



West Early Childhood

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Dear Reader,

It is my pleasure to recommend Kathy Poelker's workshop "Tuning the Brain for Learning" as fabulous experience for teachers. We were fortunate enough to have her come to our Early Childhood program on August 9, 2011 to work with our teachers for the day.

Kathy came with a wealth of knowledge on current brain research of best practices for how students learn best. I'm sure you can all relate to the power of music in the way a song you haven't heard in years starts playing and you still surprisingly remember all the words. Kathy showed us ways to incorporate music and movement into our everyday curriculum and routines.

Our teachers had a blast and left with practices and strategies they could begin using right away. The materials available to support this program were highly beneficial and easy to use. The very first week after our workshop, I witnessed teachers incorporating these practices. Extensive student engagement was proof that our professional development had been a success. The workshop was very "hand-on" and Kathy even sent us pictures of our teachers participating in the fun, engaging learning activities.

As a former kindergarten teacher, instructional specialist, site coordinator, and director of early childhood I can see what a wonderful program this is. I highly encourage you to take advantage of the knowledge and innovative ideas Kathy can bring to your school. Your students will appreciate your decision and the evidence will show in the beautiful sounds and smiles echoing through the halls!

Sincerely,

Elena Amirault