

# Workshops by Heidi Butkus

Thank you for your interest!

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*Please see Heidi's resume at the end of this document.*

## List of Workshops by Heidi Butkus

### Notes:

\* Heidi consistently mentions methods for reaching English Language Learners and children with special needs in all of her workshops, unless she knows that the student population that the participant teachers are working with do not need it. Workshop descriptions can be modified to include this specifically if needed.

\*The grade level "TK" stands for Transitional Kindergarten, which is a pre-kindergarten in CA that is open to children who will turn five during the months of September, October, and November. These children go from TK to a regular Kindergarten class at the end of the school year.

**Note: All presentations are 75 minutes each**

**Singable Songs for Letters and Sounds, and Other Active Methods of Teaching the Alphabet**

Grade Levels: Pre-K, TK, K, (First Grade RTI only)

Description: Let's teach the alphabet through music! Come learn a different song for each letter of the alphabet. All songs are set to familiar tunes and include references to help children remember what the letter looks like and the sound that it makes. Participants will be taught some fun motions to go along with the songs, and will be encouraged to sing and dance along! More activities and ideas for teaching the alphabet will also be taught. Your kids will have so much fun, they won't know they are learning!

**Jumpin' Numbers 0-30 (This session can be modified for preschool to focus on 0-10 only.)**

Grade Levels: PreK, TK, K

Come learn some fun songs and movements that will help your children learn to identify the numerals 0-30 and count to 100. This program also includes a kinesthetic/visual component with specially designed flash cards to help kids take advantage of muscle memory for those children who learn best through movement. The songs for the numbers 11-30 are particularly effective in helping children identify these difficult to learn numbers out of order. Your kids will have so much fun, they won't know they are learning!

**Letters and Numbers and Shapes: Oh, My!**

Grade Levels: Pre-K, TK, K, 1

This session is jam packed with learning centers, learning games, and music that helps kids practice and reinforce the all important basic concepts of letter recognition, letter sounds, numeracy, and number & shape recognition.

**Guided Reading for Pre-Readers? YES!**

Grade Level: Pre-K, TK, Kindergarten

Yes! It IS possible to do guided reading with emergent readers and children that cannot yet read! It's easy, it boosts language skills, and children enjoy it, too! Come learn how you can easily cover many important literacy skills as you guide young children into the wonderful world of reading in a fun and developmentally appropriate way. Plus, we'll cover lots of other great guided reading strategies that really work to help get beginning readers moving towards becoming real readers.

## **Musical Fun and More for Phonemic Awareness and Early Literacy**

Grade Levels: Pre-K, TK, K, 1

Description: Come learn some fun and active songs, games, and activities that develop phonemic awareness, concepts of print, and a love of literacy. Skills covered include rhyme, beginning sounds, syllable counting, phoneme blending, and more! Your students will have so much fun, they won't even know that they are learning!

## **Tips for Sounding Out Words and Fun Songs for Phonics**

Grade Levels: K, 1

Do you have students that struggle to sound out words, but "just can't get it?" Join Heidi to learn some time tested tips and tricks that are sure to help even your special needs and second language learners master sounding out words with short vowels in them. Then learn some songs that will help your kids learn to sound out, read, and write words with digraphs and long vowel "chunks" in a fun and easy way.

## **Fun and Easy Ways to Use Technology With Young Children**

Grade Levels: Pre-K, TK, K, 1

Come learn some great ways to use a projector, digital camera, document camera, and a digital video camera in your Kindergarten or Pre-K classroom! Some great ideas to make use of internet access in the classroom will also be given.

## **Bananas for Apps! Using the iPad and iPod with Young Children**

Grade Levels: Pre-K, TK, K, 1 (I also have a version of this presentation for Grades K-2).

Come hear about some great ways to use both the iPad and the iPod with young children in your classroom! Explore lots of new apps and discover some new ways to use these wonderful devices that you may not have considered before!

## **Helping Your Struggling Students Meet the Common Core Standards**

Grade Levels: Pre-K, TK, K (*Heidi has a first grade version of this session; see below for description. The two sessions could be combined if necessary.*)

Description: Participants will learn some time tested tricks and tips to help slow learners, budding English language learners, and special needs children

meet the state standards. Topics will include teaching the alphabet, numeral recognition, and behavior management.

### **Helping Your Struggling Students Meet the Common Core Standards**

Grade Level: 1

Participants will learn some time tested tricks and tips to help slow learners, budding English language learners, and special needs children meet the state standards. Topics will include teaching the sight words, learning to sound out words, phonics, and behavior management.

### **Favorite Multisensory Tips and Tricks For Phonemic Awareness and Sounding Out Words**

Grade Levels: K, TK, 1

You don't have to sit still to learn! Come learn some teacher tested and child friendly tips and tricks for getting kids started developing phonemic awareness and sounding out words through movement. We'll also learn a few short songs to help kids along the way with these concepts. This session is jam packed with ideas that can help you channel your students' excess energy into a useful learning tool to help turn your little ones into readers.

