



2016-2017 Building Blocks Preschool Staff

Kathy Rebholz, M.Ed. - Preschool Director

Ms. Kathy has been with Building Blocks Preschool for eight years. She holds a Bachelor's and a Master's Degree in Elementary Education. Before coming to Building Blocks, Kathy taught various grades and was a reading teacher in the Parkway School District for eight years. Prior to becoming director, Kathy taught in all of the preschool classrooms and developed the Music and Movement program. She loves the children, the teachers and church staff, and believes in this wonderful learning community. Kathy and her husband, John, have three children. In her spare time, Kathy enjoys spending time with her family, exercising and volunteering for Math Facts Scholars, a community mathematics program for elementary students.

Jen Sullivan - Preschool One Teacher

The Building Blocks staff is proud to have Mrs. Jen Sullivan on our team. Ms. Jen wins our one-year-olds over with her warm and loving demeanor! Our "little angels" literally jump into her arms and put her right to work. They play, get to know each other and have fun exploring their early developmental experiences together. Her previous experience working in an early childhood center and her own children's school comes through right off the bat. Jen has a degree in English and Journalism from University of Central Missouri. Professionally, Jen worked as a marketing representative for 8 years and stayed home with her children for 9 years. She and her husband, Sean, have two school-aged children.

Lisa Li – Preschool One and Preschool Two Teacher Assistant

This is Lisa's 12th year at Building Blocks. Lisa has a wonderful rapport with her little toddlers and they love and trust her. Her soft and gentle demeanor makes her very approachable by children and parents. She especially enjoys arts and crafts with them. Lisa has a Bachelor's Degree in Economics and is a former accountant. Lisa has taken many Early Childhood classes and seminars. In Lisa's spare time, she teaches Chinese at the Daniel Boone Library. Lisa also likes to read and cook with her two children.

Julianne Auberry – Preschool Two Teacher

Ms. Julie's love for children shows the minute you meet her. She and her husband, Paul, have five children ranging in ages 6-16, so she has lots of personal experience caring and loving young children. Julianne has a Communication's Degree from Purdue University. During her young adult years, she worked for Walt Disney Company in Orlando and Paris, France. In previous years, Julianne started and initiated the Mothers of Preschoolers (MOPS) at her local church, lead classes at Joann Fabrics and spear-headed many other big projects to nurture children's development. She enjoys implementing crafts and developmental skills into their structured day. Her energetic, yet calm demeanor is perfect for our youngest preschoolers.

Melanie Spangler - Preschool Two Teacher

Ms. Melanie, our energetic and positive two-year-old teacher, does a fabulous job teaching our early preschoolers friendship skills, bathroom readiness and early intellectual concepts! This is her fifth year at Building Blocks, but she served as a substitute for a several years prior. Ms. Melanie has a Bachelor's Degree in Communications from UMSL and has taken many classes in Early Childhood Development. Melanie comes with various classroom experiences, including Montessori. She embraces a creative curriculum for her students as well as their vibrant, young personalities! Melanie and her husband, Nathan, enjoy spending time with their two boys.

Peg Metroff – Preschool Three Teacher

This is Ms. Peg's third year at Building Blocks. After recently retiring from the Parkway School District, she spent her first year of retirement substituting in all of our Building Blocks classrooms and getting to know the children. Her positive energy and enthusiasm make learning fun! Peg has an elaborate background in education and holds a Bachelor's Degree in Physical Education. She has taught all age levels: preschool, elementary and high school. She enjoys implementing daily lessons and activities to help your children grow in all developmental areas. Peg and her husband, Bill, have three grown children and two grandchildren.

Taira Price, M.Ed. - Preschool Three Teacher

Ms. Taira has been with Building Blocks for ten years. She has a Bachelor's Degree in Elementary Education and a Master's Degree in Reading Instruction and Communication. She is also certified in Early Childhood Education. Ms. Taira taught various grades in Parkway School District for six years. At Building Blocks, Ms. Taira has taught in all of the classrooms including our music room. She enjoys getting to know her students by reading and laughing with them. Her hobbies include attending her children's sporting events and designing accessories and personalized gifts. Taira is married to Jason and has three children all whom previously attended Building Blocks.

Angela Yonker, M.Ed. – Preschool Four Teacher

Ms. Angela is a loving and knowledgeable teacher! She enjoys getting to know each one of her students individually. This will be Angela's third year at Building Blocks and she came to us with lots of professional experience. Angela has a Bachelor's Degree in English and a Master's Degree in Elementary Education. She has taught first, second and fourth grades. Ms. Angela is a member of Good Shepherd Lutheran Church and has been teaching Sunday School at Good Shepherd for six years. Angela and her husband have three elementary school-aged children.

Susan Mayer - Preschool Four Teacher / Discovery Room Teacher

Susan is a seasoned Building Blocks teacher and has been with us for 18 years! Previously, she was our Preschool Three Lead Teacher and assisted in the Discovery Room. This is her third year leading our Discovery Room and she approaches this task with ease and excitement. Susan enjoys the children's enthusiasm when they discover something new. The goal of the Discovery Room is help children see that the Discovery Channel is not the only place to learn about the wonders of the world. Susan has a degree in Gerontology and has participated in numerous Early Childhood Education training classes. Susan enjoys being a member of Good Shepherd Lutheran Church. She enjoys spending time with her family and exercising. Susan is married to Dave and has three grown daughters and two grandchildren.

Angie Trost, M.Ed. – Preschool Music Teacher

Ms. Angie has been a wonderful addition to Building Blocks Preschool! Ms. Angie has a Bachelor's and a Master's Degree in Elementary Education. She enjoyed teaching first grade for seven years in both the Parkway School District and in Michigan. Angie has an innate love for children, and she is passionate about teaching in creative ways and using music to help children learn. While living in South Carolina, Ms. Angie led a weekly "Play and Pray" group for toddlers and preschoolers at her church. She developed lesson plans correlating Bible stories, crafts and interactive songs. Angie has always had a love for music, and she spent many years performing in musicals and singing competitively. Angie and her husband, Eric, have three children. She enjoys spending time with her family, volunteering at her kids' school and using her creative talents through sewing and crafts.

*** All teachers receive Early Childhood Development training and classes throughout the school year.**