

COLLEEN MARIE OLINSKI

Colleen Marie Olinski is an educator, author, and mother who has worked with children of all ages in various settings for the past two decades. She holds a Bachelor's Degree in Communications and is a former commercial radio On-Air Personality. Her passion for education and touching the lives of children began while working as a Residential Counselor for at-risk adolescents.

Colleen earned her Master's Degree in Education while simultaneously earning her 1st-degree black belt in Taekwondo. As an elementary educator, she worked in urban and suburban school districts. She spent 12 years teaching preschool at a play-based Yale University affiliated early learning center. A former board member for the National Association for the Education of Young Children, Colleen, is an advocate for all children and has a deep respect for childhood.

Colleen founded Mama Wolf Publishing and wrote her debut book *A Wolf Named Elvis* to help children learn to self-regulate the many big feelings that they have been experiencing during the Coronavirus pandemic. The book empowers children and their adults to explore what creative actions bring them healing. It continues to support readers in feeling their feelings, flipping their scripts, and finding their own unique magic.

As a content creator for Luaa, Colleen supports families and teachers in creating meaningful, deep connections with the children in their lives. She knows the critical role that play has in shaping children's development. At Luaa, she teaches parents, caregivers, and teachers to bring more purposeful play into their busy schedules.

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