

# USF NEXUS INITIATIVE AWARD RECIPIENT

## **Ilene Berson**

*Integrating Digital Play with Tangible Technologies into Inquiry Project Investigations in Early Childhood Classrooms*

Early childhood is a critical time for the development of foundational capabilities and dispositions for a future driven by innovation and technology. Building upon a collaboration between scholars in the U.K. and Australia to compare how young children develop computational thinking while coding tangible technologies or 'robots' in a play-based STEM curriculum, this project is extending our emerging international research partnership with scholars at Hubei University, China and in preschools in Hubei Province to develop a global perspective of the integration of digital play into classrooms and the development of young children's transversal competencies for problem solving with tangible technologies.



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