



Engaging Children's Minds

The Project Approach



Learning the Project Approach

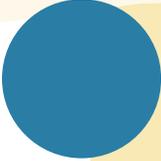
August 7–11, 2005

University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign
Robert Allerton Park and Conference Center
Monticello, Illinois
www.conferences.uiuc.edu/engaging

Presented by

Dr. Lilian G. Katz and Dr. Sylvia C. Chard

Authors of Engaging Children's Minds: The Project Approach



Office of Continuing Education

UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS AT URBANA-CHAMPAIGN

www.continuinged.uiuc.edu Toll Free: 877-455-2687

The Institute Leaders

The Engaging Children's Minds summer institute is taught by internationally known instructors Lilian G. Katz and Sylvia C. Chard, co-authors of *Engaging Children's Minds: The Project Approach*. This book is recommended reading for institute participants.

Lilian G. Katz is professor emerita of Early Childhood Education, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, and co-director of the ERIC Clearinghouse on Elementary and Early Childhood Education. Dr. Katz is a past president of the National Association for the Education of Young Children. She is the author of numerous articles, chapters, and books and has lectured and held visiting professorships at colleges and universities in Canada, Australia, Germany, the West Indies, England, India, Israel, and many parts of the United States.

Sylvia C. Chard is professor emerita of Early Childhood Education and director of the Child Study Center at the University of Alberta, Canada. She has taught in England and in North America. She conducts workshops on the Project Approach in North America and overseas and has written two *Practical Guides for Teachers* published by Scholastic. She maintains a Web site on the Project Approach offering online courses for teachers at www.project-approach.com. Her research interests include teachers' professional development and curriculum change.



About the Project Approach

The Project Approach to early childhood education involves young children in investigations of significant events and phenomena in their own environments in ways that strengthen their intellectual dispositions and provide contexts for applying their developing social, literacy, and numeracy skills. In the course of their studies, children do field work, develop personal interests in different aspects of the topic, and pursue a variety of investigations. The summer institute is designed to introduce participants to the three phases of the Project Approach and to demonstrate how these phases can be implemented in the classroom. The institute program includes lectures, audiovisual presentations, group discussions, and practical fieldwork, providing a complete simulation of project work as well as other classroom activities. Optional evening lectures on related topics are also offered.

In the Engaging Children's Minds summer institute, educators acquire a thorough understanding of the Project Approach and learn how to incorporate it into their own curriculum plans through a simulation of project work in a class for pre-primary and primary school children. The institute is specifically designed for classroom teachers and for those responsible for early childhood pre-service and in-service teacher education, as well as other teacher education faculty.

Registration Information

The registration fee is \$995. Enrollment is limited and advance registration is required. Registration is not guaranteed until all fees are paid. The registration fee includes course materials; airport shuttle to and from the conference center; and all meals, lodging, and refreshment breaks. Participants pay for their own travel and incidental expenses. A refund, less a \$50 charge, will be made for cancellations submitted in writing and received on or before July 22. After that date, no refunds will be made. Substitutions are welcome at any time.

The institute will begin at 1:30 PM on Sunday, August 7. Registration and check-in will open around 10:00 AM that morning, and a complimentary lunch will be served. Participants can plan to leave Allerton after breakfast on the morning of Thursday, August 11. A tour of the University of Illinois campus will be offered for those not leaving town until later in the day.

Robert Allerton Park and Conference Center



The Engaging Children's Minds summer institute is held at Robert Allerton Park and Conference Center, located 30 miles southwest of Urbana-Champaign near the small county seat of Monticello. Allerton Park's native floodplain forests and upland woods qualify it as a National Natural Landmark. Miles of hiking trails traverse the 1,500-acre park, which is maintained by the University of Illinois as an education, recreation, and research center.

Allerton's natural beauty and remote setting engender an atmosphere of retreat and reflection. This former country estate features an outstanding collection of sculpture and statuary situated among beautiful flower gardens, greenhouses, and sculptured hedges. Allerton House was built in 1900 as a private home and is now used as a conference center. It features a large library and adjacent meeting rooms. The dining room offers excellent food prepared on the premises and served cafeteria style.

Guestrooms (smoking and nonsmoking) are available in Allerton House and the nearby Gate House, Evergreen Lodge, and the House in the Woods. Most rooms are double occupancy, although there are single occupancy rooms, available for an additional fee, as well as rooms that easily sleep three or four guests. Rooms will be assigned as you register on a first-come, first-served basis, though participants who drive to the institute may be asked to stay at the House in the Woods. All guestrooms have private or semiprivate bathrooms and daily linen service. Guestrooms do not have televisions, telephones, or wake-up service. Pay telephones are available for outgoing calls. Guests may receive messages and incoming calls through the main telephone number of the Robert Allerton Conference Center: 217-762-7011. Two computers with Internet access are available for guest use, free of charge. Room check-in at Allerton House is available beginning at 3:00 PM on the first day of the conference.

For more information about Allerton, visit www.allerton.uiuc.edu.

Traveling to Allerton by Car

From Chicago: Go south on I-57 to Champaign. Take the Decatur exit onto I-72 west. Drive approximately 25 miles, then follow the directions from I-72.

