

mccormick center for early childhood leadership

mccormick center for early childhood leadership is a nationally recognized organization dedicated to advancing leadership in the early childhood education field. Established with the mission to enhance the quality of early childhood programs through leadership development, the McCormick Center plays a pivotal role in shaping the skills and capacities of early childhood professionals. This article explores the center's history, core programs, resources, and impact on early childhood leadership. Additionally, it highlights how the McCormick Center supports professional growth and advocates for leadership excellence in early care and education. Understanding the center's offerings and influence provides valuable insight into the critical role leadership plays in early childhood settings. The following sections present a detailed overview of the McCormick Center for Early Childhood Leadership.

- History and Mission of the McCormick Center for Early Childhood Leadership
- Core Programs and Services
- Professional Development and Leadership Training
- Research and Resources
- Impact on Early Childhood Education

History and Mission of the McCormick Center for Early Childhood Leadership

The McCormick Center for Early Childhood Leadership was founded to address the growing need for skilled leadership in early childhood education settings. Its mission centers on elevating the quality of leadership to improve outcomes for young children and their families. By focusing on developing competent, confident leaders, the center aims to transform early childhood programs nationwide. The organization operates as part of a university-based institute, which reinforces its commitment to research-driven practices and educational excellence. Over the years, the McCormick Center for Early Childhood Leadership has become a vital resource for early childhood administrators, directors, and policymakers seeking to enhance leadership capacity.

Founding Principles and Objectives

The founding principles of the McCormick Center emphasize leadership as a cornerstone of quality early childhood education. The center's objectives include providing comprehensive leadership development, fostering continuous learning, and advocating for policies that support effective leadership. These principles guide all aspects of the center's work, ensuring alignment with best practices and the evolving needs of the early childhood sector.

Organizational Structure and Partnerships

The McCormick Center functions within an academic framework, leveraging partnerships with government agencies, professional organizations, and early childhood programs. These collaborations enhance the center's ability to deliver impactful leadership resources and shape the national conversation on early childhood leadership.

Core Programs and Services

The McCormick Center for Early Childhood Leadership offers a variety of programs and services designed to build leadership skills and support professional growth. These initiatives target early childhood directors, administrators, and aspiring leaders, providing practical tools and training to improve program management and child outcomes. The center's offerings are research-based and tailored to meet the diverse challenges faced by early childhood professionals.

Leadership Credential and Certification Programs

One of the hallmark services of the McCormick Center is its leadership credential program. This certification is nationally recognized and validates the knowledge and skills necessary for effective early childhood program leadership. The credential program includes multiple levels, allowing participants to progress as they gain experience and expertise. It covers key areas such as program administration, staff supervision, fiscal management, and family engagement.

Training Workshops and Online Courses

To accommodate different learning preferences and schedules, the McCormick Center offers both in-person workshops and online courses. These training sessions focus on critical leadership topics, including organizational development, communication strategies, and compliance with licensing regulations. The accessibility of these educational opportunities ensures widespread participation among early childhood leaders.

Consultation and Technical Assistance

The center also provides consultation services to programs seeking to enhance leadership capacity or address specific challenges. Technical assistance may involve on-site visits, customized training, or strategic planning support. This hands-on approach helps early childhood programs implement effective leadership practices and sustain continuous improvement.

Professional Development and Leadership Training

Professional development is a core focus of the McCormick Center for Early Childhood Leadership. The center emphasizes ongoing education and skill-building to prepare leaders for the complexities of managing early childhood programs. Its leadership training initiatives are designed to cultivate competencies that contribute to program quality and staff retention.

Competency Frameworks and Leadership Standards

The McCormick Center has developed comprehensive competency frameworks that define the knowledge, skills, and dispositions essential for early childhood leaders. These leadership standards serve as a foundation for training curricula and evaluation tools, guiding professional development efforts across the field.

