Babies on the Grid: Screen Time and Its Impact on Attachment and Attention
Presenter: Ruth Anne Hammond

Recent research indicates that the quality of life experienced by babies-on-the-grid may be associated with physical, social/emotional and cognitive challenges. We can’t turn back the calendar to a pre-iPad world, but we must lead the way in helping families understand their babies’ deep need for connection and active learning. Let’s explore how we can help.

Ruth Anne Hammond, author of *Respecting Babies: A Guide to Educaring for Parents & Professionals 2nd Edition* (Zero to Three 2019) is a RIE® Associate and Mentor, having studied under its founder, Magda Gerber. Currently presenting at conferences and teaching in the U.S. and abroad on the topic of respectful infant and toddler care and education, she was faculty in the Human Development Department at Pacific Oaks College & Children’s School, as well as leading its Infant/Toddler-Parent Program for 17 years... She is not ashamed to admit she is hopelessly in love with her baby grandson.

Cooperative care – the role of free movement in diapering
Presenter: Anna Ruth Myers

Diaper changes are an opportunity for infants and adults to be together in a mutually positive way – yet we’re often uncertain how to maintain a pleasurable atmosphere that allows for the child to be diapered in a self-initiated body position.
This workshop will explore the practical tools to support adults and mobile infants feel comfortable and confident during diaper changes.

Anna Ruth Myers is a RIE® Associate, Pikler® Pedagogue candidate and the founder of The Nurtured Child, an early parenting program based on the peaceful and respectful approaches to infant care and education developed by Emmi Pikler and Magda Gerber. For more information visit *thenurturedchild.com*
Learning from Conflict  
**Presenter:** Kira Solomatova

Watching children participate in cooperative play is easy to enjoy. In a safe, well-prepared environment, children show us that they know how to play, explore and engage. However, at some point, as they each try to meet their needs and carry out their plans they will engage in conflict - sometimes loudly. Now what? This workshop will address conflict from multiple points of view:

- What do the children learn in conflict?
- What do the parents learn in conflict?
- What does the facilitator learn in conflict?
- What are the conditions that allow children to learn during conflicts?

Kira Solomatova (Pasadena, California) has a Bachelor's Degree in Child Development. Although both of her parents were engineers, Kira dreamed about working with children from the time she was seven years old. The RIE® program is not only inspirational for Kira because it advocates for babies, but it has also helped her to become more authentic. Kira published her first book, *Toby is My Bear*, as part of a conflict resolution series for preschoolers, and she has a blog about conflicts with toddlers and preschoolers, [ihadaconflicttoday.blogspot.com](http://ihadaconflicttoday.blogspot.com).

The Educaring® Approach for Nannies: Building a Career That Nourishes Both Nannies and Families  
**Presenters:** Christina Vlinder and Kristen Rung

Learn how to use the Educaring® Approach in your work as a nanny. Two career nannies will share what they have learned in their combined 40 years of experience. We will cover all the “developmental stages” of a nanny job: looking for work, interviewing, signing a contract, building a relationship with the child, becoming a team with the family, and saying goodbye when the time comes.

**Christina Vlinder**, began her nanny career in 1999, and has helped raise many children. She became a RIE® Associate in 2017. Over the course of her career in child development, she has taught RIE® Parent Infant Guidance™ Class and RIE® Before Baby classes. Christina founded the Bay Area Infant Toddler Network for RIE® professionals in the San Francisco Bay Area in 2015. She is currently a full time nanny and teaches RIE® Nurturing Nanny™ throughout the year.

**Kristen Ring** is a RIE Intern with over 20 years of experience guiding and supporting families in raising their children. In addition to nannying, Kristen acts as a coach to parents and a nanny trainer and mentor. In her spare time, she teaches at a forest preschool, gives parenting talks, volunteers at a childcare collective for activists, and spends as much time as possible with her sister’s children.
Working with Toddlers: Using the Educaring® Approach to Resolve Conflicts and Restore Security  
**Presenters:** Patty Ryan and Nancy Spangler

Using the principles and practices of the Educaring® Approach, we will discuss the specific stage of toddlerhood, demonstrating how the approach can be effectively utilized to promote interdependence while supporting a toddler’s growing need for independence and autonomy. Participants will be shown ways to understand how developmentally appropriate, respectful interactions with toddlers can build conflict resolution skills while restoring peace and security in toddler care programs and at home.