### **Sing and Spell the Sight Words**

Grade Levels: K-1

Come learn some fun and easy sing-a-long songs and movements that will help your students memorize the spellings of the many basic sight words commonly taught to beginning readers. Then you'll get lots of great new ideas to help your students practice these words! Come ready to sing and dance along!

### **Fun Songs For More Sight Words**

Grade Levels: K-1

Come learn some NEW fun and active "Sing and Spell" songs and movements from HeidiSongs for a whole new set of words commonly taught in Kindergarten and First Grade, plus lots of great new activities that kids love to help them practice them. Come ready to sing and dance along!

### **How to Put on a Class Play Without Driving Yourself Crazy**

Grade Levels: PreK, TK, K, 1, 2

Come learn the nuts and bolts of putting on a musical class play with children

as young as Kindergarten to motivate readers and improve comprehension skills. It's not as hard as it looks! You'll also learn why research supports developing children's language skills in this way, so that you'll be able to explain to your administrator why it is okay for you and your students to be having so much fun.

### **Musical Math Plus Manipulatives**

Grade Levels: K, 1

Math, manipulatives, and music just go together! Come see some great games and manipulative based activities that kids love to help them learn basic math concepts. Then get up and learn some fun songs and movements that will help your children rehearse the language and remember the concepts that were presented. These concepts include: sorting, patterning, comparing sets, coin recognition, skip counting, volume shape identification, addition, and subtraction.

### **Singable Books to Make and Read**

Grade Levels: Pre-K, TK, K, 1

When a child learns to read a book through singing, reading success is guaranteed! And what they want to read, they will read- over and over again- especially if they get to take that book home and keep it! So come learn how to make your own "Singable Books" and get your class started making some of their own, too. Along the way, we'll learn about how Singable Books develop early reading fluency, as well as some other hidden academic benefits to your students.

### **Great Whole Group Games and Activities for Math and Language Arts**

Grade Levels: Pre-K, TK, K, 1

This is a great session for anyone that wants to learn lots of fun math and language arts activities designed to be delivered effectively by one teacher to a whole classroom full of kids, and no help at all! Activities are fun, active, motivational for students, and effective in producing learning outcomes. This session is perfect for both the "seasoned" teacher and the brand new teacher, alike!

### **Developmentally Appropriate Ways to Get Kids Writing- Fast!**

Grade Levels: TK, K, (First Grade RTI *only*)

Have you ever struggled to get your kids off and writing in Kindergarten? This workshop is chock-full of ideas and techniques that will help all children get started writing fast. Lots of ideas for active learners, musical learners, second language learners, and special needs children, too!

### **The Reluctant Writer's Workshop- And How to Assess Young Children's Common Core Writing**

Grade Levels: TK, K,

Come hear Heidi's best tips and tricks for motivating young children that simply don't like to write! You'll gain lots of ideas that can be implemented easily with materials you probably already have. Heidi will also show you how she assesses informational, narrative, and opinion writing using a rubric she created that is based on the Common Core State Standards.

### **Discipline and Classroom Management Tips to Get You Through the Year**

Grade Levels: Pre-K, TK, K, 1

Join Heidi for a review of her very best tips to help manage and "train" your students so that you can have the fun with them that you always knew was possible! Once they get your routines and procedures down, everything else will fall into place, and you won't believe what you can accomplish!

### **Using Guided Drawing to Motivate Young Readers and Writers**

Grade Levels: Pre-K, TK, K, 1

Participants will learn to use guided drawing with their class in a whole group situation, and how this can help motivate children to read and write. They will learn how to teach their children to look for simple shapes in the world around them to help them draw characters from popular children's books, animals, and seasonal characters. They will then learn how to use their drawings as a springboard for writing about what they have read or learned. Participants will get to "draw along" with the presenter for hands on learning, and learn some great ways to get kids writing and making their own books.

### **Common Core Literacy Centers Kids Love**

Grade Levels: K, 1

Come learn how you can make some fun literacy centers easily and quickly! These little centers that kids love include independent activities for phonics, CVC words, sight words, and more! Managing centers efficiently, as well as

differentiating activities for your English Language Learners and special needs students will also be discussed.

### **Differentiating Your Language Arts Program Through Music & Movement**

Grade Levels: TK, K, 1

Differentiating instruction isn't as hard as it sounds! Come learn how you can differentiate easily in both whole group and small group lessons, and still make it home in time to make dinner. You'll learn how to create just one lesson plan, but give it four different ways. You'll also learn how to differentiate through music and movement, and how to manage flexible grouping efficiently. Tips on working well with a co-teacher will also be discussed, as well as developmentally appropriate models of teaching small group lessons that really work to help children gain mastery.

