



TAPROOT 2020



TAPROOT TEACHER TRAINING 2020 *Workshop Descriptions*

Foundations

Morning Circle Time with Multiple Ages (Presented by Amber Sharipov)

In this workshop, you will learn how to craft a morning circle that works for your unique homeschool situation, and see several examples of circle time in action, incorporating many of the seven lively arts as described by Jean Miller of Waldorf-Inspired Learning!

Rhythm to the Rescue (Presented by Jean Miller)

We'll explore the importance of rhythm in children's lives and how it can help you to simplify your homeschool and family life. Simple, practical ideas for ways you can bring more rhythm to your days and weeks. Rhythm really can help rescue us from chaos!

The Four Temperaments (Presented by Brian & Robyn Wolfe)

The Temperaments: Part I (Introduction with an artistic activity)

Through an understanding of the 4 temperaments, home educators can improve their abilities to observe and build rapport with their children. In Part I of this workshop series, we'll take an artistic approach as we explore the mood and soul qualities of each temperament, using the four elements (earth, wind, fire, water) as our guide.

The Temperaments: Part II (with movement activities)

In Part II of this workshop series, we'll take a practical approach to exploring the Temperaments that includes movement, learning styles, and tips for working with each temperament on a day to day basis.

Planning Blocks for the Whole Family (Presented by Jean Miller)

Let's explore three different ways to build a main lesson block for the whole family – around a specific topic, around one book, or around a project. The goal is to empower you to create blocks from scratch for your children.

Celebrating Festivals (Presented by Amber Sharipov)

Festivals create a sense of belonging to something larger than ourselves. And they mark the rhythms of the year. Festival celebrations also strengthen bonds among people. In this workshop, we'll look at a simple structure for planning festivals or holidays, and talk about ideas for some of the fall festivals that you might want to celebrate with your family and friends.

Early Years

Kindergarten at Home (Presented by Barbara Dewey)

Come see the setup of an easily made Kindergarten environment in the home, with a description and demonstration of some activities and ways of organizing for your young child's free play. Bibliography included.

Making Standing Puppets (Presented by Barbara Dewey)

Standing puppets are simple to make archetypal figures that are also easy to manipulate. They are usually made to be fairly generic, so that they can be used for different characters. Barbara will go through the process of making one, showing ways they can be varied to become different characters.

Early Grades

Language Arts & History for Grades 1 & 2 (Presented by Jean Miller)

In this workshop, we will experience the magic of grades one and two through the integration of language arts and history including fairy tales and fables, learning to read, and how to make a main lesson book. We will walk through an actual lesson following a two-day rhythm.

Math & Science for Grades 1 & 2 (Presented by Rebecca Christie)

We'll explore main lesson blocks for math with an emphasis on nature stories (which is the science in these early grades). You will experience a sample of an actual lesson including a story, movement, and a hands-on activity for concept reinforcement.

Language Arts & History for Grades 3 & 4 (Presented by Jean Miller)

Come with a beginner's mind and see what it feels like to be a student. We'll immerse ourselves in main lesson time from opening to closing circle. And explore the main lesson topic of clothing and fiber, houses and homes, creation stories, or Norse myths as a sample lesson.

Math & Science for Grades 3 & 4 (Presented by Rebecca Christie)

We'll discuss the main lesson topics related to math and science for grades 3 & 4. You will experience a sample of an actual lesson including a story, movement, and a hands-on activity for concept reinforcement. Possible topics include measurement, fractions, man and animal, or local geography.

Nature Study (Presented by Joe Maxwell)

In this workshop, we will delve into the importance of Nature Studies in the Waldorf curriculum, peruse some great resources, cover examples of lessons, and how to build nature into your daily rhythm. Nature study is a wonderful mixed-ages learning activity and one that fosters reverence and wonder in our children and ourselves.

Ecotherapy (Presented Joe Maxwell)

Research shows that spending time in nature makes people happier and healthier. In this workshop, we will discuss how to utilize the energy of our natural world to nurture, calm, and teach ourselves and our children.