Leadership Academies and Cohort Programs

In addition to credentialing and workshops, the center organizes leadership academies and cohort-based programs. These immersive experiences foster peer learning, mentorship, and networking among early childhood professionals. Participants engage in collaborative problem-solving and leadership practice, reinforcing their ability to effect positive change in their programs.

Support for Emerging Leaders

The McCormick Center recognizes the importance of nurturing emerging leaders in early childhood education. Specialized training and resources are available to individuals transitioning into leadership roles, helping them build confidence and competence. This support contributes to a pipeline of skilled leaders ready to meet future challenges in the field.

Research and Resources

The McCormick Center for Early Childhood Leadership is also a hub for research and resource development focused on leadership in early childhood settings. It produces evidence-based materials that inform practice, policy, and professional development initiatives. The center's research efforts contribute to the knowledge base on effective leadership strategies and their impact on program quality.

Publications and Toolkits

The center publishes a wide range of materials including leadership guides, assessment tools, and best practice toolkits. These resources are designed to assist early childhood leaders in implementing effective management strategies and improving program operations. The practical nature of these publications makes them valuable assets for both novice and experienced administrators.

Leadership Assessment Instruments

To support continuous improvement, the McCormick Center offers leadership assessment instruments that help programs evaluate leadership effectiveness. These tools provide feedback on strengths and areas for development, enabling targeted professional growth. Assessments are aligned with the center's competency frameworks and leadership standards.

Research Initiatives and Collaborations

The center actively engages in research initiatives that explore the relationship between leadership practices and early childhood program outcomes. Collaborations with academic institutions and policy organizations enhance the scope and impact of these studies. Findings from this research inform the center's programs and contribute to sector-wide improvements.

Impact on Early Childhood Education

The McCormick Center for Early Childhood Leadership has made a significant impact on the quality and sustainability of early childhood education across the United States. By prioritizing leadership development, the center helps ensure that early childhood programs are effectively managed and responsive to children's developmental needs. Its influence extends to policy, practice, and professional standards within the field.

Enhancing Program Quality

Strong leadership is directly linked to improved program quality, and the McCormick Center's initiatives have helped countless programs strengthen their leadership capacity. Effective leaders contribute to better staff performance, positive learning environments, and increased family engagement, all of which benefit children's experiences and outcomes.

Building a Leadership Pipeline

Through credentialing, training, and support for emerging leaders, the McCormick Center fosters a robust pipeline of qualified early childhood leaders. This pipeline is essential for meeting the growing demand for skilled administrators and for sustaining quality in the early childhood sector over time.

Influencing Policy and Advocacy

The center's research and expertise inform policy discussions related to early childhood leadership. By advocating for leadership development as a priority, the McCormick Center helps shape funding, licensing, and workforce initiatives that support effective program administration.

Key Contributions of the McCormick Center for Early Childhood Leadership

- Development of nationally recognized leadership credential programs
- Provision of accessible professional development and training resources
- Creation of leadership competency frameworks and assessment tools

- Influential research contributing to evidence-based leadership practices
- Support for emerging and established early childhood leaders

Frequently Asked Questions

What is the McCormick Center for Early Childhood Leadership?

The McCormick Center for Early Childhood Leadership is a nationally recognized organization dedicated to improving the quality of early childhood education by providing leadership development, training, and resources for early childhood professionals.

Where is the McCormick Center for Early Childhood Leadership located?

The McCormick Center for Early Childhood Leadership is located at National Louis University in Chicago, Illinois.

What types of leadership training does the McCormick Center offer?

The Center offers various leadership training programs including online courses, workshops, coaching, and professional development opportunities focused on early childhood education leadership and management.

Who founded the McCormick Center for Early Childhood Leadership?

The McCormick Center was founded by Dr. Sue Bredekamp, a renowned expert in early childhood leadership and education.

How does the McCormick Center support early childhood educators?

The Center supports early childhood educators by providing leadership development resources, competency frameworks, research-based best practices, and tools to enhance program quality and professional growth.