### **Critical Thinking Skills: Big Ideas for Little Learners**

Grade Levels: TK, K, 1

Description:

Is it possible to make critical thinking skills developmentally appropriate, and bring those questions down to a TK, K, or First Grade level? YES, and it's easier than you think! Come learn how in this interactive workshop. You'll leave with lots of specific techniques on creating critical thinking questions for both fiction and informational texts that are appropriate and "do-able" for young children. Tips on scaffolding lessons for your English language learners and special needs students will also be given.

### **Math Made Fun: Addition & Subtraction**

Grade Levels: TK, K, 1

Turn your students into math wizards with these fun and easy hands-on activities that are perfect for both whole- and small-group settings. Learn a bushel of new ways to teach your kids to add it up, and then turn it over and subtract it down. Then, discover how to integrate word problems into both areas of instruction and teach your kids to develop strategies to solve them. Heidi will also show you how you can integrate music and movement into your math instruction to make it all even more fun and meaningful!

### **ADHD & Sensory Interventions: Classroom Tested Ideas that WORK!**

Grade Levels: Pre-K, TK, K, 1

Join Heidi to learn specific interventions you can use to proactively meet the needs of your students who have difficulties sustaining, attention, sitting through lessons, and/or seek sensory input by touching others. Discover why so many of your students fit this description, and return to school with solutions you can implement right away.

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The following workshops below are three hour workshops, and are a compilation of some of the workshops listed above.

**Techy Tots: Fun Ways to Use Technology as a Teaching Tool for the Common Core in the Early Childhood Classroom**

PK, TK, K, 1 Three Hour Workshop

Come learn about all of the fun, new ways you can use technology in your early childhood classroom, even with the most minimal equipment! Children are naturally interested and motivated by new technologies, so come learn how to use this to your advantage, and get the most out of each piece of equipment that you have access to in your classroom. Topics will include easy ways to use a projector, digital camera, document camera, a digital video camera and the internet in your Kindergarten, TK, or first grade classroom. And guess what? You don't have to be a techie genius to implement these strategies and ideas!!!!

And then... Go Bananas for Apps with Heidi! Come hear about some great ways to use both the iPad and the iPod with young children in your classroom! Explore lots of new apps and discover some new ways to use these wonderful devices that you may not have considered before! Bring your iPad or iPod along if you have one, and be ready for some fun.

**From Non-Reader to Reader: Multisensory Tips and Tricks for Teaching the Alphabet, Phonemic Awareness, and Sounding Out Words!**

PK, TK, K, 1 Three Hour Workshop

Do you have a class full of wiggly pre-readers? They don't have to sit still to

learn! Come learn some teacher tested and child friendly tips and tricks for teaching kids the alphabet, getting kids started developing phonemic awareness, and teaching them to sound out words through movement. We'll also learn some songs to help kids along the way with these concepts. This session is jam packed with ideas that can help you channel your students' excess energy into a useful learning tool to help you take your little ones from pre-readers to readers in just a few short months!

**Resume: Heidi Butkus**  
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### **Degrees and Credentials**

B.A. Spanish, California State University, Fullerton, 1985  
M.A. Education, Emphasis in Reading Instruction, California State Fullerton, 1989  
Multiple Subject Credential, Bilingual Cross-Cultural (Spanish), first issued 1986  
Reading Specialist Credential, first issued 1989

### **Professional Teaching Experience**

1985- 1986: First Grade Bilingual Teacher, Ruby Drive Elementary School, Placentia, California  
1986-1990: First Grade Bilingual Teacher, Rio Vista Elementary School, Anaheim, California.  
1992-2013: Kindergarten Teacher, J. Marion Roynon School, La Verne, California

### **Other Professional Experience**

California Kindergarten Association Board Member, 2014- present  
Southern California Kindergarten Conference 2014- assisted in planning and recruiting presenters.

### **Professional Experience as a Staff Development Presenter**

California Kindergarten Association Conference, 2005, 2006, 2007, 2012; Featured Speaker in 2008-14  
Southern California Kindergarten Association Conference, 2005, 2006, 2007, 2008, 2009, Featured Speaker in 2010-2014  
California Reading Association, 2005, 2006, & 2007  
California Mathematics Council, 2005 & 2007  
Association of Christian Schools International Anaheim Convention, 2005 & 2006  
KinderCon, (Arizona), 2006  
Association Of Christian School International Early Education Conference, 2006, 2007, & 2010  
B.E.S.T. Arts Conference, Long Beach California, 2006 & 2008  
Kindergarten Conference for California Teachers, SDE, 2006  
National I Teach K Conference, 2006 (Nashville, TN), & 2007, 2008, 2009, 2011, 2012 (Las Vegas, NV), 2014