Middle Grades

Language Arts & History for Grades 5-8 (Presented by Jean Miller)

Come explore the integration of language arts and history in grades 5-8. We'll immerse ourselves in main lesson time from opening to closing circle. We'll look at a sample main lesson on the topic of the Age of Discovery and share ideas for how history and literature topics are brought in hands-on and engaging ways.

Math & Science for Grades 5-8 (Presented by Rebecca Christie)

Come explore math and science in grades five through eight. We'll look at how to cover math in the upper grades (main lesson vs. daily math practice) and experience a sample main lesson on mapping and navigation as related to the Age of Discovery.

The Book Hearth: A Gathering Place for Enlivened Readers (Presented by Alison Manzer & Jean Miller)

In this workshop tailored to parents, grandparents, as well as teens and tweens, Jean and Alison will hold space for readers of all ages to “tap” into that “unique spark of light” - that lively appreciation for all the wonder and hope present in the world - residing deeply in each one of us. We'll be igniting this spark through an embodied reading of the classic children's book, Island of the Blue Dolphins. Jean and Alison have long recognized the power of classic children's and YA literature to not only feed the intellect but to guide our hands and heal our hearts. In this workshop, we'll explore how the mindset and experiences of the young Karana - who spends so many years alone on a small island in the Pacific - model ways for us to approach life on our own “islands” with fresh reverence and newfound boldness. The time spent in this workshop promises to have a beautiful ripple effect on your homeschool. We intend to provide you with a plentiful woodpile of ideas and reflections in order to help you bring this story, and others like it, to life as you return home to gather around your own book hearths. We're also excited to share that this workshop doubles as a kickoff of sorts, as Jean and Alison look forward to hosting several more Book Hearth gatherings as we circle the seasons this coming year.

Handwork

Handwork: Knitting for Beginners (Presented by Barbara Dewey)

A demonstration of how to make knitting needles from dowels, choice of yarn, and an actual slow demonstration of how to knit, stitch by stitch, to the accompaniment of little rhymes.

Handwork: Beginning Crochet (Presented by Amber Sharipov)

Crocheting is often introduced in second grade as it requires more wakefulness than first grade knitting. It is pointed and direct and, with each stitch, the child must determine if she is going under the "right bridge". The movement of the hook in the dominant hand should flow and be rhythmic. In this workshop, we will learn to chain and build on that foundation to make a crocheted potholder. This project is made with cotton yarn.

Handwork: Grades 3 & 4 (Presented by Amber Sharipov)

In grades 3 & 4, knitting and crochet continue, but form and design should now be encouraged to involve the child's own design. By now children have a sense that things should be beautiful and functional. Weaving, simple embroidery and cross-stitch come into practice. In third or fourth grade, students are often introduced to simple embroidery and the use of a sharp needle. This activity ties in with the awakening that accompanies the 9-10 yr. change. In fourth grade, the emphasis is also on cross-stitch as students begin the journey of crossing from childhood into adolescence. In this workshop, you will learn how to knit and felt a recorder bag, with a simple embroidered or cross-stitched design on the outside of the bag.

Handwork: Grades 5+ (Presented by Amber Sharipov)

Grades 5 and up typically see students learn to knit in the round (usually socks!), create a pattern and sew a three-dimensional stuffed animal, make a doll by hand, advance in wet-felting techniques to create a pair of slippers, and begin quilting. In this workshop, we will discuss the purpose behind the specific handwork projects for each age, and make a small doll using many of these techniques.

The Lively Arts

Movement Games & Music (Presented by Jean Miller)

Both movement games and music help to strengthen the bonds in a group. They're like team building activities. In this workshop, we'll explore a variety of ways you can weave games and music throughout your homeschooling day. And learn some new games and songs for all ages along the way.

Crayon Drawing (Presented by Amber Sharipov)

Learn to work with beeswax crayons and different drawing techniques. We will explore shading, blending, and color. This session will offer an overview of drawing through the curriculum and participants will create drawings from a few different grades' main lessons.