What is the National Early Childhood Program Accreditation (NECPA) and how is it related to the McCormick Center?

NECPA is a program accreditation system that promotes quality in early childhood programs. It was developed by the McCormick Center to help programs improve and demonstrate excellence in

leadership and administration.

Does the McCormick Center offer any certification programs?

Yes, the McCormick Center offers certification programs such as the Certified Child Care Professional (CCCCP) and the Early Childhood Program Administrator Credential to recognize and validate leadership skills in early childhood education.

How can one access resources or training from the McCormick Center?

Resources and training from the McCormick Center can be accessed through their official website, which offers online courses, downloadable materials, and information about upcoming workshops and events.

Additional Resources

1. Leadership in Early Childhood: The McCormick Center Approach

This book explores the core principles and practices promoted by the McCormick Center for Early Childhood Leadership. It offers practical strategies for early childhood educators to develop effective leadership skills and improve program quality. With case studies and real-world examples, it serves as a comprehensive guide for those aspiring to lead in early childhood settings.

2. Building Strong Foundations: Early Childhood Leadership and Program Management

Focusing on the essential components of leadership and program management, this book draws extensively from the McCormick Center's research and training models. Readers will gain insights into creating supportive environments, fostering professional development, and implementing quality improvement initiatives. It is ideal for directors and administrators aiming to enhance their leadership capacity.

3. Transforming Early Childhood Programs Through Leadership

This title emphasizes the transformative role of effective leadership in early childhood education, reflecting the McCormick Center's mission. It highlights strategies for motivating staff, engaging families, and advocating for children's needs. The book provides tools to build collaborative teams and promote continuous program improvement.

4. Early Childhood Leadership: Competencies and Best Practices

Based on the McCormick Center's leadership competency framework, this book outlines key leadership skills required for success in early childhood settings. It covers communication, ethical decision-making, and community engagement. Practical exercises and reflective questions help readers apply these competencies in their daily work.

5. Quality Improvement in Early Childhood Education: A Leadership Perspective

This book addresses the challenges and opportunities of leading quality improvement efforts in early childhood programs. Drawing on the McCormick Center's expertise, it offers guidance on data-driven decision making, staff coaching, and creating a culture of excellence. It is an essential resource for program leaders committed to continuous growth.

6. Advocacy and Leadership in Early Childhood Education

Highlighting the advocacy role of early childhood leaders, this book connects leadership skills with policy and community engagement. Inspired by the McCormick Center's advocacy initiatives, it provides strategies for influencing public policies and securing resources. Readers learn how to be effective voices for children and families.

7. Leading with Emotional Intelligence in Early Childhood Settings

This book explores the importance of emotional intelligence in leadership roles within early childhood education. Incorporating research and practices from the McCormick Center, it offers techniques for self-awareness, empathy, and conflict resolution. Leaders will find valuable tools to build positive workplace relationships and support staff well-being.

8. Professional Development and Leadership Growth in Early Childhood

Focusing on ongoing professional growth, this book details methods for fostering leadership development among early childhood educators. It integrates McCormick Center training models and emphasizes mentoring, reflective practice, and career pathways. This resource supports leaders in cultivating a skilled and motivated workforce.

9. Effective Communication for Early Childhood Leaders

Communication is a vital leadership skill, and this book provides practical approaches tailored to the early childhood context. Drawing on the McCormick Center's frameworks, it covers active listening, conflict management, and family engagement. Leaders will learn how to create open channels of communication that enhance collaboration and trust.

