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Unlocking Childhood with Mary Hewitt

Pedagogical Partnerships



What are *Pedagogical Partnerships?*

In a *Pedagogical Partnership*, Mary works with a community of learners to complete a long-term Community of Practice series over several months on a specific topic/area of practice.

Each time you gather for a session, Mary facilitates you through a specific learning format:

1. *Knowledge and Information Sharing*



2. *Stories that Inspire Deep Reflection*



3. *Practical Applications to Implement In-Between Sessions*



Want to learn more about Pedagogical Partnerships for your community?

See more below!

Options for Pedagogical Partnerships:

Areas of Focus:

- Meeting up with Children's Emotions
- Children's Mental Health and Well-Being
- Educator Well-Being: Inside & Outside the Classroom
- Stepping into Leadership: A Series for New Leaders
- Nurturing Creativity: Bringing Back the Arts!
- Trauma-Informed Practice in ECE
- ...and, Mary also develops customized series' for communities!

Series Planning:

- 4-6 sessions a season (Spring/Fall/Winter)
- Typically, 1.5-2.5 hours in length each
- Group sizes with a *minimum* of 8 participants, and a *maximum* of 30 participants per cohort (multiple cohorts can run simultaneously)
- Round or U-shaped table arrangements to encourage collaboration
- In-person or virtual (in-person is encouraged where possible)
- To maximize the efficacy of the series, Pedagogical Partnerships require a strong commitment from communities and attendees

The Benefits of a Pedagogical Partnership:

- Increased *professional growth* in attendees
- A greater likelihood of cultivating *long-term* change
- Focuses on putting *learning into practice*, with follow-ups at each meeting
- Increased *accountability* from attendees
- Offers more opportunities to ask questions and reflect on practice over time, working out dilemmas as they arise
- Offers many opportunities to notice and celebrate shifts in practice within a highly supportive community!

Learn More About Mary...



Contact Mary at:

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Mary Hewitt, founder of Unlocking Childhood, is an experienced public speaker, writer, and consultant specializing in the well-being of children, parents, educators, and child-centered professionals. With 15 years in the Early Learning field as a classroom educator, early childhood education professor, and early years system leader—she leverages her expertise to develop engaging and meaningful learning experiences for her clients. Mary holds a Masters degree in Early Childhood Education, a Bachelor of Education degree, a diploma in Early Childhood Education, and a Psychology degree.

Mary dedicates much of her work to topics such as: well-being and mental health; the 'childhood trauma-informed' approach; how to develop an 'attachment lens'; and nurturing emotional competence.

She has captivated audiences up to 500+ attendees and has delivered her work in a variety of contexts from large-scale arenas to individual classrooms. Mary offers keynotes, workshops, conferences, virtual sessions, and even one-on-one coaching and consultations. She has appeared as a guest on several podcasts and as a writer for various publications. In November 2025, Mary will be speaking at NAEYC's Annual Conference—the largest gathering of ECEs in the world!

Mary credits her eclectic experiences, extensive education, and neurodivergent mind for her dynamic approach—and is passionate about sharing it with the world!

Mary resides in rural Ontario with her husband and beloved dog.