

# Wisconsin Division of Early Childhood Above and Beyond Awards

Special Education  
Teacher of the Year



Kristen Rymer

Outstanding  
Contribution in EC



Emily Igl

Collaborative Team of  
the Year



Gale-Ettrick-Trempealeau Team



Congratulations to Lisa Mayer, school psychologist, Amanda McCoy, speech pathologist, and Joy Ranney, special education teacher, from Gale-Ettrick-Trempealeau School District, for being chosen as WDEC's Early Childhood Collaborative Team of the year.

This early childhood team has created an incredible program for identifying and supporting students across a range of abilities. The team collaborates regularly using their expertise in each of their respective areas.

This year their local Head Start program stopped offering a playgroup in their area. The team, recognizing the importance of this opportunity, stepped up and decided to design and run one themselves. As a result, G-E-T is now able to offer playgroups to all children ages 3-4 not enrolled in school. This team is committed to ensuring students get a strong start in school and making intentional connections between special education and general education. Inclusive services are at the heart.

On a daily basis this team just "GELS". This team is a perfect storm. They are incredibly flexible and engage and utilize everything at their fingertips. They also relay and respect each and every team member. Their enthusiasm and passion for helping students learn is contagious and shines through everything that they do.

Their school district cannot imagine what it would be like without this incredible early childhood team.