

school readiness
symposium
ready at five™

**Coding as a
Developmental Playground:
Computational Thinking and
Robotics**

Friday, April 12, 2019

8:00 am – 3:30 pm

**Hilton Baltimore BWI Airport Hotel
1739 West Nursery Road
Linthicum, MD 21090**



KEYNOTE SPEAKER



Dr. Marina Umaschi Bers
Professor & Chair
Eliot-Pearson Department of
Child Study & Human Development
Tufts University

Presenting Sponsor



Division of Early Childhood

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Afternoon Workshops

A. Playing with Space: Laying the Building Blocks for STEM Success

Kelly Fisher, PhD, Science of Learning Center; Kristin Gagnier, PhD, Science of Learning Center and Department of Cognitive Science at Johns Hopkins University; and Summer Rosswog, MLS, Port Discovery Children's Museum

Ensuring young children have the fundamental building blocks for future success in science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM) is now more important than ever. One critical building block of success in STEM fields is often overlooked – spatial thinking. Spatial thinking refers to a set of mental skills involving understanding, reasoning, and problem-solving about space. Decades of research suggest that students who are more advanced at spatial thinking do well in STEM courses and careers, and that building students' spatial thinking skills can improve success in STEM. Through a series of hands-on activities, workshop participants will learn about the importance of spatial thinking for children's future and the power of play to help lay the foundation for success.

B. Design, Learn, Discover; Science Inquiry with PBS Kids

Krista Respass and Karla Thompson, Maryland Public Television

In this workshop, participants will explore PBS KIDS resources that increase children's exposure to and engagement with developmentally appropriate science inquiry and engineering processes and practices.

C. Partnering with Families to Maximize Early Childhood Experiences

Cara Bethke, Sense of Wonder Early Childhood Consultants, LLC

This session will explore strategies to engage families of diverse backgrounds and needs in your program. We will identify motivators and develop plans to set the stage for meaningful and empowering interactions through case studies, discussion, and reflection.

D. Coding in the Prekindergarten Classroom

Gary Lyst, Weller Road Elementary School (Montgomery County) and Kelly Olewack, Wheaton Woods Elementary School (Montgomery County)

In this presentation, participants will learn about effective strategies to teach early coding to prekindergarten students. Participants will have opportunities to engage in coding tasks with the Bee Bots programmable robots and receive resources to support coding activities.

E. Public Media Partnerships and Early Childhood Development

Gay Mohrbacher and Sonja Latimore, WGBH

This workshop will present two media-based, early learning projects in MD: new computational thinking resources being piloted in Ready At Five Learning Parties; and, Judy Centers' use of the STEM series, PEEP and the Big Wide World. Maryland Public Television and WGBH Boston will co-present. Participants will learn about the role PBS stations can play in working with state systems to address early childhood development

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Registration Form

Name/Title:

Organization:

Address:

City/State/Zip:

County:

Phone:

Fax:

Email:

How many years have you been teaching in early childhood?

What's your highest education level? (circle one) High school graduate Some College College graduate (2-year degree)
College graduate (4-year degree) Master's degree or beyond

Registration Fee (nonrefundable): **\$150** (includes continental breakfast, lunch, and Symposium materials).

Please let us know if you have any special dietary requests or restrictions so we can accommodate your needs at the Symposium.

Payment Information: Please make check payable to MBRT/Ready At Five. Payment **MUST** accompany registration form. If paying by Purchase Order, please forward a copy of the Purchase Order with the registration form. Registrations will not be accepted by phone or fax. Please indicate your method of payment:

Check

Money Order

Purchase Order

Mail Registration & Payment by April 2nd to:

Ready At Five

5520 Research Park Drive, Suite 150

Baltimore, MD 21228

You can register online at www.readyatfive.org
Email monique@readyatfive.org or call 410/788-5725 with questions.
Federal ID# 52-1851611

Photography & Videography

By registering for and attending this event, you agree that your image and voice recording may be used at any time, without further notification, for printed materials, websites, social media, and other marketing and educational purposes.

Please select and circle your 1st, 2nd, & 3rd choices for Workshops

1 2 3 A. Playing with Space: Laying the Building Blocks for STEM Success

1 2 3 B. Design, Learn, Discover; Science Inquiry with PBS Kids

1 2 3 C. Partnering with Families to Maximize Early Childhood Experiences

1 2 3 D. Coding in the Prekindergarten Classroom

1 2 3 E. Public Media Partnerships and Early Childhood Development

MSDE Approval Pending