



California Kindergarten Association E-News

30th Annual California Kindergarten Conference!

JOIN CKA and become part of a network of educators who want kindergarten to be the best it can be! This year CKA members can look forward to:

- TKP Implementation
- Common Core State Standards lesson plans
- More You Tube videos
- Development of a Members Only portal on our website.

[Click here to join!](#)

CKA on Facebook!

Have a comment? Want to chat about kindergarten issues?

Wondering what we've been up to? Come join us on Facebook and connect with other CKA members!

Be sure to check out our "Tuesday Teaching Tip" every week on Facebook!

Thanks to our Sponsors!

We would like to thank the sponsors of the 30th Annual Conference!

Discount School Supply

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Santa Clara Convention & Visitors Bureau

The conference brochure has been posted on our website! [Click here](#) to download a copy. Register early to take advantage of our early bird registration fee and to guarantee yourself a spot in your favorite workshops! Purchase orders **will** be accepted.

This year's conference will feature not one, but TWO outstanding keynote speakers. On Saturday morning **Ronald Mah** will deliver the first keynote address. An educator, author, licensed marriage and family therapist, he has worked in ECE for 16 years. He will be presenting "**Just Playing is Great! Developmentally Appropriate Principles for Early Learners**". His presentation discusses developmental theory, making it real, understandable and applicable to interactions with your students. He will also address implications for activities and appropriate learning materials, as well as how to set the learning environment.

On Sunday morning **Dr. Jean Feldman** will present the second keynote address. Dr. Jean will present "**Better Bodies and Brains**". In this keynote you'll discover activities that will help children be their best physically, socially and cognitively. Be ready to be re-inspired with new songs, stories and ideas!

Exhibitors 2012 - Only 5 Spaces Still Available! The California Kindergarten Association invites you to exhibit your educational materials at the 30th Annual California Kindergarten Conference. We are anticipating over 500 participants - kindergarten teachers, preschool teachers, early primary teachers, administrators, parents and leaders in the forefront of education today.

For information visit

<http://www.californiakindergartenassociation.org/>.

Common Core State Standards!

The State Board of Education adopted Common Core State Standards for K-12 students in language arts and mathematics to replace the California Academic Standards in those subject areas. Each month CKA will select a standard and offer activities, lesson plans and/or resources to help teachers meet these new standards.

September's CCSS is contributed by both Nori Nitschke of Roseville City School District and Debra Weller of Capistrano USD. [Click here](#) to view the activities that address *Common Core State Standard for Geometry*: Identify and describe shapes (squares, circles, triangles, rectangles, hexagons, cubes, cones, cylinders, and

It's Time for CKA Awards!

JBAR - The annual Judy Brown Administrator Recognition Award recognizes administrators who exemplify outstanding leadership and exemplary support of kindergarten educators. Judy Brown, along with a group of dedicated educators, organized the first Bay Area Kindergarten Conference. She also served as the first President of CKA. The administrator who is nominated recognizes and encourages professional development of kindergarten teachers and supports the unique needs of the kindergarten classroom. The nominator must be a current member of CKA.

Deadline: October 1, 2011. The recipient will be given a Certificate of Recognition during the opening session of the annual California Kindergarten Conference as well as be highlighted by an article in the CKA newsletter, *TAKE FIVE*.

[For application, click here.](#)

ASTE A - The \$500 Audrey Sanchez Teacher Enhancement Award has been established to honor Audrey's spirit, talent, leadership and dedication to CKA and Kindergarten by recognizing individual educators for achievement and excellence in early childhood education. The nominee must believe in the philosophy of the CKA Mission Statement.

Deadline: November 1, 2011.

[For application, click here.](#)

Art Really Teaches

spheres), describe their positions as above, below, beside, in front of, behind, and next to, and name shapes regardless of their orientations or overall size **AND** *Common Core State Standard for Language*: Know conventions of standard English capitalization, punctuation, and spelling when writing.

Want to contribute your ideas? CKA posts the next month's standards on the CKA website. [Click here](#) for November 2011. If your idea is selected you will receive a special CKA gift!

