

SMITHSONIAN EARLY ENRICHMENT CENTER

LEARNING THROUGH OBJECTS

Agenda

PART 1: HOW CHILDREN LEARN

Key Questions:

- What educational theories guide our practice with young children?
- How do young children benefit from learning in museums/community and with objects?

Agenda Items:

- Overview of SEEC
- Power of objects
- Learning theory

PART 2: INQUIRY & ENTRY POINTS

Key Questions:

- How do we engage children in careful looking?
- What concrete methods can we use when teaching in community-based settings (entry points)?

Agenda Items:

- Learning to look
- Creating conversations
- Learning theory in practice
- Entry points

PART 3: MAKING THE UNFAMILIAR, FAMILIAR

Key Questions:

- What role does the community play in thinking about diversity, equity, accessibility, and inclusion?
- How do we connect theory and practice to create community-based lessons?

Agenda Items:

- Diversity, Equity, Accessibility, Inclusion
- Familiar, Unfamiliar
- Sample Lessons

PART 4: LESSON PLANNING

Key Questions:

- How do we connect theory and practice to create community-based lessons?

Agenda Items:

- Choosing an object
- Logistics
- Webbing
- Big ideas/small children
- Intro to scaffolding and lesson planning

PART 5: DOCUMENTATION & EXTENDING THE LEARNING

Key Questions:

- How do we connect theory and practice to create community-based lessons?
- How can we extend the community into the classroom space?

Agenda Items:

- Share lesson plans
- Documentation
- Extending the learning
- Museums and young children
- Conclusion