Kindergarten Teachers of Texas Conference, 2006, 2007, & 2008 (Featured Speaker in 2007)  
Staff Development Presenter for El Monte Unified School District, 2005 & 2006  
Beginning Reading Conference, University of Northern Iowa, 2007  
North Dakota Kindergarten Association Conference, 2007  
West Coast Literacy Conference, San Diego, CA, 2007  
ASCD Illinois PK1 Conference, Schaumburg, IL 2007, 2008, 2011, 2012, 2013  
National Association for Bilingual Education Conference, Tampa, FL 2008  
National Council of Teachers of Mathematics Conference, Salt Lake City, 2008, San Diego, 2010  
National Council of Teachers of Mathematics Conference, (East Coast Regional) 2009 (Boston)  
California Head Start Association Conference, 2009  
National Association for the Education of Young Children Conference, 2008 (Dallas)  
California Association for the Education of Young Children Conference, 2008, 2010 (Long Beach)  
Numerous State Level Conferences with Staff Development for Educators (SDE), 2009-Present

### **Awards**

Roynon Elementary School Teacher of the Year, 2005-6 School Year  
PTA Honorary Service Award 2005  
Bravo Award Nominee 2004  
Parents Choice Award Recipient for Sing and Spell Vol. 5 CD: Number Words and More Sight Words, 2010  
Creative Child Magazine Preferred Choice Award 2010 Recipient for Sing and Spell Vol. 1, 2010  
Creative Child Magazine Preferred Choice Award 2010 Recipient for Singable Songs for Letters and Sounds, 2010  
Creative Child Magazine DVD of the Year Award Recipient for Musical Math DVD, 2011  
Creative Child Magazine Media of the Year Award Recipient for Sounds Fun DVD, 2011  
Creative Child Magazine DVD of the Year Award Recipient for Colors & Shapes DVD, 2014  
Creative Child Magazine CD of the Year Award Recipient for Jammin' with More Sight Words, Vol. 5, 2014  
Creative Child Magazine Preferred Choice Award 2014 Recipient for The Gingerbread Man CD, 2014

### **Affiliations**

California Kindergarten Association  
National Kindergarten Alliance  
National Association for the Education of Young Children (NAEYC)  
National Council of Teachers of Mathematics (NCTM)  
Council for Exceptional Children (CEC)  
National Educators Association (NEA)  
California Educators Association (CEA)  
Association for Supervision and Curriculum Development (ASCD)

### **Publications-** (Owner, HeidiSongs.com)

Jumpin' Numbers and Shakin' Shapes CD and DVD  
Jumpin' Numbers Vol. 2 CD and DVD  
Sing and Spell the Sight Words Vol. 1 CD and DVD, and Workbooks  
Sing and Spell Vol. 2: Colors and More Sight Words CD and DVD, and Workbooks  
Sing and Spell Vol. 3 Even More Sight Words CD and DVD, and Workbooks  
Sing and Spell Vol. 4: Fun Songs for More Sight Words CD and DVD, and Workbooks  
Sing and Spell Vol. 5: Number Words and More Sight Words CD and DVD, and Workbooks  
Sing and Spell Vol 6: Jammin' with More Sight Words CD and DVD, and Workbook

- Sounds Fun Phonics CD and DVD, and Workbooks Vols. 1 & 2
- Music for Classroom Management CD and DVD
- Sound Blending Songs for Word Families CD and DVD
- Musical Math CD and DVD
- Musical Math Vol. 2 CD
- Singable Songs for Letters and Sounds CD and DVD and Workbooks, Vols. 1 & 2
- Letters and Sounds DVD (Animated)
- Color and Shapes DVD (Animated)
- Little Songs for Language Arts CD and DVD
- Nursery Rhymes: Music for Mother Goose CD
- The Gingerbread Man CD, Script, Instruction Book and DVD
- The Mitten CD, Script, Instruction Book
- The Wide Mouthed Frog CD, Script, Instruction Book, and DVD
- Musical Math Resource CD
- Counting Creatures Workbooks 1 & 2
- Counting Creatures Addition and Subtraction Workbooks
- Printable Projects for Language Arts CD-Rom
- Sing and Spell Velcro Books, Volumes 1-5
- Sight Word Spelling Puzzles & CVC Puzzles
- CVC Workbook, Volumes 1 & 2
- Alphabet Action (Picture Book)
- The 1-100 Book (Picture Book and Sing Along CD)
- The Gingerbread Man (Picture Book and Read Along CD)
- The Wide Mouthed Frog (Picture Book and Read Along CD)
- Wiggles Learns the Rules at School (Picture Book)
- Wiggles Learns to Pay Attention (Picture Book)
- Wiggles' First Day at School (Picture Book)