Partnering with Denver Metro Schools
to Study Learning Trajectories in Mathematics

Marsico Executive Director Douglas Clements and Kennedy Institute Endowed Chair Julie Sarama, in partnership with Denver’s Cherry Creek School District and Denver Public Schools, have been awarded a $3.5 million grant by the U.S. Department of Education’s Institute of Education Sciences. The four-year project titled Evaluating the Efficacy of Learning Trajectories in Early Mathematics tests different aspects of learning trajectories to determine whether they are better than other approaches in supporting young children’s learning. “Although the results will have implications for the use of learning trajectories across multiple subjects, mathematics is particularly important,” says Dr. Clements, “because it strongly predicts later school success, not only in mathematics, but also overall achievement and even graduation and college entry.”

Applying the Science of Learning
to Define Education Apps

A recently published paper by Kathy Hirsh-Pasek and her colleagues provides a frame for evaluating the learning potential within so-called educational apps. NAEYC provides an overview of the framework that describes the best circumstances for...
children’s learning. Parents and teachers can use this framework to evaluate apps that children are using. Applying the four pillars of the framework – active learning, engagement in the learning process, meaningful learning, and social interaction – to other information from review sites can guide intentional choices about which apps to allow children to use and which ones to avoid.

New Resources

Listen

Toxic Stress, The Brain, and Child Poverty: What We’ve Learned

The Colorado Public Radio has produced a series on how toxic stress associated with poverty can affect children’s brains and their ability to learn and regulate emotions. Stories also focus on research examining how toxic stress can impact new parents and their subsequent relationships with their children, how parents can protect their kids from toxic stress, and how some teachers are focusing on social skills to help support academics.

Read

Colorado’s Youngest: A Profile of the 0-5 Population

The Piton Foundation’s Data Initiative team has developed Colorado’s Youngest: A Profile of the 0-5 Population. The brief takes an in-depth look at vulnerable births and additional indicators that represent the development of young children in Colorado and specifically the Metro Denver area. Included is an interactive story map that allows you to engage with the data beyond the content of the brief and at a neighborhood level.

Come see Marsico staff

Marsico Executive Director Douglas Clements, Kennedy Institute Endowed Chair Julie Sarama will present at the following upcoming conferences.


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Questions from the field

Got a question for the Marsico staff, submit them to marsico.institute@du.edu.