Watercolor Painting for Beginners (Presented by Brian & Robyn Wolfe)

In this workshop, we'll use the primary colors to explore the process of working through the steps of color, form, and motif. We'll cover everything, including: set-up, technique, mindset,

teaching methods, and more! We'll dive into the idea that wet-method painting is all about process and imagination.

Chalk Drawing (Presented by Brian & Robyn Wolfe)

Creating beautiful, Waldorf style chalk art can seem like a daunting task. In this workshop, we'll be learning techniques to make the process approachable, quick, and rewarding. We'll focus on technique, elements of a good composition, and how to work out of the color.

Shadow Puppet Theater (Presented by Eshanne Anderson)

Shadow puppet theater is a fantastic storytelling tool filled with magic and light. In this workshop, you will learn how to build a simple shadow puppet theater that will delight your entire family. We will look at adapting stories and fables for shadow puppet theaters and creating simple paper characters. This is a perfect project to learn for yourself and your homeschool and is also a fun activity for co-ops. Come learn how shadow puppet theater is a lively activity that can be woven into unexpected places in your homeschooling year.

Storytelling (Presented by Joe Maxwell)

In this workshop, we'll explore the significant role Storytelling plays in a child's development throughout the Waldorf curriculum. Covering technique, various mediums (e.g. dolls, hand/shadow puppets, role playing), and resources for content and guidance as well. Storytelling captures the imagination and wonder of children which translates later into creative writing, enhanced vocabulary, and public speaking.

Inner Work

Inner Work Journey: Lenses to Look Through (Presented by Sheila Petruccilli)

Viewing inner work as a path toward wholeness, we will explore a variety of typologies that may provide a way of looking at personality that is expansive and enlightening. A sampling of the Temperaments, the Enneagram, Myers-Briggs, Archetypal Energies, and Evolutionary Astrology will be offered as lenses through which to see ourselves. Consider this an introductory overview with resources provided for further exploration.

Creative Journaling: A Map Through Unknown Territory (Presented by Sheila Petruccilli)

In this session, I will be sharing ways to journal using words, images, mark making and more. I'll also demonstrate how to make a "book of shadows" — which is simply a way to mess up a perfectly good journal. Consider that my teaser, and if you want to play along, start saving your used coffee grinds and tea bags now. Any kind of notebook or journal will work. I've also done this technique with loose paper as well. Cardstock is perfect.

Creating Intentions and Nourishing Practices for Ourselves (Presented by Eshanne Anderson)

In this workshop, we will look at how to start small and create inner work practices. We'll create a practical and artistic list of intentions that will nourish you AND your family. Together we will explore tiny practices that can grow into a lifetime of meaningful relationship with your heart.

Have you ever experienced resistance in yourself or your children? We'll spend some time addressing resistance to inner work...how this relates to homeschooling and ultimately how to meet yourself and your children with compassion and grace.

Using Poetry to Answer the BIG Life Questions (Presented by Eshanne Anderson)

Have you ever asked yourself why? Do you ever wonder...about EVERYTHING? Is there something growing inside of you and you just don't know what to do about it? In this workshop, we will look at an impactful practice of using poetry to answer some of those burning questions that live inside of your heart. We'll explore inner longing and how to meet that longing with tenderness, beauty, and clarity. Together we'll work with a tried and true method to surprise ourselves with answers and perfect wisdom that already exist inside of us. We'll walk step by step into a beautiful field of words and poetry that is already waiting to bloom right inside of you. Together we will grab some grace and create something that you can see and feel and hold for the journey ahead.

Inner Work Journey Conversations (Panel Discussion with Eshanne Anderson, Joe Maxwell, Sheila Petrucelli, and Jean Miller)

Join us for a lively conversation with four inner work friends. Together Jean, Shelia, Joe, and Eshanne have many years of homeschooling experience and even more years of searching deeper to meet themselves and their children. They will share tips and stories about their own inner work process. With laughter and friendship, they'll normalize the struggles of homeschooling and parenting all at the same time. Pour yourself a cup of tea to visit with us a little while and be encouraged.