



**Pathways &
Possibilities**



2021 Institutes Catalogue



Welcome to OTF Summer Institutes 2021: the virtual edition!

Offered online this year, OTF's exceptional professional learning institutes will provide time for you to learn, reflect on your classroom practice, network, and collaborate with peers.

The focus of the Summer Institutes is "Pathways & Possibilities" to reflect the journey of hope that all educators will be embarking on in the upcoming school year. Institutes will highlight new instructional practices and practical ideas that you can use in your classrooms in the year ahead. All institutes are facilitated by Ontario teachers and most are delivered by members of Ontario's subject/division associations.

This year's program includes fourteen institutes addressing a range of topics, offered virtually using Zoom throughout the month of August.

Institutes are either one full day or two half-days in length to provide a variety of options for your summer learning.

There is also a special IGNITE Learning Event, in partnership with Ontario Tech University, that will provide a multitude of virtual experiences to explore coding and artificial intelligence in K-12 education. You won't want to miss this one-of-a-kind learning experience!

Registration is free! Powerful learning is a guarantee!

**If you have any questions, please contact us at
summerinstitutes@otffeo.on.ca**

OTF Summer Institutes 2021 Topics

Develop Inspiring Art-Making, Skills and Love for Reading in Your Students (K-12)	1
Engaging with Cross-Curricular and Culturally Relevant and Responsive Pedagogy-Focused Arts Lessons (K-8).....	2
Embedding Process Drama in French as a Second Language Context: Exploring Authentic Communication (K-8) .3	
Wiidookaagaye: Working Together to Create Change (K-12)	5
Capturing Global Competencies through Digital Breakout Rooms (4-8)	6
Media Literacy is Fun! (K-12).....	7
Engaging Students to Collaborate Confidently and Apply Skills in a Thinking Classroom (9-12)	8
Pathways to Possibilities: Science Education and the United Nations' Sustainable Development Goals (K-12)	9
Invitations to Writing (9-12).....	10
Ready? Set! Code! (K-8).....	11
Coding and Computational Thinking in Math (4-9)	12
Student Centered: K-8 Culturally Responsive Coding Experiences (K-8)	13
Right from the Start: Discovering the Possibilities and Power of Play and Inquiry in Kindergarten (K)	14
IGNITE Learning Event: A Partnership with Ontario Tech University (K-12)	15

Register now at

<https://www.otffeo.on.ca/en/learning/otf-summer-institutes-2021/>

SI-1

Develop Inspiring Art-Making, Skills and Love for Reading in Your Students

Grades: K-12

August 26, 2021 - 9:00 am - 3:00 pm

Full-day Institute

In this one-day OTF Summer Institute, participants will focus on art-making inspiration, purposeful discussion and specific media to develop skills to use immediately with their own students. Join us as we explore the possibilities found in a variety of texts as inspiration. Together, participants will explore how to engage students using critical thinking to demonstrate their understanding of differing points of view, and how to apply multiple literacies in a makerspace or visual/media arts classroom. Ideas and strategies will be applicable in face-to-face and virtual learning environments. We will integrate Art and Literature to explore themes of self, diversity, equity and inclusion. Walk down the path with us to discover the endless possibilities of an Art and Library partnership. This Summer Institute is facilitated by members of the Ontario Art Education Association (OAEA) & The Association of Library Consultants and Coordinators of Ontario (TALCO), two subject/division associations in Ontario.



TALCO

Presenters:

Michèle Kleinschuck is currently serving as President of OAEA. She is responsible for the website, membership, regional representatives, and the Day of Art program. Michele has held a variety of teaching positions including Visual Arts, French, Classroom Teacher, and French LST. As a lifelong learner, Michele has continuously taken Additional Qualification courses and holds a Specialist in Visual Arts. She regularly attends conferences and workshops and loves traveling to continue the French journey started many moons ago in France. Michele believes the Arts can and should be integrated into all areas of the curriculum.

Kate Johnson-McGregor is teacher-librarian at Brantford Collegiate Institute. She is a lifetime volunteer with the Ontario Library Association (OLA), co-chair of TALCO, and a contributor to Canadian School Libraries Journal. Kate is eager to explore ideas in teaching and learning, loves collaborating with students and teachers in the Learning Commons and enjoys literature, yoga, travel, and sharing great meals with family and friends. Kate is a frequent presenter at library and education conferences and for school districts and is the 2018 winner of the Patti McCleister Memorial Award for Inspirational Leadership in Grand Erie.



