

5th Annual SEEPP Spring Enrichment Conference

The 5th Annual SEEPP Spring Enrichment Conference was held Saturday, April 11, 2015, at Bridgewater State University. In collaboration with Home/Health & Child Care Services, the Region 5 Educator and Providers Support (EPS) grantee hosted close to 200 early education and care and out of school time Educators at a day-long conference on STEM: Science, Technology, Engineering and Math in the Early Years.

The keynote presentation by Dr. Vicki Bartolini, Wheaton College, offered a robust presentation on how STEM impacts the early years. Highlighting the national movement, Dr. Bartolini discussed the critical role played by our educators in preserving and expanding children's natural wonder and curiosity. Students from Dr. Bartolini's EPS-sponsored course at Wheaton College, "Teaching Preschool STEM", offered a "STEM Gallery" of exhibits displaying the concepts learned from their 4 credit course and the outcomes after implementing their coursework. A tremendous job by these students and a treat for the conference participants!

The .5 CEU'd conference offered 14 high quality workshops on STEM including "Growing up Wild", "Dollar Store Math", "Young Children as Physicists", and "Hands on STEM Learning for Preschool through Grade 3". The new Pre-K STE Standards approved by the Department of Early Education and Care (EEC) were embedded in all the workshops and each participant received a printed copy of the standards courtesy of Child Development and Education, Inc. (CDE).

The Region 5 Educator and Provider Support (EPS) grant offers professional development and coaching/mentoring services designed to enhance core knowledge and skills, as well as assistance with attaining professional goals. Please visit our website www.cd.edu.us/SEEPP to view our training calendar, college course offerings, and to apply for coaching services. Sign up for our newsletter and LIKE us on Facebook to stay up to date on what is happening through EPS in Region 5.