

# Amy Taylor Santos

asantos@udel.edu

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## PROFESSIONAL SUMMARY

Experienced educator, researcher, and curriculum specialist with over two decades in literacy education, curriculum development, and teacher training. Specialization in sociocultural and community-based approaches to education, literacy instruction, and professional development for educators. Significant background in teacher research, national conference presentations, and mentoring future educators.

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## RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

**Research Assistant**, University of Delaware

*August 2021 - Present*

- Worked with Dr. David Coker and Dr. Kristen Ritchey on WALL (Writing Across Levels of Language) research project. Focused on first-grade sentence writing and spelling: data collection, lesson development, and small group instruction at various schools.

**Research Assistant**, University of Delaware & Delaware Math Coalition Partnership Project

*Fall 2023*

- Assisted Dr. James Hiebert with NSF-funded TUPL (Transforming & Understanding Professional Learning) project, focusing on translating ambitious teaching to more effective student learning. Responsibilities included data collection and coding teacher interview data.
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## TEACHING EXPERIENCE

**Teaching Assistant**, University of Delaware

*Fall 2024 - Present*

- Instructor for EDUC437 (Diagnosis and Instruction for Literacy Problems). Assisted with ENGL492 (English Student Teaching Seminar).

**Graduate Writing Center Tutor**, University of Delaware

*Spring 2024*

- Supported graduate students with academic writing, including theses and dissertations.

**Reading Specialist**, Providence Creek Academy

*January 2018 - August 2021*

- Led Literacy Professional Development and weekly PLC meetings, coordinated MTSS programs, and provided Tier 3 interventions for K-8 students.

**Assistant Professor**, West Chester University

*2004 - 2006*

- Taught graduate and undergraduate courses in literacy education. Participated in NCATE accreditation processes.

**Graduate Lecturer**, Pennsylvania State University

*1999 - 2002*

- Taught courses in children's literature, reading instruction, and language arts methods.

**Elementary and Middle School Teacher**, Reading School District

1995 - 1999

- Taught various grade levels from elementary to middle school, focusing on early literacy, history, and science.

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**SUPERVISORY EXPERIENCE**

**Field Instructor**, University of Delaware

Fall 2023 - Spring 2024

- Supported students in their teaching placements at middle schools, providing instructional guidance and feedback.

**Director of Curriculum**, Providence Creek Academy

2002 - 2004

- Oversaw curriculum development, coordinated state testing programs, and supervised instructional staff across subjects.

**Multilingual Learning Coordinator**, Providence Creek Academy

January 2018 - August 2021

- Managed ML program, including screening, assessment, and teacher support for ML students.

**Mentor Teacher**, Providence Creek Academy

2020 - 2021

- Provided mentorship and guidance for new educators, focusing on classroom effectiveness and instructional support.

**Clinical Educator**, University of Delaware, Providence Creek Academy

2020-2021

- Supported a year-long resident teacher candidate seeking certification in Elementary Education and Teaching of English Language Learners.

**Professional Development School Associate**, The Pennsylvania State University

1999-2000

- Supported a year-long student teaching placement from Penn State at State College High School in an innovative co-teaching partnership between the university and high school in English Language Arts.

**Field Experience Supervisor**, The Pennsylvania State University

1999-2000

- Supervised students in the Secondary Language Arts Field Experience at Mount Nittany Middle School

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**EDUCATION**

**Doctoral Student**, University of Delaware

August 2021 - Present

- PhD Candidate, Sociocultural and Community-Based Approaches and Literacy.

**Master of Science in Curriculum and Instruction**, Pennsylvania State University

May 2001

- Focus on Language and Literacy Education.

**Bachelor of Science in Education**, West Chester University

May 1995

- Concentration in Mathematics, Magna Cum Laude.

**Children's Literature International Summer School**, University of Surrey at

Roehampton, UK; Summer 2001

## PUBLICATIONS

Han, M., Novikova, E., Kuntz, S., **Santos, A.** (2024). "Incorporating Adult Play in Graduate Education," *Play & Culture Studies*, Vol. 17.

## PROFESSIONAL PRESENTATIONS

Flynn, J.E., Porcher, K.M., **Santos, A.T.**, & Vilceus, S.S., (2024, November). There is Joy in Our Collaboration: Understanding Teacher Candidates' Perceptions of Joy in Courses & in Teaching Teacher Candidates. Panel presentation at the **National Council of Teachers of English (NCTE)** Annual Convention in Boston, MA.

Golinkoff, R., **Santos, A.**, Zhestkova, O., Skrypnuik, J., Craig, J., Smith, O., Hartman, H., Moldavanova, A., & Kucirkova, N., (2024, August). Stories with Clever Hedgehog: Evaluating a Web Platform for Ukrainian Children, Symposium Presentation in Research and Interventions for Children Exposed to Political Violence and War at the **American Psychological Association** Conference in Seattle, WA.

**Santos, A.T.**, (2024, April). Increasing Teacher Self-Efficacy for Culturally Responsive Teaching Through Children's Literature and Visioning in a Professional Learning Partnership. Research in Progress Roundtable at the **American Educational Research Association** Conference in Philadelphia, PA

**Santos, A.T.**, (2024, April). Centering Joy: Community and Connection in the English Language Arts Classroom. Presentation at the University of Delaware **Steele Symposium** in Newark, DE.

**Santos, A.T.**, (2023, April). Teacher Beliefs about Student Success in the Context of Indigenous Culturally Relevant Pedagogy. Poster presentation at the University of Delaware **Steele Symposium** in Newark, Delaware.