SI-2

Engaging with Cross-Curricular and Culturally Relevant and Responsive Pedagogy-Focused Arts Lessons

Grades: K-8

August 17, 2021 - 9:00 am - 3:00 pm

Full-day Institute

In this one-day OTF Summer Institute, participants will explore strategies to create rich, curriculum-focused Arts lessons with cross-curricular application. Together we will share sample lessons in an interactive setting incorporating the areas of Dance, Drama, Music and Visual Art. Lessons will focus on connecting a common element of the Arts throughout all of the subject areas, always focusing on diversity and responsibility. Participants will consider ways to bring Arts lessons to life in both the virtual and face-to-face classroom to increase student engagement. This session is ideal for both generalist classroom teachers and Arts specialist teachers. This Summer Institute is facilitated by members of the Arts Education Consultants of Ontario (ARTSECO), a subject/division association in Ontario.



Presenters:

Robert Longo has enjoyed his second career as an elementary music teacher for 20 years. Before his life in the classroom, Bob was a professional singing actor and has played on stages all across North America and on Broadway. Career highlights include Javert in *Les Miserables* and the Beast in *Beauty and the Beast*. He also teaches at the Randolph College for the Performing Arts. While living in New York City, Bob taught at CAP21 at New York University and served as Adjunct Professor of Voice at William Patterson University. He brings his experience and knowledge from his work on stage to the classroom.

Vicki McRae has lived her entire life in the Arts. Born and raised in an artist's family, she had regular interaction with many leaders in Toronto's Arts community. This led to studies at both University of Toronto and Ontario College of Art (now OCADU). Vicki taught drawing and painting in the evening, as well as piano lessons during the day, while raising her children. When parenting demands diminished, she became a Music teacher and, ultimately, Music Resource Teacher with the Toronto Catholic District School Board. After many years as a Music educator, Vicki has returned to her first love and supports Drama, Dance and Visual and Media Arts teachers in the Toronto Catholic District School Board as the Arts Resource Teacher.



SI-3

Embedding Process Drama in French as a Second Language Context: Exploring Authentic Communication

Grades: K-8

Part 1 - August 18, 2021

Part 2 - August 19, 2021

9:00 am – 12:00 pm each day

Two-part Institute

In this two-part OTF Summer Institute, participants will explore ways to facilitate subsequent language learning in the classroom using Drama techniques. Together, we will explore ways to expand the power of “action-oriented approaches” using Drama. We will harness the power of process drama to activate communication, critical thinking and problem solving to create immediacy with our students and elicit deep engagement with subsequent language. Join us as we create authentic contexts which invite students to become authors in real time, suspending their disbelief in ways that simulates immersion through role-playing. The facilitators will share their experiences with inhibited language learners who reached beyond their comfort zones to engage in meaningful and imaginative communication through Drama. Participants will come away empowered to try these approaches with a variety of provocations for language experiences. Throughout the Institute, participants will experience examples of process drama in action and will leave with strategies to promote safe risk-taking in improvisations and process drama in the French as a Second Language classroom. This Summer Institute is facilitated by members of the Council of Ontario Drama and Dance Educators (CODE), a subject/division association in Ontario.



Presenters:

Tessa Lofthouse is an Ontario elementary French Immersion teacher in the Hamilton-Wentworth District School Board. In her teaching practice, she focuses on social justice-infused, anti-racist pedagogy, integrating subject areas and using the Arts to promote social change. She received her Bachelor of Arts in French Studies and her Bachelor of Education from Brock University. She has facilitated workshops for the Hamilton-Wentworth District School Board, Peel District School Board and co-facilitated a 2018 ETFO Summer Institute. She was the 2019 laureate of the Concours des Professionnels créatifs for l'Association Canadienne des professeurs de l'immersion (ACPI).

