

It's time to turn
that overwhelm into

Simplicity &



After three decades of developing, refining, and proving her How to Teach Joy philosophy as a mother, child development expert, founder of several early education centers, and an educator training the next generation, Teacher Joy embodies all of the enthusiasm and ingenuity she inspires in her audiences.

Whether it is a keynote or a workshop, educators, parents, and even change- and policy-makers will find themselves deeply engaged and walk out smiling and ready to put all of their inspiration into action.

For Changemakers / Policymakers

Evolving Early Education

As the trends toward bleak learner outcomes and teacher burnout put our children and culture in trouble, new models and methods must rise to meet them. Discover a powerful new, community-driven approach to early education, and why it needs the movers, shakers, and policymakers to quickly rally resources.



Teacher Joy

Child Development Specialist Joy Robertson (Teacher Joy) partners with parents, early childhood educators, and community members committed to raising a healthier, happier generation.



When motherhood surprised her, she was young and on her own to figure out and provide what her child needed to thrive. A little research and a few child development classes deepened her parenting joy and sparked a lifelong passion and profession. She attended Monterey Peninsula College and Hartnell College, where she was instructed by Jeannie Garcia and Pat Hendricks and mentored by Bev Bos and became a staff member and mentor teacher for student teachers at their child development center.

In 1998, she co-created her first early education center with Shannan Watkins in Seaside, California. Avondale is still thriving with the brilliant staff Shannan has led while expanding to more than a dozen centers throughout Northern California.

After moving to Wenatchee, Washington in 2000, Joy developed The Learning Curve Child Development Center with the financial support of Verm Smith, and transformed a struggling daycare into a high-quality child development center that grew to three locations and operated for ten years.

In 2016, she founded TEAMS Learning Center to provide a full experience of her How to Teach Joy philosophy, which included adult instruction as well as early learning. It made a major impact on the community and was recognized as the North Central Washington Chamber of Commerce's Non-profit of the Year for 2023.

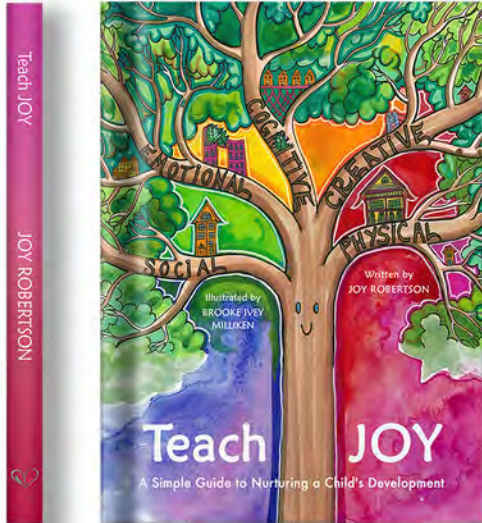
Over the course of her career, from every role imaginable in early education, she has helped families cultivate more joy in their relationships and surprise doctors with the astounding progress of neurodivergent children. She has trained hundreds of teachers in her proprietary philosophy and curriculum and rallied communities to support early childhood education. And she has codified her philosophy in a beautifully-illustrated instructional manual titled *How to Teach Joy: A Simple Guide to Nurturing a Child's Development*.

In addition to speaking and facilitating, Joy now offers 1-on-1 parent mentoring as well as PLAY, a small support group for parents. An advocate for all children having equal rights and opportunity to high-quality education, she speaks to inspire and empower parents, students, and educators as well as activate civil and community leaders to improve early childhood education for children across the country.

Joy brings a wealth of knowledge and experience to the field of early childhood, and she approaches her training sessions and workshops with enthusiasm and joy that is contagious.

Janette R. Dosh
Early Learning Coach

Why don't little ones come with an instruction manual?







When her first child was born, Joy Robertson was young and certain of only one thing—she was going to give her child what he needed to thrive. But first, she had to figure out what that was.

A little research and a few childhood development classes sparked a lifelong passion and profession.

After three decades of refining and proving her Teaching Joy philosophy as a parent and an educator, Joy has distilled her expertise into this easy-to-understand and even easier-to-use instruction manual for new and seasoned parents, caregivers, and educators who are determined to give children exactly what they need to live a joyful life.

For every developmental phase, from newborn to five years old, you will discover:

-  what is naturally unfolding in their bodies and minds
-  activities to build relationship and skill
-  insights to guide your attention and action
-  books and songs that will enrich and accelerate learning

No more wondering if you're giving them everything they need. No more mimicking behaviors without understanding why they help (or harm). No more comparing yourself to other parents who seem to have it all together.

I was immediately transported back in my emotional memory bank to being a first-time mom, with unexpected twin girls! I felt overjoyed, as well as sleep-deprived, depressed, and overwhelmed every single day of the first two years of their lives. And none of the strict child-rearing books of the time resonated with me. They felt patronizing and preachy and didn't help me become the parent I wanted to be. I would have truly loved to pick up "How To Teach Joy"! This guide to understanding a child's development includes concise research-based information and beautiful illustrations, and is full of passionate and graceful details. Our world needs more joy-filled children and parents. This book is a gift.

Judy Derpack

EC Specialist, Retired EC Director, Cascade School District School Board Member