



August 20, 2004

To Whom It May Concern:

It is a pleasure to write a letter of recommendation for Kathy Poelker for she indeed is an educational treasure! Throughout my tenure as Coordinator for the University of Wisconsin-Whitewater Early Childhood Conference, Kathy has been a valued presenter to early childhood teachers and administrators for over 16 years of my coordination plus she has served a number of years for the previous coordinator.

It should be noted that this annual conference is a very popular regional event which has taken place over 25 years and attracts well over 2,000 participants yearly. Early childhood educators travel from throughout Wisconsin, Illinois, Minnesota, and Iowa for this conference. It has served as a valuable inservice opportunity for this audience, offering not only awareness sessions, but also in-depth workshops. Over the years Kathy has presented in both formats...always successfully.

Evaluations from her workshops have ALWAYS been positive. The ideas which she offers to her participants have been creative, informative, and enjoyable. Of particular value is the fact that the musical ideas which Kathy present are of extreme value within classroom settings. These ideas are well researched and appropriate for this age group. Kathy's original songs and curriculum methods reach the teachers in an effective manner since they are always eager to return to their classroom setting in order to implement these musical ideas with their children. Of special importance is that Kathy has offered many bilingual approaches to her curriculum which is most valued in today's society.

Personally, I have found Kathy Poelker to be a very talented musician, knowledgeable about appropriate curriculum methodology for children and is eager to share her ideas. The rapport which she establishes with her participants is positive. In fact, Kathy usually has many returnees to her sessions for these teachers know the value of the content which she is offering. Kathy is a pure joy to work with. Her upbeat personality always shines through.

Any conference/workshop venue which has Kathy Poelker as a presenter will indeed be most pleased in all aspects of implementing the conference. As stated initially,...KATHY POELKER IS INDEED AN EDUCATIONAL TREASURE! If there are any questions, please call the Continuing Educations Services at UW-Whitewater, (262)472-3165, and they will forward the message to me. Thank You!

Sincerely,

Barbara E. Mischio

Barbara E. Mischio, Coordinator Emeriti
UW-Whitewater Early Childhood Conference



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