday September 12<sup>th</sup> - Day 4

### **Authentic Assessment: How do we know how our children are doing? – Jennifer King and Fiona Morrison**

In this **morning session** we will examine a range of authentic assessment practices that are manageable for the beginning teacher. We will provide support and resources to address the following questions:

- How do we get to know the strengths of each child?
- What are we looking for in terms of young children's development?
- What are some tools and resources that can help?

Learning together - we all belong!

**In the afternoon** we will model a few whole group lessons that can be adapted and used during the first few weeks of school. These lessons will start from a shared literacy experience and flow into follow up sensory centres.

We will provide time for reflection and next steps planning, with feedback and guided support from the facilitators.

**To register go to <http://bit.ly/startupreg>**