McCormick Center For Early Childhood Leadership

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mccormick center for early childhood leadership: Early Childhood Leadership Lynn Marotz, 2021-04-15 Early Childhood Leadership: Motivation, Inspiration, Empowerment is a must-have book for anyone who occupies a leadership position (e.g., administrator, director, coordinator, team leader, manager, lead teacher) or anticipates doing so in the future. It addresses one of the most challenging workplace issues facing employers today—the ability to encourage employees' creativity, productivity, and long-term commitment to an organization. Studies consistently show that low employee morale and high turnover rates are common in early childhood programs and, in turn, affect the quality of services provided for children and families. Unfortunately, strategies used by many supervisors to guide and manage employee behavior often contribute to employee dissatisfaction and attrition. A sound understanding of motivational theory and skills (e.g., communication, leadership, team-building, decision-making) enables effective leaders to create positive work environments, boost employee morale, and encourage positive performance. When employees believe their efforts are being acknowledged and valued, they are less likely to leave their jobs—an additional and important benefit—especially in the field of early childhood education.

mccormick center for early childhood leadership: Five Elements of Collective Leadership for Early Childhood Professionals Cassandra O'Neill, Monica Brinkerhoff, 2017-12-05 Collective

leadership is based on shared decision-making, transparency, and involving the people affected by change in the process. Current research shows that a collective approach to leadership is advantageous to organizations and Five Elements of Collective Leadership for Early Childhood Professionals helps teachers, providers, administrators, and system change leaders think differently about opportunities available to lead, and incorporate a collective approach into programs.

mccormick center for early childhood leadership: Professional and Ethical Consideration for Early Childhood Leaders Cunningham, Denise D., 2020-06-19 Early childhood educators are keenly aware of the importance of a child's transition to "real school." This transition is occurring earlier in a child's life now that school districts nationwide are moving to pre-kindergarten experiences for 3- and 4-year olds. Annually, more than one million children attend public school pre-k programs overseen by elementary school principals who, although veteran educational leaders, were not trained to oversee these programs. Although pre-k classrooms are rapidly growing and deserve special attention, school leaders must be reminded that early childhood means more than pre-kindergarten; it extends through third grade. School leadership needs to understand the principles of early childhood education to effectively support all children age three to grade three. Professional and Ethical Consideration for Early Childhood Leaders is a collection of innovative research that crafts an overall understanding of the importance of early childhood leadership in today's schools. The book employs strategies to improve support for children in early childhood years, examines the different roles of early childhood leadership, analyzes best practices for implementation in early childhood contexts, and explores improvements for leadership preparation for schools with pre-k through third-grade children. While highlighting a wide range of topics including advocacy, cultural responses, and professional development, this publication is ideally designed for educators, administrators, principals, early childhood development teachers, daycare instructors, curriculum developers, advocates, researchers, academicians, and students.

mccormick center for early childhood leadership: The SAGE Encyclopedia of Contemporary Early Childhood Education Donna Couchenour, J. Kent Chrisman, 2016-03-15 The general public often views early childhood education as either simply babysitting or as preparation for later learning. Of course, both viewpoints are simplistic. Deep understanding of child development, best educational practices based on development, emergent curriculum, cultural competence and applications of family systems are necessary for high-quality early education. Highly effective early childhood education is rare in that it requires collaboration and transitions among a variety of systems for children from birth through eight years of age. The SAGE Encyclopedia of Contemporary Early Childhood Education presents in three comprehensive volumes advanced research, accurate practical applications of research, historical foundations and key facts from the field of contemporary early childhood education. Through approximately 425 entries, this work includes all areas of child development - physical, cognitive, language, social, emotional, aesthetic - as well as comprehensive review of best educational practices with young children, effective preparation for early childhood professionals and policy making practices, and addresses such questions as: · How is the field of early childhood education defined? · What are the roots of this field of study? · How is the history of early childhood education similar to yet different from the study of public education? · What are the major influences on understandings of best practices in early childhood education?

