High-quality writing instruction is important from the earliest days of schooling. In this presentation, Dr. Duke will share markers of quality in primary-grade writing instruction, with concrete examples from a range of classrooms. She will share an approach you can use to plan writing projects that not only includes research-supported practices, but is also highly engaging for young children.

Nell K. Duke, Ed.D., is a professor in literacy, language, and culture and the combined program in education and psychology at the University of Michigan as well as a member of the International Literacy Association Literacy Research Panel. Dr. Duke received her Bachelor’s degree from Swarthmore College and her Masters and Doctoral degrees from Harvard University. Her work focuses on early literacy development, particularly among children living in poverty. Her specific areas of expertise include development of informational reading and writing in young children, comprehension development and instruction in early schooling, and issues of equity in literacy education. She has recently served, or is currently serving, as Co-Principal Investigator of projects funded by the Institute of Education Sciences, the National Science Foundation, the Spencer Foundation, and the George Lucas Educational Foundation.

In 2014, Dr. Duke was awarded the P. David Pearson Scholarly Influence Award from the Literacy Research Association. She has also received the American Educational Research Association Early Career Award, the Literacy Research Association Early Career Achievement Award, the International Reading Association Dina Feitelson Research Award, the National Council of Teachers of English Promising Researcher Award, and the International Reading Association Outstanding Dissertation Award.

Dr. Duke is author and co-author of numerous journal articles and book chapters. Her most recent book is Inside Information: Developing Powerful Readers and Writers of Informational Text through Project-based Instruction.

She has taught preservice, inservice and doctoral courses in literacy education, speaks and consults widely on literacy education, and is an active member of several literacy-related organizations. She has served as author or consultant on several educational programs, including Connect4Learning.

Writing is a challenging activity for most school-age children as noted from children’s performance on national assessments. In this presentation, Dr. Puranik will provide an overview of the importance of transcription skills in the development of writing and then focus on how teachers can support writing for young, beginning writers.

Cynthia Puranik, CCC-SLP/Ph. D. is an associate professor of Communication Sciences and Disorders in the College of Education and Human Development at Georgia State University. In addition, she is an affiliate faculty of the Research on the Challenges of Acquiring Language and Literacy initiative at GSU. Dr. Puranik completed her undergraduate studies at the University of Bombay, India, and her graduate studies at the University of Florida, Gainesville. She completed a two-year postdoctoral fellowship at the Florida Center for Reading Research, Florida State University after which she spent seven years at the University of Pittsburgh. Cynthia is a certified speech-language pathologist with several years of experience working in various clinical settings.

Dr. Puranik is recipient of the 2016 Presidential Early Career Awards, the highest honor bestowed by the United States Government to recognize the pursuit of innovative research and commitment to community service as demonstrated through scientific leadership, public education, or community outreach. Dr. Puranik will accept her award at a Washington, DC ceremony this spring.

Dr. Puranik’s research focuses on understanding early writing development- including assessment and instruction of early writing skills. She has simultaneously explored both basic theoretical and highly applied research pathways to address questions pertaining to children’s emergent and early conventional writing. Her recent projects have involved developing and testing the effectiveness of an early writing intervention. Her research has been supported by the Institute of Education Sciences, and the U.S. Department of Education. Her articles have appeared in journals such as the Early Childhood Research Quarterly, Journal of Experimental Child Psychology, Journal of Learning Disabilities, Journal of Speech, Language, and Hearing Research, and Reading & Writing.

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WHO SHOULD ATTEND?
This Symposium is designed especially for educators of pre-K through third grade. It is also appropriate for graduate students and early childhood professionals who are interested in the education of young children.

WHEN & WHERE
The Symposium will be held at the Sheraton Hotel, 150 West 500 South, Salt Lake City, Utah. It is scheduled for June 28 and 29, 2016 (Tues & Wed). Each day begins at 8:30 am and ends at 4:00 pm.

COST
The cost of the Symposium is $185 or $265 if you are registering for 2 university credits. This cost includes all program materials and food. Refreshment breaks and lunch will be served. If you have not registered by June 3, 2016, there will be an additional $25 processing fee to register. This cost is to cover the materials and meals (a light breakfast, lunch, and snack) provided at the symposium.

UNIVERSITY & LICENSURE CREDIT
This Symposium may be taken for 2 university credits of TEAL 6220, graded with a letter grade. The registration fee of $265 includes Symposium registration, food, materials, and university credit. There is no out-of-state tuition fee. Two credit hours require attendance and active participation at all sessions on both days. Participants who register for university credit will be required to complete four online assignments following the Symposium. The assignments will be due by Friday, July 22, 2016. If you wish to take this Symposium for credit, you must register as such BEFORE the Symposium begins. A certificate of attendance will be given to all participants wishing to apply for licensure credit (no extra charge). A roll sheet needs to be signed daily for participants wanting licensure credit. You are only allowed to do ONE of the two credit options listed above.

LODGING
You are responsible for making your own lodging accommodations. You can reserve a room at the Sheraton Salt Lake City Hotel at (801) 401-2000. Mention that you are with the Early Childhood Symposium.

PARKING
The Sheraton Hotel has free parking.

QUESTIONS?
For more information about this Symposium, please call Utah State University Emma Eccles Jones Early childhood Center at (435) 797-8629 or send an email to eejcenter@cc.usu.edu. Visit our website: http://earlychildhoodeducation.usu.edu.

CONFIRMATIONS: Confirmations will be emailed until two days prior to the Symposium.

CANCELLATIONS & REFUNDS: Refunds will be made to those participants who must cancel, less a $75 processing fee. Written cancellation must be received by May 13, 2016. No refunds will be made after that date. Substitutions are always accepted.

REGISTRATION OPTIONS (check one)
Registration includes: 2-day attendance, materials, refreshment breaks, and lunch (daily).

1. □ Symposium without credit—$185 OR 2. □ Symposium for 2 credits of TEAL 6220—$265*

TOTAL AMOUNT ENCLOSED $ ________________

*NOTE REGARDING SCHOOL DISTRICT PARTICIPATION: For school districts not desiring to pay for the credit (awarded or audited) portion of the fee, districts may pay the general registration fee of $185 shown above. Participant is required to pay the remaining amount ($80).

FOUR EASY WAYS TO REGISTER:
1. MAIL the completed registration form to the address below with FULL PAYMENT by enclosing a check, PO#, or credit card billing info.
2. CALL Emma Eccles Jones Center at 435-797-8629 to register with your credit card (Visa, MC, Discover).
3. FAX this registration form with your credit card billing information to the 24-hour fax line 435-797-8638.
4. Visit http://earlychildhoodeducation.usu.edu and download a registration form and fax or mail in.

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DISABILITY & DIET CONSIDERATIONS:
□ Reasonable accommodation is available for persons with disabilities. Please check this box for additional information. Fourteen working days notice is needed to prepare materials and services.
□ Specify here if you require special dietary considerations: _____________________

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