Colleague Interviews: Terri Yates

1. How long have you been teaching?

I’ve been teaching for 22 years

1. Have you always wanted to be a teacher?

Yes, when I was young I wanted to be a high school teacher but, after I had children I realized that I belong with the little ones.

1. Have you observed any problems within the education system? If so what problems?

I’m sure you have heard this many times before but, there is not enough hours in the day to complete what is being asked of teachers. In addition, class size prevents us from working with struggling students the way we should to ensure they are ready for second grade.

1. Has mainstreaming classrooms had any effect on you and how your classroom is run?

Mainstreaming has been an adjustment this year. Once again our class size is preventing us (early childhood teachers) from meeting the needs of all our students so, when you add in the mainstream students in makes it more difficult. Not to mention the extra paperwork and meetings to attend.