mccormick center for early childhood leadership: Cultivating Leadership in Early Childhood Education and Care Leanne Gibbs, 2024-11-18 This book redefines leadership in early childhood education (ECE), offering fresh theoretical insights and practical approaches. Delving into the challenges of the workforce in the ECE sector, this book unravels the narrative of leadership development. It underscores the importance of leadership practices in maintaining process quality within ECE, which significantly impacts children's academic, emotional and social outcomes and life trajectories. The book presents novel conceptualisations of leadership, shedding light on factors that enable and constrain leadership development through the theoretical frameworks of complexity leadership theory and the theory of practice architectures. It also provides practical strategies for cultivating leadership within early childhood organisations. Through interviews and case studies, the

book brings to life the experiences of ECE leaders, amplifying important themes and experiences. This book is an invaluable read for educators and leaders around the world, providing inspiration and guidance for their leadership journey. It is also an empirically based must-read for lecturers and students in the higher education sector.

mccormick center for early childhood leadership: *The Visionary Director, Second Edition* Margie Carter, Deb Curtis, 2009-11-01 An inspiring and practical guide to creating a larger vision in early child care, this popular professional development tool has been thoroughly revised and offers a concrete framework for organizing an early childhood center director's ideas and work. Updated and expanded, it reflects new requirements and initiatives for center directors and addresses topics including cultivating a vision, developing systems thinking for management roles, implementing principles and strategies for mentoring, building a learning community for adults and children, and bringing visions to life. The Visionary Director provides directors with information to perform their jobs with motivation and creativity.

mccormick center for early childhood leadership: *The Wiley Handbook of Early Childhood Development Programs, Practices, and Policies* Elizabeth Votruba-Drzal, Eric Dearing, 2017-04-17 The first and only comprehensive review of current early childhood development theory, practices, policies, and the science behind them This unique and important book provides a comprehensive overview of the current theory, practices, and policies in early childhood development within the contexts of family, school, and community, and society at large. Moreover, it synthesizes scientifically rigorous research from an array of disciplines in an effort to identify the most effective strategies for promoting early childhood development. Research into childhood development is booming, and the scientific knowledge base concerning early childhood development is now greater than that of any other stage of the human life span. At the same time, efforts to apply that knowledge to early childhood practices, programs, and policies have never been greater or more urgent. Yet, surprisingly, until *The Handbook of Early Childhood Development Programs, Practices, and Policies*, there was no comprehensive, critical review of the applied science in the field. The book begins with in-depth coverage of child and family approaches. From there it moves onto a consideration of school- and community-based strategies. It concludes with a discussion of current social policies on health and development in early childhood and their implications. Provides a comprehensive overview of the state of the knowledge base, along with guidance for the future of the field Examines the underlying theory and basic science guiding efforts to promote early childhood development Critically reviews the strength of the empirical support for individual practices, programs, and policies Explores key opportunities and barriers policymakers and practitioners face when implementing various approaches Pays particular attention to socioeconomically disadvantaged and other disenfranchised populations *The Handbook of Early Childhood Development Programs, Practices, and Policies* is a valuable resource for practitioners, scholars, graduate students, and advanced undergraduate students across the social sciences who are interested in strengthening their understanding of current strategies for promoting early childhood development and the science informing those strategies.

mccormick center for early childhood leadership: *Handbook of Education Policy Research* Lora Cohen-Vogel, Peter Youngs, Janelle Scott, 2025-07-17 The second edition of the *Handbook of Education Policy Research*—the largest volume published in AERA's history—addresses a variety of policy and contextual issues in early childhood, K-12, and postsecondary education that have received extensive empirical attention during the past 15 years. With the pandemic and social turmoil as a backdrop, the editors build on the breadth and depth of the first edition while expanding the scope of the project to include subjects, methods, theories, and analyses that have contributed powerfully to the study of education policy and politics in the 2010s and 2020s. The field has become more comprehensive and inclusive, and the authors represent a diversity of racial/ethnic and gender identities and intellectual and disciplinary orientations. Most chapters come from multiple authors, reflecting the multi-sourced development of research in education policy since the first volume was published. This compilation consists of 70 chapters and nine commentaries that map past, present,

and future directions of the field and richly attend to critical issues of interest to students, researchers, policy makers, and practitioners.