Line Roberge is an Ontario secondary teacher. In her 17 years as a Drama teacher, her work included directing social justice-themed plays. Line is a graduate of the Professional Training Program of The Toronto Dance Theatre. She received her Bachelor of Arts in Theatre from Ottawa University and her Bachelor of Education in 2001 from Nipissing University. In 2010, she received her Master of Education from Nipissing University with a focus on assessment and literacy. She has facilitated workshops in Dance/Drama/French as a Second Language (FSL) for the Rainbow, Bluewater and Near North District School Boards, CODE and OMLTA. Line is currently the FSL/Arts Coordinator (K-12) for the Rainbow District School Board.

Daniel Schneiderman is an Ontario elementary French Immersion teacher. In his practice, he aims to build a caring and supportive learning community where students feel safe to be themselves and take risks. Daniel received a Bachelor of Arts in Theatre from Ryerson University in 2000 and his Bachelor of Education in 2012 from the University of Toronto. With a background in acting, Daniel is passionate about infusing Drama in education. Daniel works for the Hamilton-Wentworth District School Board and currently acts as the Drama Liaison for the Council of Ontario Drama and Dance Educators (CODE).



SI-4

Wiidookaagaye: Working Together to Create Change

Grades: K-8

August 5, 2021 - 9:00 am - 3:00 pm

Full-day Institute

In this one-day OTF Summer Institute, the focus will be on a salient tenet of reconciliation in education systems. More specifically, participants will be provided with opportunities to explore approaches and strategies that reinforce the importance of initiating, establishing and maintaining meaningful and mutually-beneficial partnerships with educators, students and Indigenous Peoples. Together, we will explore how to uphold Indigenous rights and human rights in the classroom and how to develop a critical lens when considering Indigenous content in the classroom. This Summer Institute is facilitated by members of the First Nations, Métis & Inuit Education Association of Ontario (FNMIEAO), a subject/division association in Ontario.



Presenters:

Jodie Williams currently works as the Academic Coordinator for Indigenous Education with the Dufferin Peel Catholic District School Board and is the Co-Chair for the First Nations, Métis and Inuit Education Association of Ontario. She is also the lead on a provincial community of practice for Indigenous Knowledge and Mathematics which involves a collaboration with NASA, Maori educators from New Zealand, the Navajo Nation in the United States, as well as the Anishinaabek, Cree and Kanyen'kaha:ka (Mohawk). Jodie is also a course developer and instructor of Additional Qualification courses and has developed numerous resources in the area of Indigenous Education.

Nancy Rowe is a Mississauga Ojibwe of the Anishinaabek Nation located at New Credit First Nation, Ontario. Nancy holds an Honours Bachelor of Arts in Indigenous Studies and Political Science. She is an educator, consultant and a Traditional Practitioner of Anishinaabek lifeways, views and customary practices, and is currently completing a Masters Degree of Environmental Resource Studies at the University of Waterloo. She is an avid volunteer who coordinates Akinomaagaye Gaamik, a grassroots initiative to provide educational opportunities for all peoples interested in Indigenous perspectives of life, health, education, history and the environment.



SI-5

Capturing Global Competencies through Digital Breakout Rooms

Grades: 4-8

August 25, 2021 - 9:00 am - 3:00 pm

Full-day Institute

In this one-day OTF Summer Institute, we will explore and unlock the secrets of digital breakout rooms. Participants will learn how to create and design meaningful clues that will engage their students, enhance their skills and motivate learners to design their own breakout rooms. By connecting with the Global Competencies, participants will come away with ways to weave in multiple curriculum connections while enhancing 21st century learning. Together, we will explore how video production, coding, website design, and media literacy can all combine to create authentic opportunities for students to learn, grow, and create. This Summer Institute is facilitated by members of the Ontario Association of Junior Educators (OAJE), a subject/division association in Ontario.



Presenters:

Cameron Steltman, a teacher with the Halton District School Board, has enjoyed many different roles in the classroom. He has been a teacher librarian and taught Kindergarten through Grade 7 homeroom as well as technology integration and computational thinking. Cameron was featured on TVO's *Power Hour of Learning* and CBC's *The National*, for his work with computational thinking in the classroom. Cameron is an AQ instructor with ETFO. A frequent presenter for both ETFO and the Ontario Teachers' Federation, Cameron has had the privilege of working with amazing educators all across the province. Cameron is a passionate educator whose motto is "engage, inspire, learn" and he strives to bring this with him in both his presentations and his daily teaching practice.

