

A Note about the Kindergarten Forum

My mother, Betty Peck, and I are delighted to welcome you to the Kindergarten Forum. As part of my mother's doctoral studies, she developed a program to support kindergarten teachers sponsored by the Santa Clara County Office of Education in 1989. Each Monday after school twelve teachers came to our home for a weekly burst of inspiration and practical advice on pedagogical themes and activities through the seasons.

After three years these gatherings became the quarterly Kindergarten Forum. A wide range of topics concerning the young child and an esteemed list of presenters have contributed to the Forum's continued success for the past 21 years. The Forums are held at our home in Saratoga and sometimes in other local kindergartens or preschools with exemplary indoor environments or school gardens.

The forums begin with singing games, movement and song followed by the featured presentation. After a potluck lunch, there is often a seasonal craft or further discussion and a final toast to the solstice or equinox. The participants- teachers, parents, and administrators- come from all over the Bay Area and drive long distances from other parts of California. When remarkable people and ideas meet together, there is a feeling of renewal and inspiration.

We are grateful for the opportunity to host these events and to experience the fruitful community spirit that arises from each unique Forum.

Welcome!

Betty Peck, Ed.D.

Books: *Kindergarten Education: Freeing Children's Creative Potential*,
A Kindergarten Teacher Looks at the Word GOD: Reflections on Goodness, Oneness and Diversity

Interview: <http://www.conversations.org/story.php?sid=333>

Anna Rainville, M.A.

Book: *Singing Games for Families, Schools and Communities*

Interview: <http://www.cincbayarea.org/interviews/anna-rainville/>

Website: www.annarainville.com