

Saturday, April 20, 2024 Wisp Resort

296 Marsh Hill Rd, McHenry, MD 21541

7:30am-3:45pm

* 6 hours of MSDE Approved Trainings
MSDE OCC Approval # CWO-162364



Featuring: Heather Quinn

Heather's passion for nature-based learning is inspiring, her passion for taking your curriculum outside will fill you with creative ideas to use immediately.

Keynote: "Nature Play is the Way"

Are children bouncing off the walls in your care? They need more play, more play outside! Let's take away the walls. Play in nature-based environments in early childhood education settings has copious benefits for child development. We will explore how and why nature-based environments contribute to play by taking a look at how Hummingbird Hill came to be. What experiences and observations with children sealed the deal? What are the aspects of nature-based environments that support quality play? How about qualities of teacher-child interactions that ensure curiosity and trust? We will review current research, make connections with theorists that we know, love and are at the core of PLAY and dive deep into play in nature. And yes, we will play with hands-on activities that will inspire you to take your learning outside.

Register Early for the best chance to receive your choice of workshops!

Early bird \$45.00

Regular \$50.00

*includes continental breakfast and box lunch

- ◆ Keynote, PLUS 2 workshops of your choice
- ◆ Clock Hours/CEU's
- ◆ Door Prizes & Raffles
- ◆ Vendors on Site!
- ◆ Conference bag with a variety promotional items

Heather Quinn is a Montessori Trained Child-Guide, specializing in nature-based outdoor learning and curriculum. She has been a director, lead teacher, and program coordinator in multiple care settings for nearly 20 years. Heather holds a Level 2 Certification with ERAFANS as well as an active member, advocate, and facilitator for their programs. Currently, Heather is the founder of Hummingbird Hill Nature Learning Collective, a MSDE-licensed Preschool Program, a MSDE licensed family child care. Additionally, Heather is a MSDE-approved trainer and organizes/provides teacher education, professional development workshops, and conferences.

Workshop Choices

1 - Get Outside

~ Heather Quinn

Uncovering nature-based lessons for each content area of your curriculum. It can be difficult to align MSDE's DAP for early childhood education standards and outcomes with learning outside. When administrators and/or parents ask, "How are they learning out there?", you will be on your way to tell them. We will set up a seasonal plan to incorporate all content areas for ages birth through six.

(Core of Knowledge: 2hrs Curriculum)

Offered both sessions

2 - Creating Independent Explorers: Math, Science & STEM

~ Stephanie Mayle and Carrie Wampler

Explore interactive ways to create independent learners in your classroom. Develop strategies for students to increase math and science literacy through hands-on STEM opportunities. We will discuss ways to add depth to your centers and heighten engagement in your classroom.

(Core of Knowledge: 2hrs Curriculum)

Offered both sessions



3 - Nature, Gardening, and Kids - Inside and Out!

~ Ashley Bodkins, Sarah Llewelyn and Lacie Ashby

This presentation will include ideas, curriculum, and hands-on activities for incorporating mother nature into your indoor or outdoor classroom. Activities will utilize Xerces Society X Kids, Project Wild, Insect Lessons, children's books, and more.

(Core of Knowledge: 2hrs Curriculum)

Offered both sessions

4 - Exploring Creativity Through Nature

~ Kayla Souza, M.Ed.

Tap into all the creative inspiration that nature has to offer! We will investigate ways to incorporate nature components into art, movement, and sensory play. In addition, we will explore ways to creatively bring more nature into our learning spaces.

(This session will have interactive components as well as take away resources).

(Core of Knowledge: 2hrs Curriculum)

Offered both sessions

Early Bird Deadline February 23: \$45
Regular Pricing Deadline March 29: \$50

Office Use Only _____

To register for the Early Childhood Connections Conference, do *one* of the following:
Return this form with payment to: Child Care Choices, **226 S. Jefferson Street, Frederick, MD 21701**
OR fax to Child Care Choices at 301-695-4826 **OR email** to childcarechoices@fcmha.org.
 ♦ * Be sure to include: Name, phone, address, email, payment information, and workshop choices
 ♦ **Registration may close early if capacity is reached**

Registration Form

Name: _____ Daytime Phone: _____

Address: _____ City/State/ZIP: _____

County: _____ Email: _____

- I am a:** Family Child care provider Public School staff/administrator Head Start Administrator/Director
 Head Start Staff Child Care Center Administrator/Director Child Care Center Staff
 Other _____

Please indicate special accommodations, needs or dietary restrictions: _____

Training Sessions



All participants will attend the opening Presentation. Training sessions are assigned as registrations are received. **Placement is not guaranteed, but every effort will be made to meet your training needs. Class sizes are limited; early registration is recommended.** Class confirmations will be emailed on April 15th.

Step 1: Choose three classes for each training session. In the spaces below, write the letter and number (e.g. 1, 2, 3, or 4) of your 1st, 2nd, and 3rd class choices for each training session.

	1 st Choice	2 nd Choice	3 rd Choice
10:45-12:45 Session	_____	_____	_____
1:45-3:45 Session	_____	_____	_____

Each attendee will be registered for the Keynote Presentation.

Step 2: Indicate your lunch preference: _____ turkey _____ ham _____ vegetarian

(no outside food or drink is permitted)

Step 3: Indicate payment method below. _____ \$45 Early Bird fee by 02/23/24 or _____ \$50 Regular Fee after

_____ Check or money order (payable to Child Care Choices) _____ Cash _____ MasterCard or VISA

Master Card/Visa Account#: _____ - _____ - _____ Exp. Date: ____/____ CVV _____

Billing address (if different): _____ Signature _____

*(Credit Card statements will indicate **Frederick County Mental Health** as the merchant.)*

Step 3: Return this form with payment to: Child Care Choices, **226 S. Jefferson Street, Frederick, MD 21701**

OR fax to Child Care Choices at 301-695-4826 **OR email** to childcarechoices@fcmha.org.

NO refunds/credits

A confirmation letter will be emailed along with directions to the location.

You will receive an information packet at sign-in on the day of the event.





Sponsored by:

APPLES for Children, Inc.

Child Care Choices, a Program of the
Mental Health Association

Garrett College

Garrett Co. Community Action's
Child & Family Development
Programs

Garrett County Judy Center Early
Learning Hub

Garrett County Public Schools

Schedule of Events

7:30-8:30 am	Register, Breakfast and Vendors
8:30-10:30 am	Keynote: Heather Quinn
10:45 - 12:45pm	Workshop # 1
12:45-1:45 pm	Lunch and Vendors
1:45 – 3:45 pm	Workshop # 2

Participants receive up to 6 clock hours of Core of Knowledge and may submit certificate to MSDE Credentialing for 1 Professional Activity Unit.

If you would like to book a room at the Wisp you may call their central reservations desk directly and ask for the Group Booking ID **7189**. Please contact reservations between the hours of 8am-6pm by calling 855-656-4632.