



LEARNING OPPORTUNITIES WITH KIDS COACHES

KIDS coaches are regionally assigned and available to help teachers, administrators, and districts with additional training and technical support. Teachers and administrators can find a map of KIDS coaches assigned to each region at <https://www.isbe.net/Pages/KIDS-Coach-Map.aspx>. Following is a list of learning opportunities that KIDS coaches can provide locally.

Potential Participants/Attendees: Although typically focused on Kindergarten Teachers and Administrators, we invite all school district personnel and community partners who are interested in KIDS to take part in these FREE opportunities. Potential attendees include, but are not limited to: District Coaches, Non-Certified Staff (Recess Monitor, Cafeteria Staff, etc.), Certified Staff (P.E., Music, Art, Title Teachers, etc.), Directors, Pre-K and 1st Grade Teachers, Program Coordinators, ROE Staff, Early Childhood Professionals, etc.

| Activity | Description | Time Required | Format |
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| KIDS Training – Required Day 1 | A one-day training on how to implement the Illinois Kindergarten Individual Development Survey (KIDS). The KIDS Training introduces teachers to the design of KIDS and provides the opportunity to participate in reviewing and reflecting on evidence to rate student progress along a developmental continuum. | 6.5 hours | Small or Large Group: Required for all New Kindergarten Teachers and Teachers new to Kindergarten |
| KIDS Training Refresher | A professional learning opportunity that can be customized to accommodate the needs of teachers. Coaches build on the KIDS Training materials, reviewing the main points and providing updates as needed. | 1.5-3 hours | Small or Large Group: Personnel Previously Trained on KIDS |
| KIDS Networking Day | A daylong networking session developed to support and enhance use of KIDS in the classroom. Sessions focus on sharing best practices, implementation experiences, and continued learning. | 6.5 hours | All Levels of Experience: Large Group in a Region or District |
| Incorporating Developmentally Appropriate Practices (DAP) Using KIDS | A focused learning session with the goals of: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Building the connection between DAP and KIDS. • Sharing research on DAP and student outcomes. • Providing resources for embedding DAP in kindergarten. | 2.5-3 hours | All Levels of Experience: Small or Large Group in a Region or District or School |



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| <p>KIDS Domain Study</p> | <p>A focused learning workshop providing teachers with an in-depth understanding of the descriptors and measures in the KIDS domains. This session is especially helpful in promoting stronger inter-rater reliability among groups of teachers. The workshop is structured as a peer-to-peer learning opportunity and encourages teachers to ask questions regarding the skills and behaviors demonstrated, explore possible options for addressing any concerns with each of the KIDS measures, and share best practices for using KIDS in the classroom.</p> | <p>2-2.5 hours</p> | <p>All Levels of Experience: Small Group within a District or School</p> |
| <p><i>Power of Observation</i> Book Group</p> | <p>A book group featuring a series of discussions about incorporating observation and evidence collection into daily routines. Participants are encouraged to share successes and set goals for observing and collecting evidence. KIDS coaches incorporate simple tips on how to naturally and efficiently evolve into a teacher-observer.</p> | <p>Three 60- to 90-minute sessions</p> | <p>All Levels of Experience: Small Group within a District or School</p> |
| <p>Purposeful Play Book Discussion</p> | <p>A book group featuring a series of discussions about:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Optimizing and balancing different types of play to deepen classroom learning. • Turning teaching into play to foster social-emotional skills and develop a growth mindset. • Bringing the impact of play into lesson plans throughout the day. | <p>Three 60- to 90-minute sessions</p> | <p>All Levels of Experience: Small Group within a District or School</p> |
| <p>Purposeful Play Virtual Book Study</p> | <p>A virtual book study where participants will read the text Purposeful Play in three sections broken up into two-week increments. Participants will post responses to posed discussion questions throughout the reading of chapters via Edmodo, an online course format. At the conclusion of each section, participants will choose from two assignments to complete, each requiring them to connect the learning from the text to their own classrooms and groups of students.</p> | <p>18 hours</p> | <p>All Levels of Experience: Small Group within a District or School</p> |



