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# Professional Development and Inclusion eNews, October 2011

An email update from the National Professional Development Center on Inclusion and CONNECT: The Center to Mobilize Early Childhood Knowledge.

**Special Invitation:** CONNECT DEC Pre-Conference Workshop

**Current Online Discussions:** CONNECT Modules | NPDCI State Work | Christine's Chronicles

**Announcements:** Now Available: NPDCI and CONNECT Videos Showcasing Resources for Families | New CONNECT Modules Available in Spanish

**Resources:** Upcoming and Recent Presentations | CONNECT Modules

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## Special Invitation



- Bring your PD dilemma and your laptop
- Brainstorm with national PD leaders
- Enhance your teaching with new resources

[Read More & Register >](#)

DEC Pre-Conference Workshop

**CONNECT: An Evidence-Based Practice Approach  
to Professional Development**

Thursday November 17, 2011 National Harbor, MD 9:00am-4:00pm

[http://dec-sped.org/Conference/PreConference\\_Workshops](http://dec-sped.org/Conference/PreConference_Workshops)



[Read more and register >>](#)

## Current Online Discussions

Your comments are invited!

### NPDCI State Work

**Developing Practitioner Competencies that Support Inclusion: An Innovative Approach  
by Crystal Bishop**

How is your state approaching the development of practitioner competencies that support inclusion? Read about Florida's innovative approach and share your examples.

[Read More and Comment](#)

## CONNECT Modules

### **Beyond the Inner Circle: Busting Barriers to Implementation of the CONNECT Modules By Marilou Hyson**

CONNECT Modules provide a rich resource to faculty and PD providers, so why doesn't everyone use them? Are there new ways to "slice and dice" the CONNECT Module pie? Join Marilou Hyson for a discussion about barriers to module use and ways to bust through those barriers.

[Read More and Comment](#)

#### **Recent Comment Highlights**

*"...many faculty simply link to the CONNECT Module site from inside their own Blackboard, Moodle or Sakai site."*

*"I believe these blogs are valuable so we can learn from each other."*

*"...some faculty are telling us that they realize CONNECT doesn't actually add NEW content but does help them re-organize existing content."*

*"The CONNECT modules have helped me both integrate new content into our early childhood curriculum, as well as reorganize existing content."*

*"I'm very fortunate to be able to design my courses in a way that I see best suits my students learning and my teaching strategies. In my experience of using the CONNECT module, it fits very well with what I am currently doing."*

[Read More and Comment](#)

## Christine's Chronicles

### **Advocating for Assistive Technology By Christine Lindauer**

Christine describes her quest for assistive technology apps for iPads and tablet PCs that can be customized for her son's individual needs.

[Read More and Comment](#)

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## Announcements

### **Now Available: NPDCI and CONNECT Videos Showcasing Resources for Families**

The CONNECT and NPDCI projects have created video clips describing their resources that may be useful for families. The video clips are available on the EC Community website; you are encouraged to view and share the clips.

[View NPDCI Resources for Families](#) | [View CONNECT Modules Resources for Families](#)

### **CONNECT Module 5 and 6 Now Available in Spanish**

CONNECT Module 5: Assistive Technology Interventions and Module 6: Dialogic Reading Practices are now available in Spanish on the CONNECT Module web site. [View a list of Modules available in English and Spanish](#)

## CONNECTED

CONNECT Module Updates and Tips for Early Childhood Faculty and PD providers

### **New CONNECT Module Web Areas for Instructors**

As part of the recent redesign of the CONNECT Modules web site, two new areas have been created for Instructors:

**The 5-Step Learning Cycle™** - Each CONNECT Module focuses on a discrete practice in a key content area (e.g., inclusion, family-professional partnerships, transition) and is organized around the 5-Step Learning Cycle™. [Read More](#)

**Instructor Supports-** This new section for instructors provides getting started videos, tours, and links to

instructor discussion.



Get CONNECT Module updates and more via your Facebook account.

## Resources

### **Save the Date! National Inclusion Institute May 14–16, 2012**

The Twelfth Annual National Early Childhood Inclusion Institute will be held May 14-16, 2012 in Chapel Hill, North Carolina. The Inclusion Institute Keynote Panel will feature federal policy leaders: Shannon Rudisill, Acting Deputy Assistant Secretary and Inter-Departmental Liaison for Early Childhood Development; Melody Musgrove, Director of U.S. Department of Education, Office of Special Education Programs, and Yvette Sanchez Fuentes, Director of Office of Head Start.