mccormick center for early childhood leadership: The Impact of Digitalization in a Changing Educational Environment Arinushkina, Anna A., Morozov, Alexander V., Robert, Irena V., 2023-09-18 A resounding question from the world of education remains; who truly benefits from digitalization in education and does it why matter? Digital transformation brings about fundamental changes to the educational methodological base, ensuring access to a wide array of information in various forms, but often the potential drawbacks are not properly addressed. This can include weakened reasoning skills and shallow learning due to excessive reliance on visualized information. The Impact of Digitalization in a Changing Educational Environment showcases how digital transformation can lead to a high-quality restructuring of the entire educational system, while navigating potential pitfalls. Addressing the psychological and pedagogical aspects, the book emphasizes that the successful development of digital learning environments hinges on not only advanced technical resources but also competent support and supervision of educational process participants. Focusing on the impact of digitalization and digital transformation, this book brings to light the latest teaching methodologies, providing practical advice for managing the changes induced by digitalization in educational institutions. The findings presented are rooted in current practices developed by leading scholars, offering actionable recommendations for improving the lives of children, families, parents, and educators in this evolving educational landscape. Intended for a diverse readership, including policymakers, academics, educators, researchers, parents, school administrators, and the learning industry, this book also serves as an invaluable resource for further and continuing education lecturers. Its extensive coverage includes various fields like digital transformation, educational management, quality assessment, cross-cultural studies, distant learning, continuous professional development, and more.

mccormick center for early childhood leadership: Leading and Managing Early Childhood Settings Nadine Louise McCrea, 2015-05-26 Leading and Managing Early Childhood Settings: Inspiring People, Places and Practices examines what it means to be a leader, manager and administrator across the early childhood education field. The first section of the book introduces readers to core concepts, including self-understanding through professional reflection and consideration of people's beliefs and values. These chapters explore the challenges of working within various early childhood settings and the importance of connecting and communicating with families and the broader community. The second section considers four key roles that early childhood professionals undertake – team stakeholder, policy designer, pedagogy creator and rights advocate. This book challenges readers to make links across research, theories and everyday practices by thinking, reflecting, sharing with others and writing stories. The storytelling approach guides readers through the chapters and explores the themes of embodiment and sustainability. Leading and Managing Early Childhood Settings is an invaluable resource for pre- and in-service educators alike.

mccormick center for early childhood leadership: Investigating Water With Young Children (Ages 3-8) Beth Dykstra Van Meeteren, 2023 Water is a meaningful context for children to engage in inquiry and acquire and use science and engineering practices, such as developing spatial thinking and early concepts of water dynamics. This book shows teachers how to engage children with opportunities to engineer water movement through pouring and filling containers of various kinds and shapes, observing how water interacts with surfaces in large and small amounts, exploring how water can be moved, and using water to move objects. These experiences build a foundation that will support children's more complex study of this phenomena in later schooling, as well as encourage interest in STEM fields. The text provides guidance for arranging the physical, intellectual, social-emotional, and promotional environments of the early childhood classroom; for integrating literacy learning; and for building essential partnerships with administrators and families to enhance STEM learning for our youngest learners. Book Features: Introduces WaterWorks, an integrative STEM experience developed by young children, their teachers, and early childhood researchers.

Describes an approach that engages children in doing science and engineering, rather than teaching children about these fields. Offers children the opportunity to engage in STEM experiences every day in their classrooms alongside literacy learning. Illustrates ways to plan and use over ten types of engineering experiences appropriate for children ages 3–8. Includes guidance for documenting children's learning over time. Aligns to the Early Learning Outcomes Framework and the Next Generation Science Standards. Contributors: Allison Barness, Shelly L. Counsell, Lawrence Escalada, Judith Finkelstein, Linda Fitzgerald, Sherri Peterson, Jull Uhlenberg, and Wendy Miller. Praise for the STEM for Our Youngest Learners Series: "This series is an important addition to a very limited field of guides for teaching STEM to young learners. While activity books abound, this series, with its basis in constructivism and its use of an inquiry-based teaching model, guides teachers in creating in-depth experiences for children to examine the natural world while building their critical thinking skills and deepening their curiosity about and interest in the world around them." —Karen Worth, consultant in science education, early childhood and elementary years

