



Rethinking Early Childhood Education

By Ann Pelo



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Rethinking Early Childhood Education is alive with the conviction that teaching young children involves values and vision. This anthology collects inspiring stories about social justice teaching with young children. Included here is outstanding writing from childcare teachers, early-grade public school teachers, scholars, and parents. Early childhood is when we develop our core dispositions the habits of thinking that shape how we live. This book shows how educators can nurture empathy, an ecological consciousness, curiosity, collaboration, and activism in young children. It invites readers to rethink early childhood education, reminding them that it is inseparable from social justice and ecological education.

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Editorial Review

Review

"The diverse articles give insightful, practical, and moving voice to teachers' experiences with children and families and make diversity, equity, inclusion and preserving the environment integral to a quality early childhood education program." -- Louise Derman-Sparks "faculty emerita, Pacific Oaks College, and author of *Anti-Bias Curriculum: Tools for Empowering Young Children*"

"Beautifully weaves together key components for transforming early childhood educators into a leadership force for progressive thinking and teaching. With its range of teacher stories, it provokes critical thinking and imaginative classroom practices. There's nothing else quite like this book to fortify early educators for the work before us." -- Margie Carter "early childhood instructor and co-author of *Learning Together With Young Children: A Curriculum Framework for Reflective Teachers*"

"This book is a real page-turner. I just couldn't put it down! It's a treasure store of short, interesting pieces by famous and not so famous authors, all of whom write from their hearts and experiences. The subject is so important--equity and justice--and the writing brings it all down to earth. Everybody should read this book!" -- Janet Gonzalez-Mean "early childhood consultant and author of *Diversity in Early Care and Education: Honoring Differences*"

"This volume is a beacon of progressive early childhood teaching practices. I was constantly impressed with the intimate understanding of young children that shone through the teachers' descriptions of how they engage young children and their families in inclusive practices, critical thinking, and social activism to address biases and inequities." -- Patricia Ramsey "professor of psychology and education, Mount Holyoke College, author of *Teaching and Learning in a Diverse World: Multicultural Education for Young Children*"

About the Author

Ann Pelo has been an early childhood educator and teacher mentor for 18 years. She studied Child Development and Family Studies at Purdue University, earning a Masters degree in 1992. From 1992 until 2008 she worked at Hilltop Children's Center in Seattle as a teacher of 3-, 4-, and 5-year-old children and as the Mentor Teacher, responsible for professional development at the center. During that time, Pelo was active in the national Worthy Wage Campaign, an effort to improve the wages and working conditions of child care teachers. Pelo has traveled extensively both in the United States and abroad to work with child care and Head Start teachers on emergent, Reggio-inspired teaching practices and on social justice education. She is the co-author, with Fran Davidson, of *That's Not Fair: A Teacher's Guide to Activism with Young Children*, and the author of *The Language of Art: Inquiry-Based Studio Practices in Early Childhood Settings*. She divides her time between Seattle and Utah, and works on developing practices to connect children to place.

Users Review

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Evan Hinson:

The book *Rethinking Early Childhood Education* can give more knowledge and also the precise product information about everything you want. Exactly why must we leave a very important thing like a book

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