Additional information will be posted on the Inclusion Institute website in the coming weeks.

### **Early Educator Competencies: New NPDCI Concept Paper**

The National Professional Center on Inclusion (NPDCI) has released a concept paper identifying issues and providing guidance to states as they develop early educator competencies in the context of inclusion.

Read More: Competencies for Early Childhood Educators in the Context of Inclusion: Guidance and Issues for States

## Upcoming Presentations

### **27th Annual International Conference on Young Children with Special Needs and Their Families National Harbor Maryland, Nov. 17-19, 2011**

<http://www.dec-sped.org/Conference>

- Assistive Technology Practices to Support Participation of Young Children in Inclusive Settings  
Presenters: Philippa Campbell and Dale Epstein
- The DEC-NAEYC Joint Position Statement on Inclusion: Look What's Happening Now!  
Presenters: Catherine Lyons, Camille Catlett, Susan Maude  
Friday, November 18, 7:30 AM – 8:45 AM
- Resources within Reason: High Quality, Low Cost Resources to Support Your Work  
Presenter: Camille Catlett  
Saturday, November 19, 9:15 AM – 10:15 AM
- High Quality Inclusion: Practices that Promote Access, Participation, and Supports  
Presenters: Camille Catlett, Heidi Hollingsworth  
Saturday, November 19, 10:30 AM – 11:45 AM
- Universal Design and Differentiation of Tiered Instruction  
FPG Presenters: Mary Ruth Coleman, Camille Catlett; 11 non-FPG presenters  
Saturday, November 19, 1:15 PM – 3:15 PM

### **28th Annual Head Start Parent Conference and Institutes New Orleans, LA, Dec. 9-11, 2011**

<http://disabilities.temple.edu/programs/leadership/c2p2ei.shtml>

- Free and Fabulous: Resources to Support Each Child and Family  
Presenters: Camille Catlett and Dayana Garcia  
Friday, December 9, 2011 9:00 AM – 4:00 PM

## Recent CONNECT and NPDCI Presentations

### **NCaeyc 2011 Conference, Raleigh, NC, September 15-17**

- Evidence-Based Practices to Support Inclusion  
Presenters: Pam Winton and Dale Epstein, FPG Child Development Institute

- Inclusion Resources at Your Fingertips  
Presenter: Camille Catlett, FPG Child Development Institute
- Response to Intervention (RTI): How does it work and who benefits?  
Presenter: Camille Catlett, FPG Child Development Institute

### **CONNECT Modules**

- Module 1: Embedded Interventions: Instructor Dashboard | Learner Module | Spanish Version  
Learn about the practice of embedded interventions to help children participate in a variety of early learning opportunities and environments promoting high quality inclusion.
- Module 2: Transition: Instructor Dashboard | Learner Module | Spanish Version  
Learn about practices to help support children and families as they transition among programs in the early care and education system.
- Module 3: Communication for Collaboration: Instructor Dashboard | Learner Module | Spanish Version  
Learn about effective communication practices that can be used to promote collaboration with professionals and families in early care and education, and intervention settings.
- Module 4: Family-Professional Partnerships: Instructor Dashboard | Learner Module | Spanish Version  
Learn about building trusting family-professional partnerships when working with families of young children.
- Module 5: Assistive Technology Interventions: Instructor Dashboard | Learner Module | Spanish Version  
Learn about the purpose, use and potential benefits of assistive technology interventions when working with young children.
- Module 6: Dialogic Reading Practices: Instructor Dashboard | Learner Module | Spanish Version  
Learn about the purpose, use and potential benefits of dialogic reading practices when working with young children.

### **Upcoming CONNECT Modules**

- Module 7: Tiered Approaches: Social Emotional Development (Winter 2011)
- Module 8: Tiered Approaches: Academic Practices (Spring 2012)

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## **"Word of Mouse"**

Your word is better than ours. Forward this issue to a colleague and let them know about the work our community is doing.

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This newsletter is an initiative of the National Professional Development Center on Inclusion, CONNECT: The Center to Mobilize Early Childhood Knowledge at the FPG Child Development Institute. Project funding is provided by the Office of Special Education Programs.