**Santos, A.T.**, (2005, November). Constructing Identity and Voice: What is the Role of Literature and Popular Culture? Presentation at the **National Council of Teachers of English** Conference in Pittsburgh, PA.

Darigan, D. & **Santos, A. T.**, (2005, May). Let's Laugh a Little: Humorous Children's Book Authors Talk About Their Work. Panel presentation at the **International Reading Association** Conference in San Antonio, TX.

**Santos, A.T.**, (2005, April). Cinderella: Children's Fantasy or Adult Reality? A Closer Look at the Cinderella Motif. Presentation at the Kutztown University **Children's Literature Conference**, Kutztown, PA.

- Santos, A.T.**, (2003, May). Exploring the Art of Picturebooks: A Preview to the Fall Exhibit. Presentation at the Pennsylvania State University **Children's Literature Matters Conference**, University Park, PA.
- Taylor, A.K.**, (2001, April). Race, Class and Gender: A Historical Look at the Art of U.S. Picturebooks, 1900-2000. Presentation at The History of **Art Education Conference**, The Pennsylvania State University, University Park, PA.
- Taylor, A.K.**, (2001, April). What's New in Picture Books 2000. Presentation at the Pennsylvania State University **Children's Literature Matters Conference**, University Park, PA.
- Myers, J. & **Taylor, A.** (2001, April). Building A Professional Development School for Secondary School Literacy. Presentation at the **International Reading Association Conference**, New Orleans, LA.
- Myers, J., **Taylor, A.**, Paul, C., & Bertoty, K. (2000, December). Challenging and Changing School Literacy Practices through Professional Development School Collaboration and Curricular Invention. Presentation at the **National Reading Conference**, Scottsdale, AZ.
- Taylor, A.K.**, (2000, April). What's New in Picture Books 1999. Presentation at the Pennsylvania State University **Children's Literature Matters Conference**, University Park, PA.
- Myers, J., & **Taylor, A.K.** (2000, January). Professional Development School Institute: Using Technology in the Secondary Language Arts Classroom. Poster presentation at the **Holmes Conference**, Cincinnati, OH.
- Taylor, A.K.**, (1998). On Being a Teacher At Sea: Cross-Curricular Classroom Applications. Presentation at the **Pennsylvania Science Teachers Association Conference**, Hershey, PA.
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## SERVICE

- **Stories with Clever Hedgehog Qualitative Research Associate**, University of Delaware, 2023 to present. Under the direction of Dr. Roberta Golinkoff (funded by the Jacobs Foundation), assisted with planning, interviewing, and data analysis to understand user experiences with a digital platform designed to extend language and literacy learning for Ukrainian children and families in time of war.
- **President, Board of Directors**, Providence Creek Academy, 2014 - 2018. Vice President 2012-2014. Member 2004 – 2018
- **National Junior Honor Society Bedtime Stories Literacy Project**, Providence Creek Academy, 2020-2021. To support literacy learning and community connection during the Covid-19 school closures, supported National Junior Honor Society students in grades 6-8 as they selected and read bedtime stories while promoting digital library resources to students in grades K-5 each week via zoom.
- **National Council for Accreditation of Teacher Education**, Assessment Development Committee, Department of Literacy, West Chester University, 2004 – 2006

- **Book Reviewer**, International Literacy Association - Teachers' Choice 2015 Reading List, Primary Readers
  - **Assistant Coach, Girls on the Run**, Providence Creek Academy, Spring 2019.
  - **Volunteer Teacher**, Providence Creek Academy, Upper School; "What Do You Geek?" - An Inquiry Based Library Elective; 2017-2018
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### **AWARDS & HONORS**

- **Early Literacy Grant**, Donors Choose, mini home library for kindergarten students, 2020-21
  - **Nominee for The Cornerstone Award**, DE Charter Network; IDEA Awards; 2020
  - **Inches and Miles Award** for Academic Achievement; Providence Creek Academy; DCSN; IDEA 2020
  - **National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration's Teacher at Sea**; 1998
  - **Edwin S. Youse Scholarship** recipient; 1991-1995
  - **Who's Who Among Students in American Universities and Colleges**; 1995
  - **The National Order of Omega**, Honor Fraternity; President; 1994-1995
  - **Gamma Sigma Alpha**, Academic Honor Society; 1995
  - **Kappa Delta Pi**, Honor Society in Education; 1995
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### **CERTIFICATIONS**

- CITI – Responsible Conduct of Research
  - CITI – Human Subjects Protections – Social-Behavioral-Educational Focus
  - Pennsylvania Instructional I – Elementary K-6
  - Delaware Continuing License – Standard: Elementary Teacher (Grades K-6)
  - Wilson Reading System, AIM Institute, Conshohocken, PA, 2020
  - Dyslexia Training Institute – Dyslexia, Orton-Gillingham, Reading Comprehension, and Fluency Development, University of San Diego, 2019
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### **PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS**

- American Educational Research Association
  - National Council of Teachers of English
  - Children's Literature Association
  - International Literacy Association
  - Critical Race Studies in Education Association
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### **ARTS ENDEAVORS**

- **Founder and Co-Director** of the PCBT Annual Arts Gala, Clayton, DE, 2022-present. Provides a platform for youth artists to showcase their work.
- **Photographer** for Providence Creek Ballet Theater, 2011 – Present
- **Pianist**, The Everett Theater, Fall 2019
- **Santos, A.T.**, (2015). Capturing Childhood. **Photography Exhibit**, Newark Art Loop, Newark DE.

- **Santos, A.T.**, (2003). *Exploring the Art of Picturebooks*. **Robeson Gallery Exhibit**, The Pennsylvania State University, University Park, PA.