Ian McLain works with the Halton District School Board currently as a Self-Contained Junior Learning Disabilities teacher in a K-8 French Immersion school. He has eight students in his small class setting that constantly push him into a learning stance and have helped him evolve so greatly. Learning from and with them has been a major highlight of his career thus far. Ian is an advocate for the integration of technology into all program areas. He loves discovering new and creative ways to make student thinking visible, engage students in the learning process and provide timely, descriptive feedback that moves students forward in their learning – all through the use of information technology. His leadership was featured on the Ministry of Education's *Edugains* website as an example of 21st century learning. He's also a proud Additional Qualifications Instructor with ETFO AQ.



SI-6

Media Literacy is Fun!

Grades: K-12

Part 1 - August 17, 2021

Part 2 - August 18, 2021

9:00 am – 12:00 pm each day

Two-part Institute

In this two-part OTF Summer Institute, participants will delve deeply into the critically important topic of media literacy as we explore ways to help students become wise consumers of media and responsible producers of their own media. Together, participants will investigate practical strategies to embed media literacy into their programs. We will learn how to integrate critical thinking about technology and digital media across the Kindergarten - Grade 12 curricula. Participants will explore media production and the purposeful use of a variety of digital tools (including Google Workspace, digital production tools, social media and online learning platforms). Participants will learn to co-create learning environments that engage, inspire, build students' digital literacy skills, and design learning experiences that reflect students' experiences. This Summer Institute is facilitated by members of the Association for Media Literacy (AML), a subject/division association in Ontario.



Presenters:

Chelsea Attwell is the Vice President of The Association for Media Literacy (<https://aml.ca/>), a subject association that supports Media Education in Canada and internationally. Chelsea shares her learning at many conferences, both in Ontario and internationally. She has worked with children and youth for over 20 years. Currently, she is a teacher and Digital Leader Learner with the Toronto District School Board. She supports educators in schools to leverage technology to support student learning. She embeds media literacy into her classroom practice to provide engaging and playful inquiry for her students.

Neil Andersen, M.Ed., has taught primary to post-secondary media studies for over 30 years, including Media Studies Additional Qualifications courses for three universities and the Toronto District School Board. He has given keynotes and workshops across Canada, in the US, Japan, India, China, Australia, England, and Sweden. Neil has made movies and videos, authored textbooks, journal articles, teacher resources, study guides and designed t-shirts, posters, interactive CDs, websites, online courses, and programs. He has co-hosted *Mediacy*, a weekly media literacy podcast on *Voice Ed Radio* (<https://voiced.ca/project/mediacy/>) and presented for OTF and ECOO.

**Register
here**

SI-7

Engaging Students to Collaborate Confidently and Apply Skills in a Thinking Classroom

Grades: 9-12

Part 1 - August 17, 2021

Part 2 - August 18, 2021

1:00 – 4:00 pm each day

Two-part Institute

In this two-part OTF Summer Institute, participants will explore strategies to engage students in meaningful inquiry and critical thinking during current times. Reflecting on a pivoting year, there are a number of tools and strategies that have enhanced our teaching practices. Ideas to streamline content (big ideas), incorporate skill development (historical thinking skills, social science research skills) and collaborative strategies and tools to enhance student voice (e.g. master slides, jamboards, thinking scaffolds) will be explored. Time will be allocated during the Institute for participants to apply these strategies and share best practices with colleagues to co-create practical material for History and the Social Sciences classrooms in September. This Summer Institute is facilitated by members of the Ontario History and Social Science Teachers' Association (OHASSTA), a subject/division association in Ontario.



Presenters:

Sarah Murdoch is a classroom History and Social Sciences teacher of 18 years, recipient of the Governor General's History Award for Excellence in Teaching, and a lifelong learner. She works for the District School Board of Niagara at Greater Fort Erie Secondary School. Sarah has recently returned to the classroom from her position as a Canadian World Studies and Social Sciences & Humanities Consultant.