Rich Language Experiences Critical for Preschoolers

Vanderbilt University research shows that preschool teachers who use sophisticated vocabulary and analytic talk about books combined with early support for literacy in the home enable their children to have higher fourth-grade reading comprehension and word recognition. What does this oral language sound like?

Research points to the positive effects of Dialogic Reading as a way of drawing preschoolers and kindergartners into books and encouraging their conversation about the book. Dialogic Reading uses five kinds of questions/activities about a book:

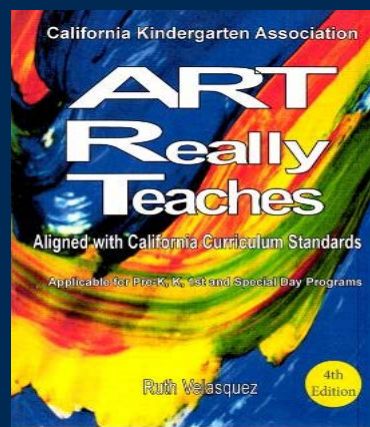
1. Completion
2. Recall
3. Open-Ended
4. Who, What, Where, Why, How
5. Distancing

Teachers don't use all five types of questions with each reading of a book, but rather ask one or two. The next time the book is read, different questions are asked. The questions draw children into the plot and characters, encourage their thinking about the story and help them share with peers and adults. The questions can also be used with informational text. [Click here](#) to read more about the Dialogic Reading with Young Children technique.

CKA would love to hear ways that preschool and kindergarten teachers encourage oral language. Just [click here](#) and enter your ideas on the Tuesday Teaching Tips page.

4th Edition

The new, 140 page 4th Edition is bigger and better! The new edition includes new color photos of art projects by four-, five-, and six-year-old artists from throughout the state, tips for framing artwork, and a project title index as well as over 400 activities to help you teach the standards in Math, Language Arts, Social Studies, Science and Visual Art.



ART Really Teaches helps you teach academic standards the way children learn best—with hands-on art projects. It's a must for Kindergarten teachers. The cost is \$35 plus shipping and handling. To order yours today and put it to use in your classroom, please contact First Stage Publishing at (707)664-0164 or email them at FirstStageco@aol.com



Are You Retired?

CKA offers support and current information to all teachers of young children through the annual conference, website, *Take Five*, and a direct communication with professionals. As a retiree, please consider continuing your membership to support CKA's efforts to keep teachers informed with the latest, best practices in kindergarten. It is important that we are a strong, vital organization.

As you know, CKA is operated by volunteers. The CKA Board and California Kindergarten Conference Committee are open to both retired and current education professionals. We would love for you to consider sharing some of your time and talents with our organization.

You can also help by sharing our membership brochure with the person who took your position. Let them know about the benefits you received as a CKA member. It is important that we reach the many new teachers in the profession as well as the experienced teachers who may not have heard of us. [Click here](#) for additional membership brochures.

Innovative Ideas Grant

CKA is offering an Innovative Ideas Grant of \$150 for the development and implementation of appropriate environment, curricula or classroom project to meet the diverse needs of young children. Our mission is to facilitate quality education for all kindergarten children. We aim to advance the professionalism of early childhood educators; promote an understanding of how young children learn and develop; contribute to and promote the seamless transition from preschool to kindergarten and beyond.

Proposals will be evaluated on: Title; Goals and Objectives;

Description of Project/Activities; Relevant Research and Theory; Benefit to Children; Evaluation; Project Timeline; Proposed Budget; Resume/Educational Background; Two Current Professional Letters of Reference.

The [Grant Application and Guidelines](#) are available as a download on the CKA website. Grant applications are due by October 15 and will be awarded by November 30, 2011. Grantees will be introduced at the California Kindergarten Conference on Sunday, January 15, 2012. Applicants should be current members in good standing of CKA.

Grants that were awarded in the past include *Ready for Science - Ready for Reading* by Nathalie Medina, Los Angeles Archdiocese and *Making Sure ART Stays in Kindergarten* by Sheri Sutterley of Turlock Elementary SD.

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