

DENITA DINGER

Denita Dinger is a defender of the joyful and valuable learning that occurs in child-led play. She is passionate about bringing that joy to all early childhood programs, and helping others see play for what it truly is: the BEST way for a young child to build the foundation for a life-time of learning. Denita is all about building a foundation for LIFE, not just getting kids through the next door.



JOYFUL LEARNING IS MEANINGFUL LEARNING. IT IS NOT FORCED, NOR IS IT MEMORIZED. MEANINGFUL LEARNING IS SELF-MOTIVATED, PERMANENTLY STORED, EASY TO RETRIEVE, PREPARES US FOR LIFE, IS FULL OF

JOY AND WHAT DENITA CALLS "THE IMPORTANT STUFF". "STUFF" LIKE: EMPOWERMENT, INDEPENDENT PROBLEM

SOLVING, CONFIDENCE, SELF-REGULATION, OWNING DISCOVERIES, COOPERATING, SELF-MOTIVATION, PERSEVERANCE, STRUGGLING, HANDLING CONFLICTS, TAKING TURNS, ASKING FOR WHAT WE NEED, INSTIGATING, CONFIDENCE, LEADING AND LISTENING. THE IMPORTANT STUFF BUILDS THE BASE FOR WHICH ALL LEARNING CAN SUCCESSFULLY BUILD UPON LIVES IN CHILD-CENTERED PLAY.

OCTOBER 8TH, 2022

8:30 AM - 12:30 PM

**FREMONT CHURCH
OF THE NAZARENE;
960 N JOHNSON RD,
FREMONT, NE 68025
(SANCTUARY)**

AGENDA

WELCOME/SIGN IN- 8AM

KEYNOTE 8:30AM - 10:00AM

BREAK - 10:00AM -10:15AM

2ND SESSION - 10:15AM -12:15PM

WRAP UP - 12:15PM -12:30PM



FREMONT EARLY CHILDHOOD CONFERENCE

Sponsored by:

Platte Valley Early Learning Connection

Nebraska Family Child Care Association

Growing Hearts Academy

Fremont Family Coalition

Dodge County C4K

Dodge County, NE Extension

Midwest Child Care Association

Fremont Area Child Care Association

Providers Network Inc.

Family Service Lincoln

THE PLATTE VALLEY EARLY LEARNING CONNECTION PARTNERSHIP SUPPORTING TRAINING, TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE, AND CONSULTATION FOR THOSE WHO WORK WITH CHILDREN BIRTH THROUGH AGE EIGHT IN COUNTIES, BOONE, BUTLER, BURT, COLFAX, CUMING, DODGE, MERRICK, NANCE, PLATTE, POLK, AND SAUNDERS. PV ELC IS SUPPORTED BY GRANT NUMBER 93.575 CHILD CARE AND DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT FROM THE OFFICE OF CHILD CARE, ADMINISTRATION FOR CHILDREN AND FAMILIES, U.S. DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES.

“WE ARE DOING IT WRONG: TRUE KINDERGARTEN READINESS”

Across the country, and throughout the world, more and more pressures are being placed upon young children: pressures to “be ready for Kindergarten”. School districts are recommending “summer school” BEFORE Kindergarten in order to shove missing knowledge down the throats of young children. All of this in the name of number and letter recognition, counting and writing. Meanwhile, the skills that are truly the absolute most important for a child to have are completely overlooked, and the manner in which we teach the “missing knowledge” removes even more opportunities for children to be TRULY “ready”. Denita addresses the skills that SHOULD be used to determine “readiness”, as well as various opportunities that can easily be provided in early childhood programs that will help children develop those vital skills. You will leave this keynote EMPOWERED to stand up and be the voice children need you to be.



REGISTRATION:

[HTTPS://GO.UNL.EDU/FREMONTCHILD CARECONF2022](https://go.unl.edu/fremontchildcareconf2022)

COST: \$15

4 HOURS IN-SERVICE

VENDORS & PRIZES



“THE MISSED NEEDS IN “MISS” BEHAVIORS”

CHILDREN COMMUNICATE THEIR NEEDS IN MANY WAYS. ONE SUCH WAY IS THROUGH THEIR BEHAVIOR. THE PROBLEM IS, SOCIETY HAS ERRONEOUSLY CATEGORIZED MANY BEHAVIORS CHILDREN DISPLAY AS “BAD” OR “NOT APPROPRIATE” WHEN TRULY, THERE IS NO HARM IN THEM WHAT-SO-EVER. WHEN “MISBEHAVIORS” HAPPEN, ADULTS TEND TO LOOK AT THE CHILD AND WONDER WHAT IS WRONG WITH THEM, INSTEAD OF LOOKING AT WHAT YOU, THE ADULT, MISSED: WHAT NEEDS DID YOU MISS? WHAT DID YOU MISS WHEN SETTING THE ENVIRONMENT? WHAT DID YOU MISS WHEN SETTING YOUR EXPECTATIONS? HOW CAN YOU BETTER MEET THE NEEDS OF THIS CHILD? YOU WILL LEAVE THIS PRESENTATION WITH THE ABILITY TO SEE THE CORE NEEDS SHINING THROUGH CHILDREN’S BEHAVIORS, INSPIRED TO LOOK AT THOSE BEHAVIORS IN A TOTALLY DIFFERENT WAY AS WELL AS FILLED WITH INEXPENSIVE, SIMPLE IDEAS TO SET THE ENVIRONMENT IN A WAY THAT MEETS THE UNIQUE NEEDS OF CHILDREN.