Elizabeth Freeman-Shaw is an OHASSTA Award-winning teacher who is currently the Program Leader for Canadian, World Studies, Social Sciences and the Humanities at A.N. Myer Secondary School in the District School Board of Niagara. She is a classroom teacher with 32 years of experience, a recipient of the Governor General's History Award for Excellence in Teaching, and co-author of *Canadian Sources Investigated*. In her spare time, she runs and has completed 9 marathons.



SI-8

Pathways to Possibilities: Science Education and the United Nations' Sustainable Development Goals

Grades: K-12

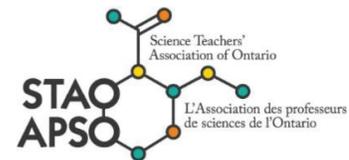
Part 1 - August 24, 2021

Part 2 - August 25, 2021

9:00 am – 12:00 pm each day

Two-part Institute

In this two-part OTF Summer Institute, Kindergarten - Grade 12 Science educators will embark on a journey to transform Science teaching practices. Participants will be inspired to evaluate “why” the current state of Science knowledge construction needs to evolve, while exploring the key elements required to use the United Nations’ Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) as a launching point for teaching in authentic contexts. Participants will collaboratively identify “how” to make the shift towards teaching for enduring impacts. This Institute will demonstrate how the SDGs and Education for Sustainable Development (ESD) can positively impact pedagogy and support students to take action in personally relevant ways in their communities, and beyond. This Summer Institute is facilitated by members of the Science Teachers’ Association of Ontario (STAO), a subject/division association in Ontario.



Presenters:

Janice Williams is a twice certified teacher (ON & QC), Director at Let’s Talk Science, Global Goals Ambassador, and a STAO member and volunteer. Working as an education consultant with expertise in Science, sustainability, and competency-based education, Janice brings an insatiable curiosity about the world to her Science teaching practice. She envisions a future where Science education enables learners to solve personally meaningful problems and make important Science-related decisions that contribute to the betterment of their community.

Mahfuza Rahman is a teacher and digital lead learner in the Toronto District School Board. She is a member of STAO, as well as a Microsoft Innovative Expert and an HP Teaching Fellow. As a lifelong learner, she continues to share her learning with those around her. As a teacher of Math, various sciences, a guidance counsellor, and a teacher-librarian, Mahfuza brings all these experiences to her current pedagogy while building global competence and a community of critical, innovative learners. Mahfuza incorporates the United Nation’s Sustainable Development Goals and maker learning into her curriculum to empower her students to see themselves as producers and change-makers.



SI-9

Invitations to Writing

Grades: 9-12

August 19, 2021 - 9:00 am - 3:00 pm

Full-day Institute

In this one-day OTF Summer Institute, participants will investigate how we can invite students into writing and help learners see themselves as writers. Together, we will explore a variety of strategies, approaches and emerging ideas related to supporting writers. Participants will try out some writing strategies, including guided imagery, writing frames and writer's workshop, and think about application in their own classrooms. The session will also explore effective feedback that promotes student growth. Examples and materials in this session will come from learning experiences in Intermediate and Senior classrooms. This Summer Institute is facilitated by members of the English Language Arts Network Ontario (ELAN Ontario), a subject/division association in Ontario.



Presenters:

Jason Himsl's meandering career pathway has seen him serving in secondary English and ESL classrooms as well as school libraries before finding himself as the 7-12 English/Language Facilitator in the Durham District School Board. Throughout all of these roles, Jason has worked to support adolescent literacy learning, particularly by exploring how curricula can be shaped to appeal to students' aptitudes and interests. An executive member of ELAN Ontario, Jason has found great satisfaction in supporting professional learning opportunities for English teachers across Ontario.

Paula Nevins has been a lover of reading and writing since early childhood and has spent the past 20 years working in the field of Literacy education, as an English teacher, a teacher-librarian, and a Literacy Consultant for the Dufferin-Peel Catholic District School Board. She is passionate about culturally-responsive and decolonial learning and has been honoured to co-learn alongside many writing teams including work for CBC on the podcasts *Finding Cleo* and *The Secret Life of Canada*. Paula currently serves as the Chair of ELAN Ontario.

Brian Weishar has been curious and passionate about adolescent literacy for many years. He is a classroom teacher, professional learning facilitator and coach, and has worked with educators across Ontario and in other parts of Canada. He has also developed a number of resources and online learning opportunities to support literacy instruction.



