



# TEACHING SELF-EXPRESSION WITH EZRA JACK KEATS

Successful Solutions Professional Development LLC

**[WWW.MYECECLASS-SOCIAL.COM/SELF-EXPRESSION](http://WWW.MYECECLASS-SOCIAL.COM/SELF-EXPRESSION)**

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**ECE Virtual Classroom**  
Online Courses for Early Childhood Educators



## Table of Contents

Teaching Self-Expression with Ezra Jack Keats.....	3
<b>Course Description</b> .....	3
<b>CDA Settings</b> .....	3
<b>Learning Outcomes</b> .....	3
<b>Course Content</b> .....	3
Sources.....	4
Glossary of Terms.....	4
<i>CDA Competency Standard</i> .....	4
<i>Culture</i> .....	4
<i>Open-ended materials</i> .....	5
<i>Self-awareness</i> .....	5
<i>Self-management</i> .....	5
<i>Self-regulation</i> .....	5
<i>Self-expression</i> .....	5
Optional Resources for Further Study.....	5
Course Author.....	6
ECE Virtual Classroom Academic Coach.....	6
Student Support.....	6
Required Assignments.....	7
<i>Reading</i> .....	7
<i>Videos</i> .....	7
<i>Discussion</i> .....	7
<i>Worksheets</i> .....	7
<i>Quizzes</i> .....	7
Optional Course Items.....	8
<b>Optional Resources for Further Study</b> .....	8
<b>Parking Lot</b> .....	8
Certificates.....	8
State Training Approval.....	9
Technical Requirements.....	9



## Teaching Self-Expression with Ezra Jack Keats

### *2 clock hours early childhood education*

#### Course Description

Ezra Jack Keats wrote and illustrated many books in his literary career using a distinctive artistic style. Keats also began creating pieces of children’s literature from what he knew, which was inner city children from many backgrounds and ethnicities. His book, *The Snowy Day* featuring an African American protagonist came out in 1962 which was a turbulent time for Civil Rights in America. Keats’ books featured predominantly African American children in inner city settings which both caused a stir and opened up dialogue for diversity and common challenges that children face. Using Ezra Jack Keats books in an early childhood setting lends itself to support social and emotional development, respectful interactions between peers, and self-expression.

**Washington STARS credit:** Curriculum & Learning Environment (2 hours)

**CDA Content Area:** Supporting Children’s Social and Emotional Development (2 hours)

#### CDA Settings

- Infant/Toddler
- Preschool
- Family Child Care (Mixed-Age)

#### Learning Outcomes

- ✓ State the importance of teaching respect for diversity
- ✓ Discuss how teaching diversity changes with age groups
- ✓ Analyze several CDA competency standards with respect to lesson plans and activities
- ✓ Explain the importance of creative and self-expression for young children

#### Course Content

1. Course Agenda
2. Ezra Jack Keats Biography
3. Life and Writings of Ezra Jack Keats
4. Self-Expression
5. Supporting Self-Expression
6. Discussion: Child’s Self-Expression (1/8)
7. Teaching Respect for Diversity
8. Discussion: Diversity (2/8)
9. Lesson Plan: *The Snowy Day* Sensory Play (3/8)
10. Lesson Plan: Respect Goggles (4/8)
11. Lesson Plan: Montessori Pet Food Pouring (5/8)
12. Lesson Plan: Infant Animal Petting (6/8)



13. Developmentally Appropriate Books (7/8)
14. End of Course Quiz (8/8)
15. Course Evaluation Form

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## Sources

- Ezra's Life from The Ezra Jack Keats Foundation, <http://www.ezra-jack-keats.org/ezras-life/Encouraging>
- Self-Expression Through Art by Grace Hwang Lynch, <http://www.pbs.org/parents/education/music-arts/encouraging-self-expression-through-art/>
- 'The Snowy Day': Breaking Color Barriers, Quietly from Northwest Public Radio (NPR), <http://www.npr.org/2012/01/28/145052896/the-snowy-day-breaking-color-barriers-quietly>
- Appreciating and Valuing Diversity BY NDT Resource Center, <https://www.nde-ed.org/TeachingResources/ClassroomTips/Diversity.htm>
- Teaching Diversity: A Place to Begin by Janet Gonzalez-Mena, Dora Pulido-Tobiassen, <http://www.scholastic.com/teachers/article/teaching-diversity-place-begin-0>
- We are different, we are the same: Teaching young children about diversity by Penn State Extension, <http://extension.psu.edu/youth/betterkidcare/early-care/our-resources/activities/all-activities/we-are-different-we-are-the-same-teaching-young-children-about-diversity>

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## Glossary of Terms

### CDA Competency Standard

The CDA Competency Standards are the national standards used to evaluate a caregiver's performance with children and families during the CDA assessment process. The Competency Standards are divided into six Competency Goals, which are statements of a general purpose or goal for caregiver behavior.

