**Early Education:**

**Teaching Young Learners in Poverty Literacy Readiness Skills**

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**Background:** Many children who come from homes below the poverty line have never heard a book read aloud, had access to drawing materials or had opportunities to hear adults tell stories meant for children. Children aged 3, 4 and 5 arrive at pre-schools and daycare centers—and eventually schools—without literacy readiness skills.

* They struggle with a short attention span.
* Their limited vocabulary makes it difficult for them to listen to a book read out loud.
* They can not draw pictures that tell a story.
* They struggle to draw pictures that represent objects.
* they have a limited ability to tell about events from their lives.
* They don’t know how to play independently for an extended period of time.

**Lecture:** Holly Winter Huppert will give steps schools can take to develop students’ literacy skills—without spending money on curriculums or expensive materials.

In this lecture Huppert will explain the 10 levels of drawing that lead to writing acquisition, the parameters around children’s play time to help young learners learn faster and ways to incorporate storytelling into the curriculum to maximize vocabulary development and integrate an understanding of story.

Huppert has lectured around the world about affordable teacher-led programs that cost pennies. She is well loved for her knowledge, her ability to answer questions about educating students of all ages and her understanding of the principles of education and how to best apply them to a variety of teaching opportunities.

**Takeaways:** Participants will leave with an understanding of child development and ways to teach children in poverty literacy readiness skills through drawing, play time and storytelling.