



Montessori Alliance of Tennessee

Literacy Workshops—November 2020

The workshops below will help the staff at Montessori schools in Tennessee get the literacy training hours required by state regulators at the Department of Education and the Department of Human Services. All workshops will be offered on Zoom. Participants will receive the Zoom link a day or two before each session.

Professional Development Credit: Each workshop will provide 3 hours of professional development credit - 2 hours for the workshop itself and 1 hour for additional activities that participants can do after the session to reinforce their learning and demonstrate their understanding of the material. Instructions for these activities will be provided during the workshops.

Cost: The cost of the workshops is \$25 per person for each session.

Registration: To register, visit <https://forms.gle/o3pgMp8DHok8moG26>

Workshop #1 - Saturday, 11/7/20 - 10:00 AM Eastern / 9:00 AM Central

"A Montessori Tapestry: Weaving Literacy Throughout the Curriculum"

Presented by Teresa Noble, Institute for Guided Studies

One of the greatest strengths of Montessori education is its fluidity and potential for connecting subject matter. Students' natural curiosity motivates them to explore cultural, artistic and scientific topics while developing literacy and mathematics skills. Participants in this workshop will explore methods of integrating literacy in the other curriculum areas. Emphasis will be placed on making learning fun and interesting – enticing children to academic subjects through cultural experiences. Participants will leave the workshop with ideas and activities that can be put into practice immediately.

About Our Presenter

Teresa Noble holds a Bachelor of Arts in Early Childhood Education and a Master of Education in Special Education from the University of South Carolina. Her Montessori Early Childhood credential was granted by Montessori Education Programs, International. She is retired from the public schools of South Carolina, with 28 years of service. She serves as Education Director, Early Childhood Program Director, Instructor, and Supervisor for The Institute for Guided Studies, headquartered in Camden, SC.

Workshop #2 - Saturday, 11/14/20 - 10:00 AM Eastern / 9:00 AM Central

"How to Encourage Pre-Reading Skills in Toddler and Primary Children"

Presented by Courtney Hester, Amare Montessori School

This workshop will explore what reading is and how our brains read. Participants will learn how to use Montessori materials to:

1. Prepare toddlers and Primary-age children to read,

2. Help students who are struggling with pre-reading skills, and
3. Teach reading in a systematic, cumulative way.

About Our Presenter

Courtney Hester was a special needs facilitator and nanny for 12 years, leading her to return to school to study special education in 2003. She graduated from Austin Peay State University with her Bachelor of Science in Special Education in 2005 and her Master's in Instructional Technology in 2007. She taught in the public school system for seven years and has been with Amare Montessori School in Clarksville, TN, since its opening in 2015. In 2017, Courtney started working on another Master's degree, this time in Dyslexia Therapy. In 2018, she left the Toddler Community to become the Student Services Coordinator at Amare. In 2019 Courtney completed her Master's degree in Dyslexia Therapy and became a Certified Academic Language Therapist from ALTA (Academic Language Therapy Association).

Workshop #3 - Saturday, 11/14/20 - 2:00 PM Eastern / 1:00 PM Central

"How to Encourage the Struggling Elementary Reader"

Presented by Courtney Hester, Amare Montessori School

This workshop will explore what reading is and how our brains read. Participants will learn how to use Montessori materials to teach reading in a systematic, cumulative way, with a particular focus on ways to help struggling readers and why they may be struggling. The session will also explore the difference between learning to read and reading to learn.

About Our Presenter

(Please see the information about Courtney Hester under Workshop #2 above.)

Workshop #4 - Saturday, 11/21/20 - 10:00 AM Eastern / 9:00 AM Central

"Structured Literacy: A Montessori Solution for Reaching All Students"

Presented by Christine Lowry, Montessori-Now

Are you looking for practical, doable ways to work with students who struggle with language, reading, and literacy in a way that is consistent with Montessori practice? Wondering about how your language curriculum could support every student? Curious how you can be sensitive and supportive of the emotional and behavioral impacts of learning challenges? "Structured Literacy: A Montessori Solution for Reaching All Students" will give you -

- Current research and an evidence-based approach for teaching reading.
- A Structured Literacy program using the Montessori Language curriculum.
- Using observation for systematic planning for individual students.
- The sequence for Systematic Instruction with concrete strategies and tools.
- Accommodations to instruct and support the social-emotional needs of students who struggle.

The presentation and discussion will explore real solutions for your classroom with readings and resources to deepen and enrich your practice. For classroom educators and school leaders at every level of Montessori.

About Our Presenter

Christine Lowry is the Senior Consultant at Montessori-Now. She has an M.Ed. and MA in special ed, is Montessori credentialed, and shares her extensive experience, of over 30 years, teaching language and literacy to all kinds of learners in Montessori classrooms.