### Culture

The sum of attitudes, customs, and beliefs that distinguishes one group of people from another. Culture is transmitted, through language, material objects, ritual, institutions, and art, from one generation to the next.



## Open-ended materials

Open-ended materials are things that children can use in a variety of different ways. Some examples of open-ended materials are sand, water, blocks, play dough, paint, etc. Providing open ended play materials allows children the opportunity to be curious, creative and direct their own play. There are no rules or expectations for how a play item must be used, no specific steps to follow, no right or wrong way, no ultimate goal to reach or achieve.

## Self-awareness

This is the ability to accurately recognize one's emotions, thoughts and their influence on behavior. This includes accurately assessing one's strengths and limitations and possessing a well-grounded sense of confidence and optimism.

## Self-management

This is the ability to regulate one's emotions, thoughts and behaviors effectively in different situations. This includes managing stress, controlling impulses, motivating oneself, and setting and working toward achieving personal and academic goals.

## Self-regulation

Self-regulation includes the ability to comfort oneself and maintain a positive outlook when encountering problems.

## Self-expression

Self-expression is a display of individuality whether it's through words, clothing, hairstyle, or art forms such as writing and drawing.

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## Optional Resources for Further Study

- Teaching Diversity: Where to Begin? From Scholastic, <https://www.scholastic.com/teachers/articles/teaching-content/teaching-diversity-place-begin-0/>
- Classroom Tips for Teaching Diversity from NDT-ED.org, <https://www.nde-ed.org/TeachingResources/ClassroomTips/Diversity.htm>
- Teaching Young Children about Diversity Activities and Resources from Penn State Extension, <https://extension.psu.edu/programs/betterkidcare/early-care>



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## Course Author

**The learning outcomes for this course have been reviewed and updated by Aurora Tollestrup, BS Ed.** This topic has been collaboratively created, organized, and developed by our team of trainers, educators, administrators and specialists. We strive to maintain high quality online training methods while adhering to state standards for adult learning and meeting the needs of our students.

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## ECE Virtual Classroom Academic Coach

The Virtual Classroom Academic Coach's role is to support the ECE students through the training process. The Virtual Classroom Academic Coach reviews assignment per directions, monitors discussion threads, answers inquiries/emails, monitors student engagement, provides online student support, and regularly collaborates with team members on development. The Virtual Classroom Academic Coach serves as the facilitator and grader, while the Online Educators are the official state approved trainers.

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## Student Support

The best way to reach us is through live student support chat. Look for the Chat with Us bubble on the bottom left corner of the website.

Website: [www.myececlass-social.com](http://www.myececlass-social.com)

E-mail: [info@myececlass.com](mailto:info@myececlass.com)

Phone: (360) 602-0960

### Student Support Hours

#### Chat & Email Support

Monday - Friday	7 am – 6 pm
Saturday & Sunday	9 am – 6 pm
Holidays (Email Only)	10 am – 4 pm

#### Phone Support

Monday - Friday	7 am – 6 pm
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## Required Assignments

### Reading

The text on each page should be read. When you submit the worksheets, discussion boards, and click on the NEXT PAGE button, it will create a record of your progress moving through each page.

### Videos

Watch the videos as you encounter them. If you have trouble with the videos playing, this may require that you update flash player on your computer. Optionally, some students find that if they are having difficulties playing the videos on their computer, they can view them on their phone. There is a link above the videos to view them on YouTube directly. You may wish to save the Youtube link for the video to refer to in the future, or in order to use another device for viewing.

### Discussion

The discussion questions are a required part of the course. You may either post on the discussion board where you are contributing to the thread with other students. Alternately, you have the option of clicking on the link above the discussion board and submitting your response on a worksheet form. The ECE Virtual Classroom Coach will be tracking your submission of the discussion board assignments as part of meeting the learning outcomes for the course.