SI-10

Ready? Set! Code!

Grades: K-8

Part 1 - August 3, 2021

Part 2 - August 4, 2021

12:00 – 4:00 pm each day

Two-part Institute

In this two-part OTF Summer Institute, participants will have the opportunity to explore the new coding expectations in the revised Mathematics curriculum. While guiding you through a step-by-step infographic, the facilitators will walk participants through the new Mathematics curriculum coding expectations from the very beginning, explore tips and tricks to integrate coding into your classroom, and help you discover what it takes for you and your students to become computational thinkers. Together, we will learn to pseudocode, debug and more. No tech or low tech? No problem. Unplugged coding is just as fun. *Our hosts are bilingual and happy to assist in both French and English. This Summer Institute is facilitated by members of the Ontario Association for Mathematics Education (OAME), a subject/division association in Ontario.



Presenters:

Amanda Deneau is an education consultant and teacher of all grade levels, passionate about STEAM and innovative learning. She is a musician, artist, athletic wife, mother, and coach. Amanda has founded her own company, We STEAM-ED Innovations, which consists of teaching coding, robotics and STEAM activities to both children and adults of all ages.

Iain Brodie is a long-time educator, having taught all the grades from 1 to 8, almost exclusively in combined grades. A former classical musician, he found a passion for teaching, especially in the STEAM subjects. He has been teaching through coding since 2009 and, now retired, is teaching teacher candidates at Ontario Tech University and in the online graduate programs at Western University.



SI-11

Coding and Computational Thinking in Math

Grades: 4-9

Part 1 - August 5, 2021

Part 2 - August 12, 2021

1:00 – 4:00 pm each day

Two-part Institute

In this two-part OTF Summer Institute, participants will investigate the role of coding and computational thinking, while exploring mathematical concepts in Grades 4-9. Learning activities that we will consider come from the newly-developed resources available for teachers to support the use of computational thinking and coding in the classroom. This Institute will act as an introduction to help participants increase their comfort with the coding and computational thinking expectations. Participants will learn how to plan and test coding projects alongside their students and become familiar with coding vocabulary, processes, and tools to support student-centered and project-based learning. Together, we will learn how to select tools and instructional strategies to support learning goals. Some tools to be used throughout the Institute include: Python, Google Colab, MakeCode, Scratch, Pencil Code, and more. This Summer Institute is facilitated by members of the Association for Computer Studies Educators (ACSE), a subject/division association in Ontario.



Presenters:

Peter Beens is a retired teacher, having taught Computer Science, Computer Technology, Communications Technology, and ICT in Business. He is Past President of the Association for Computer Studies Educators (ACSE) and Chair of the OTF Curriculum Forum steering committee. Peter also worked with the Ministry of Education, where he helped develop the current Technological Education and Computer Studies curricula. His interests are computing, programming, photography, playing guitar, and long-distance motorcycling.

Grant Hutchison is a Computer Science teacher at Riverdale CI in Toronto (TDSB) and a Sessional Instructor with the Ontario Institute of Studies in Education (University of Toronto). He is the current President of the Association of Computer Studies Educators (ACSE) and frequently presents at educational conferences. Prior to teaching, Grant held various roles at IBM Canada. He completed his BSc. (Wilfrid Laurier University) and a Mathematics degree from the University of Waterloo. When he isn't teaching he can be found on the ski hill or squash court.



SI-12

Student Centered: K-8 Culturally Responsive Coding Experiences

Grades: K-8

Part 1 - August 25, 2021
Part 2 - August 26, 2021
1:00 – 4:00 pm each day

Two-part Institute

In this two-part OTF Summer Institute, participants will explore culturally responsive pedagogy and a framework to design and implement coding learning experiences that reflect, honour and value the lived experiences of our learners. Together, we will investigate different modes for students to communicate their understanding. Having an entry point for all learners and participants will provide opportunities to tinker with no tech, low tech, and high tech applications for learning coding that support integrated instruction across the K-8 curriculum. This Summer Institute is facilitated by members of the Educational Computing Organization of Ontario (ECOO), a subject/division association in Ontario.