Patricia Ryan is a RIE® Mentor Teacher with a Master's Degree in Human Development from Pacific Oaks College. She is an Associate Professor at Yuba College and teaches all of the RIE® Certified professional development courses. She is passionate about extending the reach of the Educaring® Approach and offers workshops and seminars for professionals and parents internationally and nationwide. She lives in the San Francisco Bay Area with her husband and daughter, who is a sophomore in college.

Nancy Spangler (Santa Cruz, California) is currently a ECE/Children’s Center faculty at Cabrillo College. She has been in this position for the past 21 years. She is also currently working as a Quality Enrichment Coach for Encompass; supporting early educators in our community. She has been in the ECE field for over 30 years. Nancy has a B.A. in Human Development with a specialization in Early Childhood Education, and is a RIE® Intern™, having completed the RIE® Foundations™ and RIE® Practicum™ courses. And, she is a parent of two young adults.

Working with Childcare Providers to Improve the quality of Childcare  
**Presenter:** Alexandra Curtis

We expect a lot of Early Childhood Educators. They must provide quality care, engage in continuing education, stay passionate about their work, and remain emotionally available to the children in their care. How can we best motivate our peers and staff, to examine their practices and create sustainable change?

Forming close, intimate professional relationships can be the foundation for technical assistance, coaching, and mentoring. Using videos, commentary, and feedback from a specially funded, ongoing Infant Toddler Quality Improvement Project, learn what does and doesn’t work in promoting authentic, intrinsically motivated professional growth.

Alexandra Curtis (Eugene, Oregon) is a RIE Associate and manages the Infant Toddler Focused Network at Lane Community College. She has presented nationally and internationally on a variety of “birth to two” topics. Author of *Simple Toys Make Active Babies*, a book about play spaces for infants and toddlers, Alexandra earned her Associate Degree in Early Childhood Education and Bachelor’s Degree in General Studies with a Public Health focus at the University of South Florida. Alex was a founding Board Member of the Pikler/Loczy USA Fund, and the Hillsborough County Breastfeeding Taskforce. Alex is an International Board Certified Lactation Consultant for Daisy Chain Lane County.
Respectful Relationships: Creating Connections that Last

**Presenter: Melissa Coyne**

Have you ever wondered how to create respectful relationships with infants and toddlers that will last into adulthood? This dynamic workshop will introduce you to the RIE® principles and show you how to extrapolate them across the lifespan. Presenters will share information and stories that address the value of understanding developmental stages, collaboration, communication, negotiation and creating connections rooted in respect that last.

Melissa Coyne, RIE®’s Program Director, is an Early Childhood Educator who has 28 years of experience building relationships with children and parents. In addition to holding a Master's degree in Child Development, Melissa is a RIE® Associate and a certified PITC (Program for Infant/Toddler Care) trainer. One of Melissa’s passions is inspiring adults and children to be critical thinkers in areas of diversity, compassion, self-awareness and authenticity. Melissa is a firm believer that being a parent is a process, not a product, to be handled with intention, deep reflection and great care.

Introduction to the Educaring Approach

**Presenter: Melanie Snell**

For those new to RIE®, this workshop is an excellent way to begin. This workshop is an introduction to RIE® and the Educaring™ approach. We will cover respect as the foundation of our work with children, as well as the seven basic principles that the RIE® philosophy is built on.

Melanie Snell is a mother of four children. She and her husband have been practicing the RIE® philosophy in their home ever since. Melanie became a RIE® Associate in 2014 after slowly making her way through the professional development program, pausing her studies occasionally to have babies. Melanie teaches RIE® Parent/Infant classes on Saturdays at the Los Angeles RIE® center. She also teaches RIE® Nurturing Nanny courses and Before Baby classes, as well as private consulting. During the week she is the Tot Center Coordinator at Kirk O’ the Valley school where she works with children 18 months to 3 years old. www.raisingwithrespect.com melsnell@sbcglobal.net