BUNDLE Systems Thinking in Early Childhood

RESOURCES TO CONNECT YOUR WORK

Use these additional resources to learn more about systems thinking and reflective practice. Follow the links below to access each resource or pull it off your bookshelf.

GENERAL EARLY CHILDHOOD RESOURCES

Systems Thinking in Schools—Waters Foundation
http://watersfoundation.org
EXPLORE: *Systems thinking is important in educating and working with children. Read about the 14 habits of systems thinking here. Then check out the WebEd section for professional development opportunities and resources to implement systems thinking strategies in your practice.*

Reflecting in Communities of Practice: A Workbook for Early Childhood Educators
http://www.naeyc.org/store/Reflecting-in-Communities-of-Practice
EXPLORE: *"A Thinking Lens for Reflection and Inquiry" pp. 22-23. This resource offers a practical tool for enhancing reflective practice in early childhood settings.*

Creative Learning Exchange
System Dynamics & Systems Thinking in K–12 Education
http://www.clexchange.org/cle/about.asp
EXPLORE: *Use systems thinking, system dynamics, and an active, learner-centered approach within a wide variety of subject-specific curriculum documents illustrating models and examples for use in the K–12 classroom. How might you adapt these ideas to early childhood classrooms and programs?*

How Planning and Reflection Develop Young Children's Thinking Skills—By Ann S. Epstein
http://www.naeyc.org/files/yc/file/200309/Planning&Reflection.pdf
EXPLORE: *Strategies for supporting reflection and decision making in young children. Try out the strategies for promoting reflection with young children on page 6.*

Teaching a Growth Mindset
http://youtu.be/kXhbtCcmsyQ *(YouTube Video)*
http://www.naeyc.org/files/tyc/file/V5N3/Preschoolers%20Grow%20Their%20Brains.pdf
(PDF Article)
EXPLORE: *In her research on motivation, Carol Dweck concludes that learning and mastery are influenced by specific mental models, called "fixed" or "growth" mindsets. Watch the YouTube video, in which she discusses strategies for working with these mental models in young children. Then read the NAEYC article for more practical ideas for encouraging growth mindsets in preschoolers.*

Systems Thinking in Early Childhood

CALIFORNIA RESOURCES

The California Early Childhood Educator Competencies
http://www.cde.ca.gov/sp/cd/re/documents/ececompetencies2011.pdf
EXPLORE: *Systems thinking and reflective practice are both referenced in the California Early Childhood Educator Competencies, developed collaboratively by the California Department of Education and First 5 California. Learn more about the competencies associated with these two key areas of practice by reading "Leadership in Early Childhood Education" on pages 212 and 213 and "Professionalism" on pages 214 and 215.*

Systems Thinking Webinar: The Ladder of Inference
https://f5cae4.org/resources/231
EXPLORE: *Sheri Marlin and Tracy Benson of the Waters Foundation led a webinar on using the ladder of inference in early childhood programs. View the webinar to learn more about using systems thinking habits and tools with young children.*

The Teaching Pyramid
http://cainclusion.org/teachingpyramid/index.html
EXPLORE: *The Teaching Pyramid approach fosters social-emotional development in children through a systematic framework of teaching practices and environmental supports. Check out the classroom and family materials available for download.*

Bridges e-journal—California Head Start—State Collaboration Office
http://cainclusion.org/camap/pdfs/CACSEFEL/bridges2014mayCACSEFEL.pdf
EXPLORE: *Check out "View from a Teacher: Using an Emotions Chart with Young Children," on pp. 3-8. Consider the small change this teacher made in her program. How did the use of the emotions chart change her perspective and increase her understanding of each child?*

For more information on Systems Thinking in Early Childhood go to E4's PD2GO website.