



University of Louisville Shelby Campus

Louisville, KY

October 26-27, 2018

[www.kytesol.wildapricot.org](http://www.kytesol.wildapricot.org)

Preconference Workshop October 26, 8:30-3:00



Leslie Montgomery Mangum



Margot Holmes Smith

Leslie Montgomery Mangum is an intermediate grades teacher at Gavin H. Cochran Elementary in Louisville, Kentucky. After beginning her undergraduate degree in California and working for the Homes for the Homeless for the Homeless Residential Camping Program in New York City, Leslie returned to Louisville and earned her bachelor's and master's degree in teaching from the University of Louisville.

Leslie is a National Board Certified Teacher in literacy and an alumna of the Kentucky Reading Project and the Louisville Writing Project. She was a recipient of the 2010-2011 Gheens Innovation Award for strategic vocabulary instruction and the 2017 Hilliard Lyons/University of Louisville award.

Along with Word Nerds, Leslie was a contributing author for the middle school focused Vocabularians and is currently co-authoring a book on focused K-1 vocabulary instruction.

Margot Holmes Smith is the mother of first grade twin girls and an intermediate grades teacher at Gavin H. Cochran Elementary in Louisville, Kentucky. She has also taught classes for the University of Louisville and Bellarmine University. Margot earned both a bachelor's and master's degree in teaching from the University of Louisville. She is currently pursuing her Ed.S in School Administration.

Margot is an alumna of the Kentucky Reading Project and the Louisville Writing Project. She was a recipient of the 2010-2011 Gheens Innovation Award for strategic vocabulary instruction and the 2017 Hilliard Lyons Teacher of the Year award.

Along with Word Nerds, Margot was a contributing author for the middle school focused Vocabularians, and is currently co-authoring a book focused on K-1 vocabulary instruction.

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*Word Nerds* takes you inside classrooms at a high-poverty urban school and shows how to implement creative, flexible vocabulary instruction that improves their students' word knowledge and confidence, enhances classroom community, and increases achievement. Leslie Montgomery Mangum and Margot Holmes Smith weave vocabulary into each school day using multisensory instruction that includes music, art, literature, movement, games, drama, writing, test-taking skills, and technology. Along the way, they turn every student into a lover of language.

The best way to have effective literacy instruction for English language learners is to provide high-quality, explicit, and varied vocabulary instruction. By providing activities that build on the depth of knowledge, students will improve their critical thinking skills. The goal is to increase a student's word bank by teaching a few rich vocabulary words in depth that help build word networks and connections. In addition, teaching students strategies to combat unfamiliar vocabulary, while providing a safe environment to take risks with words, students develop a confidence when it comes to reading and comprehension.

In this session, Leslie and Margot discuss the importance of vocabulary as one of the five pillars of reading instruction and the research to support this. They will help teachers navigate the book while offering extension exercises for older students. In addition, we will see how these activities look in a classroom. There will be a "make and take" opportunity to get teachers ready to try these strategies in their classroom or with their ELL students.