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| Observing and Documenting for KIDS | <p>A half-day session focused on refining observation skills, documenting evidence, and using data to support and inform instruction.</p> | <p>2.5-3 hours</p> | <p>All Levels of Experience: One or More Staff</p> |
| Learn about the Human Growth and Development of Kindergartners from the DAP Focus on Kindergarten | <p>This session focuses on the tremendous growth and development of students during the kindergarten year. Developmental areas covered include, but are not limited to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Physical Development • Social and Emotional Development • Cognitive Development • Language and Literacy Development | <p>2.5-3 hours</p> | <p>All Levels of Experience: Small Group within a District or School</p> |
| Evidence Collection: Methods, Strategies and Organization | <p>This session is often done in a small group where coaches share strategies gathered from teachers across the state. Peer-to-peer learning on specific examples from teachers in the group of how results from each method used can inform systems teachers currently have in place.</p> | <p>Time varies</p> | <p>All Levels of Experience: One or More Staff</p> |
| Analysis and Use of KIDS Data to Inform Instruction | <p>This learning opportunity helps teachers use KIDS results to set educational goals and action steps. Teachers have the opportunity to analyze their own KIDS data in collaboration with their colleagues and with guidance from a KIDS coach. They will be able to set concrete goals and action steps based on their own classroom data.</p> | <p>2.5-3 hours</p> | <p>All Staff Experienced in Administering KIDS</p> |
| Play As a Method of Instruction in Kindergarten | <p>This learning opportunity highlights play as an essential part of every child’s life, including play’s vital role in social, emotional, intellectual, and physical development. Topics include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Developing a shared definition of play. • Using play as a method of instruction for positive student outcomes. • Organizing child-initiated and guided play. • Planning for and facilitating play. | <p>One 6-hour session OR two 3-hour sessions</p> | <p>All Levels of Experience: One or More Staff</p> |
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| Standard Discussions | <p>An opportunity to provide teachers with an in-depth understanding of the kindergarten learning standards and their alignment to KIDS. The session is structured as a peer-to-peer learning opportunity and encourages teachers to ask and explore questions regarding skills and behaviors, demonstrated with the standards and KIDS descriptors.</p> | <p>Custom-designed session</p> | <p>All Levels of Experience: One or More Staff</p> |
| Building Learning Centers | <p>A focused session for small or large groups about how to effectively build learning centers -- a cornerstone of play-based practice -- in classrooms. Topics include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Literacy blocks • Math blocks • Choice centers (art, blocks, dramatic play, writing, etc.) • STEM Makerspace • Learning tubs | <p>Custom-designed session</p> | <p>All Levels of Experience: One or More Staff</p> |
| Parent Engagement | <p>An on-site visit from a KIDS coach to help engage parents through activities and events, such as an open house, a family play event, back-to-school night, and meet the teacher. Teachers will learn to develop materials and invite discussion regarding at-home activities.</p> | <p>Defined by the district</p> | <p>All Levels of Experience: One or More Staff</p> |
| Side-by-Side Coaching | <p>A coaching "shadow day" for teachers to provide on-the-spot tips and strategies for observing and collecting evidence. The KIDS coach can provide best practices for teachers on topics, such as observation, collecting evidence, and translating data into practice.</p> | <p>Defined by the district</p> | <p>One-on-One Session: Kindergarten Teachers or Staff that may need Additional Support Administering KIDS</p> |
| Classroom Observations | <p>A classroom observation by a KIDS coach focused on identifying opportunities to observe and collect evidence during specific lessons.</p> | <p>Custom-designed session</p> | <p>All Levels of Experience: One-on-One Teacher/Coach Session</p> |
| Team Meetings | <p>A team meeting facilitated by a KIDS coach with a goal of improving KIDS implementation by sharing successes, challenges, and best practices. It also</p> | <p>Defined by the district</p> | <p>All Levels of Experience: Small Group of Staff</p> |



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| | provides a team-building opportunity for celebration and appreciation for continued learning. | | within a District or School |
| Elementary Administrators Supporting Kindergarten Teachers | Using Danielson’s Theories, this training assists district administrators in developing a clear understanding of the elements included in a developmentally appropriate kindergarten classroom. Administrators and KIDS coaches will brainstorm ways to support kindergarten teachers. | Two 2-hour sessions | All Levels of Experience: One or More Administrators |
| Inter-Rater Reliability Networking | How do you know that you and your colleagues rate students similarly, using KIDS? This activity provides teachers with the opportunity to consult coaches, network with colleagues, and review, reflect upon, and analyze KIDS evidence collected throughout the 40-day observation period. By bringing examples of your documentation and evidence, the goal of this session is to promote stronger inter-rater reliability among groups of teachers regionally. Structured as a peer-to-peer learning opportunity, teachers are encouraged to ask questions regarding the skills and behaviors demonstrated, explore possible options for addressing concerns with each of the KIDS measures, have an opportunity to enter ratings into KIDStech, and share best practices for using the KIDS instrument to collect observational data in the classroom. | One 3-hour session | All Levels of Experience: Small or Large Group in a Region or District or School |