



## Jennifer Gibbons Cincinnati, Ohio

### Biography

I have been an early childhood educator since 1984. While most of my experience is with preschoolers, I have also worked with infants, toddlers, and school-agers. Currently I am a lead teacher in the Preschool 2A class at U.C. Early Learning Center. As a self-described "bookaholic", much of my curriculum revolves around and is inspired by children's literature. Activities include painting with rubber mice (Mouse Paint), tasting vegemite (Possum Magic), and estimating/counting shells (The Seashore Book). My days are always busy and never boring! I am the proud godmother of an adorable and talented kindergartener named Rylee. My thanks and appreciation to the Lokoff family for honoring Terri's life's work and memory-as an accident survivor (with a mild traumatic brain injury), this award means a lot.

### Project- "Fall in Love with Books"

Derived from a quote from author/Illustrator Tomie dePaola, "Fall in love with reading and books. They can be your best friends!" The children in my class are more engaged and have a deeper comprehension of stories when they are expanded throughout the curriculum. This grant will enable me to purchase big book theme packets and storytelling prop kits. These materials will give the children the opportunity to retell and re-enact favorite stories.

