

A conference for professionals working with learners aged 3-8 years
Practitioners, advisers, teacher educators, science subject leaders



Fostering creativity through inquiry in early years science

An opportunity to explore practical approaches and curriculum materials developed by teachers as part of the recent EU funded project Creativity in Early Years Science (2014-2017)

Tuesday 7th February 2017
10.00am – 16.00pm

University College London: Institute of Education
20 Bedford Way, London WC1H 0AL

This practical one-day conference will provide an overview of the work of the CEYS project. Participants will have opportunities to engage in practical workshops to illustrate creative inquiry-based approaches to science learning and teaching. During the workshops teachers involved in the project will present curriculum materials they have developed in their classrooms and share what they have gained through action research in partnership with teachers and teacher educators. Further information will be given about project resources to support professional development, either as an individual, or as part of programmes of initial and continuing teacher education.

This professional development opportunity will enable participants to:

- Examine opportunities for creativity in science teaching and learning
- Consider strategies that support the development of children's creativity in science
- Build on children's capacities as young scientists and creative learners
- Reflect on opportunities and challenges in implementing creative, inquiry based approaches in their own settings.

PROGRAMME

Introduction to the Creativity in Early Years Science Project

A choice of two workshops:

- Developing curiosity and questioning
- Fostering creativity through inquiry-based science
- Supporting reflection and reasoning through varied modes of expression and representation

Project resources to support staff professional development

This workshop is organised as part of the Erasmus + project Creativity in Early Years Science (CEYS). The CEYS project aims to develop a teacher development course and accompanying materials to be used in European professional development to promote the use of use creative approaches for in teaching science in preschool and early primary education (up to the age of eight). The goal is to disseminate the main outcomes of the Creative Little Scientists project (www.creative-little-scientists.eu), to propose concrete training materials that can used in teacher education for early years and primary teachers. The project brings together academics and researchers from four European countries (Greece, Romania, Belgium and the UK).

CHOICE OF WORKSHOP Choose **two** of the following.

A. Developing curiosity and questioning. □ Jillian Trevethan, UCL Institute of Education and school partners

This workshop will look at the role that curiosity and questioning plays in early years science education. Drawing on classroom examples, the workshop will illustrate how children's questioning in science can lead to creative outcomes. The contribution of teachers' creative and inquiry based practice and their own questions in fostering children's curiosity in science will also be highlighted. Participants will be invited to discuss examples from their own practice, and how these might be developed in the future.

B: Fostering creativity through inquiry-based science □ Jessica Baines-Holmes, Open University and school partners

You will discuss the creative potential of young children's explorations and investigations and identify ways in which early years teachers can support children's independence and decision-making. You will explore examples of children's problem solving in science recorded in early years classrooms as part of the project. Across the session you will consider how everyday classroom activities can be adapted to extend opportunities for inquiry and creativity.

C: Supporting reflection and reasoning through varied modes of expression and representation □ Esmé Glauert, UCL Institute of Education and school partners

This workshop will explore the key roles of expression and representation of ideas in supporting young children's reflection and reasoning in science. It will provide illustrations of young children's reflection and reasoning. We will consider ways in which practitioners can provide varied opportunities for children to share and represent their scientific ideas and strategies, and encourage a climate in which children are willing to offer and reflect on ideas.

BOOKING DETAILS AND FURTHER INFORMATION

Please go to

<http://www.ucl.ac.uk/lifelearning/courses/fostering-creativity-through-enquiry-early-years-science>



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