Session A - 9:00 - 10:15
Mixing Art and Science
Kay Matthews, Morton College
This is a hands-on workshop where you will be able to create art and see how it can also integrate scientific concepts into your curriculum for young children.

Preschool Math Adventures: From Standards to Actions
Tsonka Pencheva, Morton College
This session will provide practical ideas for building early math concepts in preschool and kindergarten. Participants will discuss the opportunities to engage children in exciting and meaningful activities, while building mathematical skills and developing logical thinking.

Early Literacy
Nouri Eshafi – Morton College
This presentation will highlight numerous patterns and strategies in the early literacy. It will review the best practices and research base for the correlation of language development in young children and early literacy acquisition. Activity ideas and resources will also support linguistically and culturally diverse learners.

Start Seeing Monarchs
Kim Savino, Schaumburg Elementary District 54
Come explore the world of Monarch butterflies, learn about their habitat and what you and your center can do to help them get off the endangered species list, a great spring project.

Sprouting, Budding, and Blooming – Nature Play & Early Learning
Marisol Brambilla & Tanya Victoria – Hamill Family Play Zoo, Brookfield Zoo
Join in as we get ready for spring and engage in a variety of nature play and learning activities to take back to your programs and classrooms. This hands-on session will introduce you to the many opportunities nature provides for connecting young children to plants and animals through authentic learning experiences while engaging them in science, math, and literacy-linked experiences. Participants will learn how nature play engages the whole child while using the lens of the Illinois Early Learning & Development Standards and Creative Curriculum as they discover and create.

Session B 10:30 – 11:45
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Kay Matthews, Morton College
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Conference Schedule
8:30- 9:00  Registration/Coffee and Rolls
9:00-10:15  Session A
10:30 –11:45  Session B
12:00 – 1:00  Keynote

Keynote Presentation
12:00 – 1:00
Preparing All Educators for Language and Cultural Difference
Rebecca Vonderlack-Navarro
Latino Policy Forum

Early childhood education is pivotal for ensuring that all children are developing their early language and literacy skills. The increased rigor of the Common Core State Standards (CCSS) only heightens the importance of early reading. This session will review the changing student demographics in Illinois and the growth of linguistically and culturally diverse students. It will then review a sampling of the types of language and literacy demands within the new standards and what they entail for students on their way to learning English. The session culminates with the imperative role linguistically and culturally responsive early childhood educators can have in getting every student ready for kindergarten success and beyond.
Registration is FREE

Mail Registration to:

Morton College
Attn: Cheryl Bulat
3801 S. Central Avenue
Cicero, IL  60804

For additional information contact:
Cheryl Bulat – 708-656-8000 ext.2452
Or
Cheryl.bulat@morton.edu

Conference Partners:

The Carole Robertson Center for Learning's Community Partner Program

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Twenty-first Annual Early Childhood Conference

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