



Program/Course Proposal

**Innovations In Interaction:  
A Practical Classroom Management  
Course for the  
Early Childhood Educator**

A modular professional development course that trains early childhood educators to establish and maintain a dynamic relationship with their students through the use of engaging rhythm and rhyme

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## Introduction

**Innovations In Interaction (I.I.I.)** is an advanced training course that provides early childhood educators with new perspectives on managing the classroom experience. It introduces inventive musical and movement-based practices that inspire children to respond to teachers and prepares them for next-level learning.

**Innovations In Interaction** contributes to students' professional development in academic ECE curricula, continuing education workshops and other advanced teacher trainings. It supports teachers in applying developmentally appropriate practice to the group transition process.

Depending on the specific requirements of an institution or sponsoring organization, the syllabus can be configured into any number of class sessions, customized for a specific audience and/or integrated into other classroom management, progressive movement or music-oriented coursework.



## Innovations In Interaction (I.I.I.)

### **Benefits for early childhood educators**

- Establishes a fun, easy and efficient classroom management tool
- Defragments the classroom management process
- Takes the guesswork out of managing activity transitions

### **Benefits for higher education institutions**

- Provides a topically interesting, distinctive departure from classical course outlines with fresh material that meets industry training standards of practicality and relevance
- Provides a flexible course syllabus that can be easily customized to embrace institutional philosophies
- Engages prospective students by placing a valuable, free resource at their disposal
- Expands the professional support dimension of educational programs

### **Benefits for children**

#### **Provides a means to:**

- Practice social skills, cued self-regulation and receptive language skills
- Build familiarity with instrument sounds and cultural elements of music
- Convert potentially stressful activity transitions into opportunities for fun and skill building
- Enjoy regularity in a notoriously irregular facet of the preschool day



## Background

Nechama Robinson, the creator of **Innovations In Interaction (I.I.I.)**, has years of experience working with children in academic, social and therapeutic settings.

To overcome the discontinuity that activity transitions cause in ECE environments, she developed a method of integrating rhyme, rhythm and instructive language into the transition process. This method facilitates opportunity for substantial improvement in behavior and highly successful introduction of the next classroom activity.

Select concepts of **Innovations In Interaction** are offered to the teaching community through Nechama's Website, [www.kinderworldtracks.com](http://www.kinderworldtracks.com), a free online resource for ECE professionals.

## Philosophical Principles

- Group activity transitions play a significant role in both developmental and organizational process.
- Young children are strongly influenced by information and messages communicated during group transitions.
- There is a recognized, industry-wide need for effectively structured approaches to early childhood classroom management, specifically with regard to group transitions.
- Diverse rhythm and melody coupled with content-rich rhyme support effective and positive delivery of frequently repeated group directives, and serve to reinforce pre-math and pre-literacy skills.



## The Course

**Innovations In Interaction (I.I.I.)** helps ECE professionals orchestrate and sustain a cohesive classroom agenda and enriches any level of ECE study.

The course can be administered by Nechama, or, she can provide comprehensive training to others who can incorporate the concepts into other ECE training programs.

The course curriculum is extremely modular and can be conformed to the format of any academic agenda. The syllabus is traditionally presented using the following framework:

### Sample Course Outline

#### Introduction to Theoretical Concepts and Industry Standards

- ECE best practice
  - Understanding how teacher communication styles impact learning and behavioral outcomes
- EC group transition outcomes
  - Collecting data related to EC group behavior patterns specific to between-activity times
- EC group transition tools
  - Music, games and strategies from a variety of sources addressing the current need for EC group transition support

#### Application of Innovations In Interaction's Online Music Tracks

- Benefits of song in ECE
  - Examination of data identifying music, rhythm and rhyme as pre-math and pre-literacy skill builders
- Role of I.I.I. lyrics in developmentally appropriate practice
  - Identifying developmentally appropriate practices such as:  
Acknowledging starting point of transition; allowing ample time; cuing with interesting instrument sounds; using proactive, playful language.



- **Student led lyric introductions**

A chosen leader of each student group introduces a track as she would at an EC classroom circle time.

- **Using the tracks**

Each group role-plays an activity transition using the corresponding I.I.I. music track.

### **Feedback and review**

- **Discussion of student experience**

Students share their perceptions and reactions to using I.I.I. tracks.

- **Review of applied concepts**

Connecting theory and practice: Students revisit theoretical constructs and their application to classroom management technique.



## **Nechama Robinson**

Nechama Robinson is a seasoned ECE specialist that has designed and implemented developmentally appropriate and inclusive educational programs for youth and adult populations.

- M.A. Counseling with emphasis in child development, Vermont College (2005)  
  
Published paper: “Empathy and Rhythm: Tracing Empathy’s Dependence on Rhythmic Factors as Relevant to Intervention Targeting Preschoolers” (2004)
- B.A. Linguistics with emphasis in language building blocks, Brandeis University (1987)
- Advanced studies in Psychodrama, Holistic Nutrition
- Facilitator, Early Childhood Education Conference Workshop, Northern California
- Preschool Music Teacher, Joyful Melodies Music School, Cupertino, CA
- Preschool Classroom Resource Developer and Consultant San Jose, CA
- Clinical Intern, Head Start Preschool Northampton, MA
- Clinical Intern/Ryan Road Elementary School Northampton, MA
- Parent Aide, Children’s Aid & Family Service Northampton, MA
- Teacher, Elementary to Graduate Commonwealth of Massachusetts



## Conclusion

- **Innovations In Interaction** is a unique ECE training course that any teaching organization or service can utilize as a valuable component of its curriculum.
- **Innovations In Interaction** provides educators with a platform for enriching structural and educational dimensions of the ECE process.
- **Innovations In Interaction** has been specifically designed to be customized and “branded” by institutions, professional groups, associations, school districts, agencies, private trainers and other ECE support organizations for presentation to their target markets with special adaptation for unique teacher, child and family groups.
- **Innovations In Interaction** utilizes its updatable, content-rich, multi-media, online resource as a focal point for establishing and growing relationships between ECE professionals and sponsoring institutions and organizations.

I look forward to providing an individualized proposal for your program.

Sincerely,

**Nechama Robinson, MA**

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