mccormick center for early childhood leadership: Relate and educate Jóhannes Miðskarð, 2023-02-17 This book concerns pedagogical leadership in early childhood settings and schools. Two studies display qualitatively how staff perceives a leader's pedagogical leadership differently than the leaders themselves. Further, the book suggests how leaders and staff can co-create pedagogical leadership by building solid relationships, using distributed leadership, PLC, and PLN.

mccormick center for early childhood leadership: The Foundation for Success United States. Congress. House. Committee on Education and the Workforce, 2015

mccormick center for early childhood leadership: Learning from the Bumps in the Road Holly Elissa Bruno, Janet Gonzalez-Mena, Luis Hernandez, Debra Sullivan, 2013-07-09 A team of the early childhood field's foremost experts and presenters share insight and perspectives on twelve professional development topics.

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mccormick center for early childhood leadership: Transforming the Workforce for Children Birth Through Age 8 National Research Council, Institute of Medicine, Board on Children, Youth, and Families, Committee on the Science of Children Birth to Age 8: Deepening and Broadening the Foundation for Success, 2015-07-23 Children are already learning at birth, and they develop and learn at a rapid pace in their early years. This provides a critical foundation for lifelong progress, and the adults who provide for the care and the education of young children bear a great responsibility for their health, development, and learning. Despite the fact that they share the same objective - to nurture young children and secure their future success - the various practitioners who contribute to the care and the education of children from birth through age 8 are not acknowledged as a workforce unified by the common knowledge and competencies needed to do their jobs well. *Transforming the Workforce for Children Birth Through Age 8* explores the science of child development, particularly looking at implications for the professionals who work with children. This report examines the current capacities and practices of the workforce, the settings in which they work, the policies and infrastructure that set qualifications and provide professional learning, and the government agencies and other funders who support and oversee these systems. This book then

makes recommendations to improve the quality of professional practice and the practice environment for care and education professionals. These detailed recommendations create a blueprint for action that builds on a unifying foundation of child development and early learning, shared knowledge and competencies for care and education professionals, and principles for effective professional learning. Young children thrive and learn best when they have secure, positive relationships with adults who are knowledgeable about how to support their development and learning and are responsive to their individual progress. Transforming the Workforce for Children Birth Through Age 8 offers guidance on system changes to improve the quality of professional practice, specific actions to improve professional learning systems and workforce development, and research to continue to build the knowledge base in ways that will directly advance and inform future actions. The recommendations of this book provide an opportunity to improve the quality of the care and the education that children receive, and ultimately improve outcomes for children.

mccormick center for early childhood leadership: *Principals as Early Learning Leaders* Julie Nicholson, Helen Maniates, Serene Yee, Thomas Williams, Veronica Ufoegbune, Raul Erazo-Chavez, 2022-01-27 The majority of public school principals are now required to supervise and evaluate early childhood teachers and classrooms, yet many do not have a sufficient understanding of child development and early childhood pedagogy to lead for equity. This practical and comprehensive resource addresses this critical gap by presenting current research on child development, an understanding of the elements of high-quality early childhood classrooms, essential information on trauma-responsive practices, and strategies for reducing bias and preventing the use of exclusionary discipline with young children. School leaders learn about the pivotal role they can play in improving equity for young children, their families, and the early childhood workforce. Each chapter includes key take-aways and central questions that can be used for individual reflection or to guide group discussions. Authentic examples, illustrations, and actionable strategies help readers to successfully implement the content in their school. *Principals as Early Learning Leaders* is essential reading for principals, vice principals, administrators, and others responsible for leading preschool and pre-K programs for equity. Book Features: Supports elementary school principals to better understand the role early education plays in their school. Addresses essential issues of equity in all aspects of early learning programs that require focus and leadership. Provides current research and practical strategies that principals can put into practice immediately to be effective instructional leaders. Uses authentic examples and vignettes throughout to help readers see the ideas in the context of real preschool classrooms. Includes reflection questions and key takeaways to help principals think about how the information presented can inform the work they do.