From Indianapolis: Take I-74 west to I-57 south at Champaign, then take the Decatur exit onto I-72 west. Drive approximately 25 miles, then follow the directions from I-72.

From St. Louis: Take I-55 north to I-72 east, continuing east past Decatur, then follow the directions from I-72.

From I-72: Turn off I-72 at Monticello exit 164 onto Bridge Street and drive south towards Monticello. Turn right at the first crossroads, which will be Old Route 47. Travel approximately two miles west and, after a small sign noting "Allerton" on the right side of the street, turn left onto County Road 625E. At the stop sign, turn right onto County Farm Road. Turn left onto the first road you come to, which will be Old Timber Road, and go through the brick columns. Follow the signs to the Visitors' Center and the main parking lot.

Travel By Air

A complimentary shuttle will be provided for those flying into Champaign/Savoy's Willard Airport. Be sure to include your arrival and departure information (date, time, airline, and flight number) on the attached registration form so airport shuttles can be arranged. It is recommended that you fly into Willard Airport on Sunday morning. If you plan an overnight stay in a Champaign-Urbana hotel, you will be picked up at your hotel and shuttled to Allerton on the morning of the opening session. Saturday night stay at Allerton is not available.

Additional Information

For more information on the institute or the Project Approach, or to join an online discussion group, see the institute Web site at:

www.conferences.uiuc.edu/engaging

Please direct questions about conference procedures or arrangements to:

University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign
Office of Continuing Education
Conferences & Institutes
302 East John Street, Suite 202
Champaign, IL 61820

Phone: 217-333-2880 or
Toll free 877-455-2687
(8:30 AM-5:00 PM U.S. Central Standard Time)

Fax: 217-333-9561 (24 hours a day)

E-Mail: engagingminds@ad.uiuc.edu

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Four Ways to Register

1. Register online at www.conferences.uiuc.edu/engaging
2. Mail the registration form and payment to:

Engaging Children's Minds
Conferences & Institutes
302 E. John St., Suite 202
Champaign, IL 61820 USA
3. Call 217-333-2880 or toll free 877-455-2687 to register by phone (8:30 AM-5:00 PM U.S. Central Standard Time).
4. Fax the completed form to 217-333-9561 (available 24 hours a day)

Account

1-301768-912009-305300-912168

FEIN

37-6000511

Special Needs

If you have special physical needs (special accommodations, vegetarian meals, etc.) or if you have a preference for a room type and/or a roommate, please specify below:

Professional Experience and Interests

To assist the instructors in planning an educational experience that meets your needs, please respond to the following:

1. Current position _____
2. Years in current position _____
3. Years of previous work with teachers and/or children _____
4. Age/grade level experience as teacher and/or teacher educator _____

5. Amount of direct experience implementing and/or documenting project work _____

6. Other information pertinent to your participation in the institute _____

7. I have read Engaging Children's Minds: The Project Approach. Yes No
8. I have used Chard's Practical Guides I & II. Yes No
9. I have attended workshops/in-services/lectures on the Project Approach. Yes No
10. I am familiar with implementation of projects in Reggio Emilia. Yes No
11. I would like to share project reports through a listserv discussion group and the project's Web site on the Internet. Yes No
12. I plan to apply for graduate credit. Yes No

Name _____
(last) (first) (middle initial)

Address _____

City _____ State/Province _____

Zip/Postal Code _____ Country _____

Work Telephone _____ Home Telephone _____

Fax _____ E-mail _____

Registration fee: \$995 per person (for shared sleeping accommodations)

A limited number of single guest rooms are available for an additional fee of \$130.

- I would like a single room, if available (total fee of \$1125).
- My check/money order is enclosed (payable to University of Illinois, U.S. dollars only)
- I prefer to charge on my credit card:
- Discover Visa MasterCard American Express
- Card No. _____ V-Code* _____
Exp. Date _____ Card Holder Signature _____

*The V-code is a 3-digit, non-embossed number printed on the right upper corner of the signature panel on the back of Visa, MasterCard, and Discover cards. On American Express, the 4-digit number is printed above the account number on the face of the card. The V-Code is recorded as an additional security precaution.

Please check the appropriate box below:

- I will arrive by car.
- I will arrive by air and need transportation to the Conference Center.
- Willard Airport arrival (date/time/flight #): _____
- Willard Airport departure (date/time/flight #): _____



Graduate Credit

For an additional tuition charge of approximately \$518, participants may earn 2 semester hours of graduate credit through the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, Office of Continuing Education, Division of Academic Outreach. Graduate application forms will be available at Allerton. The program also carries 4 continuing education units (CEUs) from the University of Illinois, available at no extra cost.

To earn graduate credit, students must (1) implement a project with a group of children; (2) submit a report that includes a description of the children and the context in which the project was begun; (3) provide the rationale for selecting the topic; (4) write a brief description of Phase I, Phase II, and Phase III activities; and (5) conduct an evaluation of the project from the point of view of the children, others involved, and the investigator. The report must be submitted to Dr. Lilian Katz by November 1, 2005. Grades will be reported in early December 2005. Those who would like to earn graduate credit should indicate their interest on the attached registration form.



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