

Jessica Alexis Leonard, Ph.D.

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Professional Profile

- Committed to the well-being of all children and students.
- Dedicated to enthusiastic, developmentally appropriate, and reflective teaching as a means of creating and nurturing a lifelong love of knowledge in children and students.
- Devoted to creating child-centered environments and experiences that inspire delight, curiosity, and joy for teacher candidates as well as the children they teach.

Education

- **Doctor of Philosophy: Educational Studies, Curriculum and Instruction**
How Early Childhood Educators Are Initially Integrating Tablet Technology in the Curriculum.
Saint Louis University, Saint Louis, Missouri
August, 2013
- **Master of Arts in Teaching**
Webster University, Saint Louis, Missouri
May, 2002
- **Bachelor of Arts in Education**
Certification: Early Childhood Education (Birth-3rd Grade)
Saint Louis University, Saint Louis, Missouri
May, 1997

Certification:

Missouri Teaching Certificate, Early Childhood Education, (Birth-3rd grade) Career CPC

Employment

Assistant Professor, Saint Louis University, August 2013-present

- Supervisor for field work experiences
- Supervisor for student educators
- Course Taught: The Development of the Young Child, Families as Educational Partners, Human Growth and Development, Advanced Human Growth and

Development and Children's Literature and Media

Adjunct Professor, Saint Louis University, January 2008- May 2013

- Instructor
- Supervisor for field work experiences
- Supervisor for student educators
- Course Taught: The Development of the Young Child and School, Home and Community, and Children's Literature and Media

Graduate Teaching Assistant, Saint Louis University, August 2010-May 2013

Responsibilities

- Instructor/Supervisor for Early Childhood Student Candidates and Practicum Students
- Member of the Professional Development School Committee
- Researcher of tablet technology in early childhood
- Course Taught: The Development of the Young Child and School, Home and Community

Early Childhood Educator, First Presbyterian Children's Center, August 2005 – May 2010

- Lead Educator for the Three to Four Year Old Program
- Writer of the Three to Four Year Old Curriculum

First Grade Educator, Linda Vista Catholic School, August 1999 – June 2002

First Grade Educator, St. Joseph's – Manchester Catholic Elementary School August 1997 – June 1999

Other Professional Experience

- Head Curriculum Writer for The World Chess Hall of Fame Early Childhood Program, March 2014-September 2014

Scholarly Activities

Presentations

Workshop Presenter, November, 2013

- Oakville Elementary Autism Speaks Series, Oakville, Missouri
Presentation: How to Select Assistive Technology Apps for Your iPad
Presented with: Dr. Linda Bufkin and Dr. Joy Voss

Workshop Presenter, October, 2013

- Rohan Woods Elementary Professional Workshop Series, Warson Woods, Missouri
Presentation: Getting the Most from Your iPad
Presented with: Dr. Linda Bufkin and Dr. Joy Voss

Workshop Presenter, July 2013

- Rohan Woods Elementary Professional Workshop Series, Warson Woods, Missouri
Presentation: How to Search for Apps
Presented with: Dr. Linda Bufkin and Dr. Joy Voss

Workshop Presenter, April 2013

- River Bend Association for the Education of Young Children, Spring Curriculum Conference, Saint Charles, Missouri
Presentation: DAP4APPS: Selecting and Evaluating iPads Apps for Young Children
Presented with Dr. Linda Bufkin and Dr. Joy Voss

Workshop Presenter, February 2013

- Miriam Elementary Professional Development Seminar, Webster Groves, Missouri
Presentation: Integrating and Implementing Tablet Technology in the Curriculum
Presented with Dr. Linda Bufkin and Dr. Joy Voss

Workshop Presenter, January 2013

- Miriam Elementary Community Workshop Series, Webster Groves, Missouri
Presentation: Getting the Most from your iPad and Mobile Device
Presented with Dr. Linda Bufkin and Dr. Joy Voss

Workshop Presenter, January 2013

- Rohan Woods Elementary Professional Development Seminar , Warson Woods, Missouri
Presentation: Integrating and Implementing Tablet Technology in the Curriculum
Presented with Dr. Robert Cole

Workshop Presenter, November 2012

- National Association for the Education of Young Children Annual Conference and Expo, Atlanta, Georgia
Presentation: DAP in Mobile Technology: Apps Successfully Utilized by Early Childhood Teacher Candidates
Presented with Dr. Linda Bufkin and Dr. Joy Voss

Workshop Presenter, October, 2012

- Miriam Elementary, Webster Groves, Missouri
Presentation: DAP4APPS Teachers Evaluation Tool
Presented with Dr. Linda Bufkin and Dr. Joy Voss

Workshop Presenter, June 2012

- National Association for the Education of Young Children National Institute for Early Childhood Professional Development, Indianapolis, Indiana
Presentation: Developing Leaders in Inclusive Settings: The Role of Inclusive Field Experiences for Preservice Teachers
Presented with Dr. Linda Bufkin and Dr. Joy Voss

Workshop Presenter, March 2012

- Missouri Council for Exceptional Children Conference, Lake of the Ozarks, Missouri
Presentation: DAP in Mobile Technology: Apps Successfully Utilized by Early Childhood Teacher Candidates
Presented with Dr. Joy Voss

Publications

Leonard, J. (2013) *How Early Childhood Educators Are Initially Integrating Tablet Technology in the Curriculum*. UMI Dissertation Publications.

Voss, J., Leonard, J., & Bufkin, L. (Submitted-December 10, 2012). *Differentiated practices in inclusive settings: helping each child*. NAEYC Publication.

Leonard, J., Voss, J., & Bufkin, L. (2012). *DAP4APPS: An evaluation tool for iPad apps for young children*. Presentation: National Association for the Education of Young Child Annual Conference & Expo, Atlanta, GA.

Honors and Awards

- The J.J. O'Brien Award, given by the Department of Educational Studies of Saint

Louis University, 2013 for Outstanding Graduate Student

Community and Professional Service

University City Children's Center Board Member, UCCC/LUME, May 2015-current

Downtown Children's Center Board Member, Downtown Children's Center,
September 2013-2015

Saint Louis Partnership Liaison, Hodgen Elementary School
August 2012-Current

Miriam Technology Committee Member, Miriam School, June 2012-Current

Saint Peter PTA Board Member, Saint Peter School, August 2008 – May 2010

- Grade Representation for Kindergarten through Third
- Field Day/ Muffins with Mom's Chairperson

Parents as Teachers Board Member, Kirkwood School District, August 2004 – May 2008

Saint Louis University Committees

- College of Education and Public Service Undergraduate Committee, August 2015-current
- College of Education and Public Service Curriculum Committee, August 2015-current
- College of Education and Public Service Belize Committee, August 2015-current
- College of Education and Public Service Early Childhood/Early Childhood Special Education Task Force for Curriculum Revision, August 2014-current

Professional Affiliations

- National Association for the Education of Young Children (NAEYC)
- National Association for the Education of Young Children-River Bend AEYC-Missouri Affiliate
- North American Reggio Emilia Alliance (NAREA)
- National Association of Early Childhood Teacher Educators (NAECTE)

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