

# Teaching in the Neighborhood

January/February 2023

HAPPY NEW YEAR!

A monthly dose of teaching ideas, updates, and inspiration for teachers across the Neighborhood EBSOC, Ellis Early Learning, Epiphany Early Learning, Horizons for Homeless Children, Nurtury

## Uniting the Neighborhood: Strengthening Connections and Learning Together

A Neighborhood-Wide Professional Development Day!

We are very excited to spend March 17th with everyone refreshing our commitment to our youngest learners and networking!

### Upcoming Workshops and News

- The February **Reflective Practice Workshop** will be held on Friday February 17th from 9-10:30am. This month we will be discussing Observing and Documenting Learning.
- Our **February webinar** is coming up soon! February 13th from 7-8pm, free and open to the public. This month's focus is also on Rethinking Challenging Behavior! Sign up on our website!

## Remaining Flexible

Flexibility in early childhood education is key to helping children follow their interests, engaging them on multiple levels, and to planning and documenting effectively.

1. Flexibility emphasizes process over product. By allowing room for exploration, educators encourage a love of learning.
2. Flexibility encourages educators to follow children's interests. By following children's lead, educators allow children to remain engaged, curious citizens of the classroom and beyond.
3. Flexibility allows individualized instruction. Being open to children engaging with an activity or material in their own way affirms their sense of identity and autonomy.

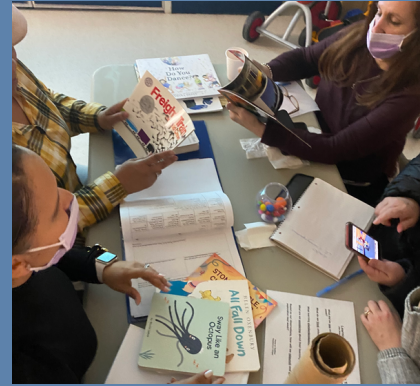
TEACHER TALK!



# Great ideas from great teachers

## Toddler Curriculum Kickoff!

We had such a wonderful time introducing the toddler curriculum to the Neighborhood! We're grateful for the curiosity, enthusiasm and playful energy our educators brought to our pilot workshops. Classrooms across the Neighborhood are trying the "How Things Move" exploration. We're looking forward to bringing you the next exploration in March, and hope you are enjoying wonderful moments of playful learning with your little ones. The curriculum is a work in progress, and we appreciate feedback! Please reach out to your coach with any questions and comments.



### Welcoming our Toddler Curriculum Coaches!



Hello, my name is Karen Peterkin and I am so excited to be supporting programs as a Toddler Curriculum Coach. I am a veteran teacher and have been in the early childhood field for a number of years. I am truly committed to supporting teachers on this coaching journey. I look forward to sharing my joy of teaching and learning with teachers and children.

Please feel free to reach out with any questions.

My contact information is:

[kpeterkin@neighborhoodvillages.org](mailto:kpeterkin@neighborhoodvillages.org) (617-394-8137)



My name is Lisa Goddard, and I am excited to support teachers using the new Toddler Curriculum. I have been in early childhood education for almost a decade, and have been a teaching assistant, lead teacher, curriculum coordinator, and coach. I am inspired by the Reggio approach, and love thinking about young children as capable and creative. I am looking forward to sharing my love of teaching with all of you, and spending time in some of your amazing classrooms. Feel free to reach me any time: [lgoddard@neighborhoodvillages.org](mailto:lgoddard@neighborhoodvillages.org) (857-547-8592)

Do you have ideas to share with the Neighborhood?

Share your ideas with us: [pthompson@neighborhoodvillages.org](mailto:pthompson@neighborhoodvillages.org)