

Resume

**Kathryn J. Siepak**

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EDUCATION

Ph. D. Human Development and Family Studies  
August 2008 The University of North Carolina at Greensboro

M. S. Human Development and Family Studies  
May 2004 The University of North Carolina at Greensboro

B. S. Elementary Education, with honors  
May 1991 Specialization: Early Childhood Education  
The University of Texas at El Paso

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Professional Development Advisor/Mentor (8/14 – present)

Greater Opportunities of the Permian Basin, Head Start School Readiness Academy, Odessa, TX

Supervisor: Betty Carter, CEO

Duties: advise and support teachers and staff in obtaining higher education degrees and child development credentials, supervise site managers of Head Start centers, assist Curriculum Specialist and Disabilities Specialist in training and mentoring teachers.

Kindergarten Teacher (8/13 – 6/14) Gonzales Elementary School, Odessa, TX

Supervisor: Alicia Press, Principal

Duties: create a classroom atmosphere that fosters learning; use children's interests and district curricula to plan and deliver instruction to students, including English Language Learners; assess and document student progress; participate in grade level planning and activities; work with parents to maximize children's learning.

Assistant Professor (7/09- 8/13)

College of Education, University of Texas of the Permian Basin, Odessa, TX

Supervisor: Roy Hurst, Chair of Curriculum and Instruction Department

Duties: design and deliver instruction to graduate students in early childhood education; Direct the Texas Home Visiting Program; serve the university and community at large.

Postdoctoral Fellow (7/08 –5/09)

Center for Youth, Family and Community Partnerships, Greensboro, NC

Supervisor: Chris Payne, Director

Duties: provide professional development to Head Start teachers using the Classroom Assessment Scoring System (CLASS), assist in a community assessment of school

readiness services and programs; help child care providers prepare for Child Development Associate (CDA) license, teach undergrad classes in child development.

Research Assistant (8/04- 6/08)

The University of North Carolina at Greensboro, Greensboro, NC

Supervisors: Karen La Paro and Esther Leerkes, Associate Professors

Duties: assist professors to design and conduct investigations regarding 1) pre-service teachers' beliefs and 2) the influence of maternal sensitivity on infant development; collect, organize, enter and analyze data; interpret results and help professors write articles for publication.

Professional Development Liaison (8/01-5/04) graduate assistantship at University of NC at Greensboro Supervisors: Dr. Deborah Cassidy, Sharon Mims

Duties: encourage family child care providers to pursue higher education; conduct workshops on local educational opportunities; facilitate community efforts to unify the early childhood field; advocate for better working conditions for child care providers.

Family Child Care Provider (4/99-8/01)

Blue Sky Child Care, Greensboro, NC

No supervisor—self-employed

Duties: create an environment that fosters learning and development, provide for the safety and health of infants and young children, work with parents to ensure that children and families' needs are met, meet state guidelines for licensing of a child care facility.

Pre-Kindergarten & Kindergarten Teacher (8/91- 8/98) Terlingua CSD, Terlingua, TX

Supervisor: Kathy Killingsworth, Superintendent

Duties: create a classroom atmosphere that fosters learning, build on children's interests to plan and deliver instruction to students, including English Language Learners; assess and document student progress, work with parents to maximize children's learning.

## SKILLS AND ACHIEVEMENTS

- secured a \$1.2 grant from the Texas Health and Human Services Department to Ector County to start the Texas Home Visiting Program (now called First Five), which includes the Early Childhood Coalition, Parents as Teachers and HIPPY
- worked with UTPB faculty to secure funding from the Office of Special Education Projects to create a Master's degree program in Autism and Developmental Delays in Early Childhood
- taught both online and face-to-face classes at undergraduate and graduate levels
- presented workshops to early childhood and elementary teachers on a variety of topics, including reading aloud, the value of play, child development, brain development, early signs of autism, and related issues
- wrote articles on parenting issues for local publications
- ESL Certified with 8 years of experience working with English Language Learners
- Trained to use Guided Reading and Balanced Literacy
- comfortable with technology, including computers and SmartBoards

- Secured funding for and implemented the Texas Home Visiting Program (now called First Five), which includes Parents as Teachers and HIPPY, the Early Childhood Coalition of Ector County and the Early Development Instrument (EDI) Project
- Former owner of one of the first Five-Star Family Child Care Homes in North Carolina

#### PROFESSIONAL AND ACADEMIC MEMBERSHIPS

National Association for the Education of Young Children (1991-2003; 2009 – present)

Society for Research in Child Development (2008 - present)

National Council on Family Relations (2013)

Council for Exceptional Children (2011 – 2012)

Kappa Omicron Nu Honor Society (inducted, 2002; Vice President, 2005-08)

North Carolina Association for the Education of Young Children (2001-2003)

Association of Early Childhood Professionals (1999-2001)