



Hardeep Shergill

Biography: Hardeep Shergill is an Early Reading Coach for the Toronto District School Board and is also pursuing her Ph.D. at OISE/University of Toronto. Most recently, Hardeep presented at the Center for Leadership and Diversity’s annual international conference on radical leadership in early years literacy. She is also a member of the Centre for Integrative Anti-Racism Studies at OISE. Hardeep is passionate about actionizing anti-racist and anti-colonial education. As a child who was born and raised in Rexdale, Ont., an underserved community in Toronto, she is a fierce advocate of students and families from marginalized neighbourhoods. It is her hope that educational spaces become more inclusive and epistemologically multicentric for all students.

Workshop title: *Centering Anti-Racist and Anti-Colonial Pedagogy in Early Years Literacy*

Workshop description: Learning how to read and write is a fundamental human right that all students deserve. At this workshop, attendees will learn how to embed anti-racist and anti-colonial pedagogy in early years literacy, in addition to learning more about the ways in which Whiteness and White supremacist logics continue to harm Black, Indigenous and Racialized children. Not only will participants learn about the importance of interrogating assessment and instructional strategies, but they will also learn about the significance of storytelling and counter narratives that affirm racial and ethnic identities, that are particularly important for the academic and emotional development of Black, Indigenous and Racialized learners.