### Worksheets

Check for Understanding worksheets are provided throughout each course. The worksheets allow opportunities to reflect on the course materials as you are progressing through the training. Watch your email in-box for trainer feedback. You may not receive feedback for every single assignment, depending on how quickly you are moving through the course. Instead, you may receive an email letting you know that your work was done well, with a certificate attached. If you need guidance, the trainer or the academic coach will be sending you emails with feedback with instructions for resubmission. Certificates will not be issued if worksheets are skipped, incomplete, or filled in with inappropriate responses. If you need assistance, we have student support available via Live Student Support Chat 7 days a week (Mon.-Fri. 7 am-8 pm and Sat.-Sun. 9am-6pm PST).

### Quizzes

The end of course quizzes are primarily multiple choice and true or false questions, with occasional open-ended questions. 70% or better is required to pass the quiz. You can review the course materials and retake the quiz as many times as needed to pass. Automated emails are sent to you confirming that you have submitted the worksheets and quizzes and provide you with a link to resume at the next page.



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## Optional Course Items

The items below are offered in each course as options. Optional means that you have the choice to utilize them, or not.

### Optional Resources for Further Study

We have included a wealth of resource links for you to explore and further your knowledge about each topic.

*The resource links provided in our website are provided solely for your convenience and may assist you in locating other useful information on the Internet. When you click on these links you will leave our website and will be redirected to another website. These websites are not under the control of Successful Solutions Training in Child Development. Successful Solutions Training in Child Development is not responsible for the content of linked third party websites. We are not affiliated with these third parties nor do we endorse or guarantee their products, services, website content, etc. We make no representation or warranty regarding the accuracy of the information contained in the linked websites. We suggest that you always verify the information obtained from linked websites before acting upon this information.*

### Parking Lot

The Parking Lot is offered as an optional opportunity to interact with the trainer about a question that you may have about the course topic. If you do not have a question, it is not necessary to fill out this form, it is not required. If you choose to submit a question to the trainer, she will respond to you by email. Be sure to watch your email in-box.

You can always leave a message for student support on our Live Chat on the bottom left corner of the website, any time of day or night. If we are not available, we will respond by email as soon as possible.

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## Certificates

When you submit the evaluation form, that prompts the academic coach to review all of your work. We will evaluate your work to assure that you have met the learning outcomes. Once that assessment is complete, you will receive your certificate by email. [Click Here](#) for a sample certificate. (This certificate is an example. The student certificate may vary slightly). Certificates are prepared 7 days a week between 7 am and 7 pm PST. In most cases, you should receive your certificate by email within a few hours after you submit the evaluation form, or first thing the next morning.



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## State Training Approval

This training may, or may not, meet annual training requirements in your state. Please provide us with your state, and any State registry ID number on the evaluation form, and if we are able to record your completed training with your state, we will. In some cases, for annual state credit, you will need to submit the certificate to the appropriate registry and they may or may not award annual credit. Providing a State Registry number to us does not guarantee that your state will approve the training for annual continuing education credit.

### The following states have *pre-approved* our courses:

- Washington State DEL MERIT Trainer: Kimberlee Turner, MS Ed
- Illinois - Organization Approval Number B102312
- Ohio (Entity OIN # 21084413)
- North Carolina - Organization approval
- Utah - Organization approval for Online Career Ladder Courses
- Vermont - Organization Approval

Our courses may be accepted many states that do not require pre-approval.

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## Technical Requirements

- Laptop or PC
- Most students are able to use mobile devices such as tablets to complete courses. However, each device is different, and an individual's skill level with the device may determine their success with using a mobile device.
- Recommended web browser: Google Chrome
  - Microsoft Edge, Safari and Firefox are other acceptable browsers.
  - Internet Explorer is no longer supported by Microsoft, and you may have issues if you use it to take training.
- Operating System
  - Make sure you're using a current operating system (for example, Windows 10).
  - Outdated operating systems may cause technical difficulties.
- Internet Speed
  - Slow internet speed may impact loading time.
- Videos may require Adobe Flash Player.

Adobe Reader is required to open PDF files. Download Adobe Reader can be downloaded free <https://acrobat.adobe.com/us/en/acrobat/pdf-reader.html>

