

# Rethinking the Challenging Pre-schooler

Understanding and incorporating the challenging pre-schooler into your room



Over the years, the landscape in the preschool room has changed dramatically. There are far greater teaching outcome expectations as well as a greater increase in young children with challenging behaviours. Would you like to have these children in your room be more engaged, participate and feel that there is a place for themselves within the group? This workshop will help you utilise research-based strategies for successful room dynamics where a growthful, creative, fun atmosphere will prevail.

## Topics covered:

### *Who is in your room?*

### *Recognising young children with problematic behaviours*

- The anxious child
- The aggressive child
- The unfocused, disconnected child
- The monopoliser
- The minimally verbal child
- The restless child

### *Understanding vs Labelling*

- Autism/Aspergers Syndrome
- ADHD, Anxiety Disorder

### *Ego development and creativity as parallel processes*

### *Doing leads to understanding*

### *Tools to address problem behaviours and why these work*

### *Developing your own creative style*

Participants will leave this workshop with greater confidence and a toolbox of simple, practical skills and resources to work with challenging young children in their classroom. Teachers will also be able to immediately implement these skills to begin seeing the benefits unfolding.

Leonie Reisberg, MFA, MPS, ATR-BC, brought Kidslink to Australia in 2002. Now a successful Sydney based social skills program for children with challenging behaviours, Kidslink focuses on working creatively with these children, particularly children with Asperger's Syndrome or ADHD. Many of these children have exhibited significant behavioural breakthroughs.

Leonie brings her 27 years of creative clinical experience with challenging children, sharing her skills, insights and practical techniques with you. She received her Masters of Professional Services in Art Therapy and Creativity from Pratt Institute, New York in 1986. Leonie is also Board Certified by the American Art Therapy Association.