Presenters:

Melanie Mulcaster is the Instructional Coordinator for Libraries K-12 for the Peel District School Board. A lifelong learner and maker, she is passionate about inspiring and empowering modern learners to discover, connect, innovate and explore.

Klara Redford, a teacher for over 15 years with the Peel District School Board, has spent the majority of her career in the Kindergarten classroom. As part of her Board's Full Day Kindergarten (FDK) implementation team, Klara helped roll out the FDK Program. Klara has presented about the play-based program at many conferences including OAME, Digital Toolbox Summit, and ETFO's Early Years Conferences. Klara's passion includes integrating 21st century learning and technology as a natural part of play.

Mishelle Pitter-Adlam is a teacher librarian at Clark Boulevard Public School. Her passion is to nurture a healthy self-identity in her capable modern learners. She thrives in creating access and opportunities to empower modern learners for STEAM trajectories.



SI-13

Right from the Start: Discovering the Possibilities and Power of Play and Inquiry in Kindergarten Grades: Kindergarten

Grades: Kindergarten

Part 1 - August 10, 2021

Part 2 - August 11, 2021

9:00 am – 12:00 pm each day

Two-part Institute

In this two-part OTF Summer Institute, participants will work together to investigate strategies to support early learners as they transition back into face-to-face learning using inquiry and play from the start of the year. Participants will explore the possibilities and power of play-based learning across the four frames in a Kindergarten learning environment. We will discuss how learning through exploration, play, and inquiry can amplify student voice and choice through authentic, meaningful and responsive learning experiences. The Institute will include a balance of pedagogical considerations, practical ideas and suggestions as we explore and collaboratively share positive experiences and successful practices that will start the year off right, from the start.



Presenters:

Michelle McKay is a Ph.D. student at the Ontario Institute for Studies in Education (University of Toronto) in Curriculum and Pedagogy and teaches in the Peel District School Board. Michelle's research is situated around engaging in acts of reconciliation in Kindergarten and engaging students as co-researchers. She provides professional development for educators from across the province on a range of topics related to early learning and play, and inclusive instructional strategies.

Klara Redford, a teacher for over 15 years with the Peel District School Board, has spent the majority of her career in the Kindergarten classroom. As part of her Board's Full Day Kindergarten (FDK) implementation team, Klara helped roll out the FDK Program. Klara has presented about the play-based program at many conferences including OAME, Digital Toolbox Summit, and ETFO's Early Years Conferences. Klara's passion includes integrating 21st century learning and technology as a natural part of play.



SI-14

IGNITE Learning Event (in partnership with Ontario Tech University)

Grades: K-12

Part 1 - August 11, 2021

Part 2 - August 12, 2021

9:00 am – 12:00 pm each day

Two-part Institute

Offered in partnership with Ontario Tech University, the two-part IGNITE Learning Event will provide a multitude of virtual experiences, allowing participants to explore the possibilities of coding and artificial intelligence in K-12 education. There will be virtual tours of the STEAM-3D Lab and the Tech Playground at the Faculty of Education, with the opportunity to have questions answered by Ontario Tech teachers and students. Additionally, participants will be able to move and explore multiple virtual technologies to see how they can support learning in K-12 classrooms. Finally, support materials and project ideas will be provided.

Participants will also have the chance to explore coding and AI opportunities in various programs across Ontario Tech University. Possible tours could include innovative facilities such as:

- The Game Development Lab;
- Virtual Simulations in Healthcare;
- The Automotive Centre of Excellence; and
- Human-Centred Control (HCC) Lab



Presenters:

Iain Brodie is a long time educator having taught all the grades from 1 to 8, almost exclusively in combined grades. A former classical musician, he found a passion for teaching, especially in the STEAM subjects. He has been teaching through coding since 2009, and now retired, is teaching teacher candidates at Ontario Tech University and in the online graduate programs at Western University.

Diane Tepylo taught in K-12 for 20 years, focusing on engaging struggling students while giving them the tools to make sense of science, technology, coding, and math. Diane engaged in post graduate studies to learn more about helping students learn, earning a Doctorate focusing on mathematics teaching and learning and teacher learning within the STEM fields. In her teaching at Ontario Tech University, Diane places the learner at the center of instruction and focuses on building meaningful learning experiences.