mccormick center for early childhood leadership: *The Wiley Handbook of Early Childhood Care and Education* Christopher P. Brown, Mary Benson McMullen, Nancy File, 2019-04-23 The essential resource to the issues surrounding childhood care and education with contributions from noted experts *The Wiley Handbook of Early Childhood Care and Education* is a comprehensive resource that offers a review of the historical aspects, best practices, and the future directions of the field. With contributions from noted experts in the field, the book contains 30 interdisciplinary essays that explore in-depth the central issues of early childhood care and education. The handbook presents a benchmark reference to the basic knowledge, effective approaches to use with young children, curriculum design, professional development, current policies, and other critical information. The expert contributors address the myriad complex policy and practice issues that are most relevant today. The essays provide insight into topics such as child development and diversity, the sociocultural process of child development, the importance of the home environment in the lives of young children, early childhood special education, teaching and learning literacy, and much more. This important resource: Presents a comprehensive synopsis of the major components of the field of early childhood care and education Contains contributions from leading scholars, researchers, and experts in the field Offers the foundational knowledge and practices for working with young children Puts the focus on how early childhood works and presents an understanding of culture as a foundational component of both child development and early childhood education Written for

academic scholars, researchers, advocates, policymakers, and students of early childhood care and education, *The Wiley Handbook of Early Childhood Care and Education* is a comprehensive resource to the major issues for dealing with childhood care and education with contributions from noted scholars in the field.

mccormick center for early childhood leadership: Understanding Shared Services in Early Childhood Education Amanda L. Krause-DiScala, 2023-04-18 Leverage shared services alliances and knowledge hubs to increase skills, save time and money, and advance the field of early childhood education. Shared services is a fairly new concept in the early childhood space but one that is gaining traction through the work of a number of individuals and organizations across the country. Shared services knowledge hubs and alliances together allow us to collaborate with other professionals and save time and money, focusing these resources instead on increasing quality, addressing workforce issues, and expanding access of services to children and families with fewer barriers. When we bridge the gap between child care center and family care providers we make the field stronger and more successful. *Understanding Shared Services in Early Childhood Education*, a Redleaf Quick Guide, provides context surrounding the history of early childhood education and child care to explain the genesis of current crises in the field, then explains how leveraging shared services systems can help through pooling resources and information and sharing access to technology such as automation and financial management systems. Among many other possibilities, shared services may offer resources or assistance in automating business records and processes, centralize resources and services such as substitute pools or payroll among programs, secure bulk discounts for members, and standardize policies and procedures such as tuition collection or onboarding employees.

mccormick center for early childhood leadership: Learning and Teaching in Early Childhood Wendy Boyd, Nicole Green, Jessie Jovanovic, 2021-08-02 *Learning and Teaching in Early Childhood: Pedagogies of Inquiry and Relationships* is an introduction for early childhood educators beginning their studies. Reflecting the fact that there is no single correct approach to the challenges of teaching, this book explores teaching through two lenses: teaching as inquiry and teaching as relating. The first part of the book focuses on inquiry, covering early childhood learning environments, learning theories, play pedagogies, approaches to teaching and learning, documentation and assessment, and the policy, curriculum and regulatory requirements in Australia. The second part explores relationships in early childhood contexts and covers topics such as fostering meaningful and respectful relationships with children, and working with families, staff and the wider community. Written by well-respected academics in the field, *Learning and Teaching in Early Childhood* is a vital resource for those entering the early childhood education and care profession.

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