

Title of Training: CDELS with Preschoolers

2/8/22

NWAECA Board Members:

Rebecca Dunahoo– President, Amy Eddy– President Elect, Natasha Kile – Treasurer, Emma Tempest – VP Communication, Emmarose Gupton – Secretary, Alicia Mooney, Rebecca Evans – Benton County’s Member-at-Large, Anna Cannon – Washington County Member-at-Large, Debbie Mays – Advisory Board, Elizabeth Scudder – Advisory Board, Debbie May, Susan Edwards Teters, Elizabeth Scudder, Terri – Advisor

Number Present: 54**Call to Order/Greetings****President**

Rebecca Dunahoo, President called the meeting to order at 6:30 pm.

Approval of December, 2021 Minutes**Secretary**

The December meeting minutes have been posted in the [NWAECA Facebook group](#) as well as on the [AECA website](#). A motion was made by Emmarose Gupton to accept the minutes as written and seconded by Alicia Mooney.

Treasurer Report**Treasurer**

Natasha Kile shared the Treasurer Report. The current NWAECA affiliate balance is \$552.90 with no outstanding charges.

OLD BUSINESS:

Rebecca thanked everyone for coming out to the Amazeum and the volunteers for working the event!

NEW BUSINESS:**President****Well-Being Check-In****Emma Tempest**

Emma reminded us about the opportunity to share our wins on the NWAECA Facebook group page each Friday. She asked participants to enter a gratitude in the chat box and encouraged us to shift or change something that generates positivity and support for others. Emma shared a video from Mel Robinson about the ‘High Five challenge’. She also challenged everyone to post a picture of themselves high fiving on our Facebook Page.

Upcoming Trainings/Conferences/Early Childhood Events**Open Share**

1. February 10th 10am-2pm- NWA Round Table

2. Terri Teters shared upcoming opportunities for Administrators and EC Leaders offered through A-State Childhood Services.

PAS Level 3 Cohort:

#41152 PAS Items 7, 8, 9 - February 9th 11:30-1:30

NWA Director's Roundtable

If you need child development courses/training ECEP offers three different Child Development courses (Child Development Birth-3, Child Development 3-5, Child Development 5-8) available in a self-paced format online! To register click on [Enroll Now> Self-Paced Format](#) via the link above.

Presentation: CDELS with Preschoolers

Rebecca introduced Rebecca Evans, Early Care and Education Projects (ECEP) who shared what ECEP does for the early childhood educators and the supports and services they provide. She had us reframe our minds to see that almost every one of us, whether in a family child care home setting or a center-based program work with mixed ages. Elizabeth shared the importance of us meeting their developmental needs of where they are and to modify our expectations. However, we must first have an understanding of child development and how important it is for the work we do with our littles. We explored the Arkansas CDELS with Preschoolers and how you can incorporate fun and engaging activities with Preschool groups while fostering learning goals. The key is the tool is on a continuum that builds on skills and development and overlaps age groupings. You can get a big picture at a glance of where any child in your classroom is at that time so you can meet their developmental needs regardless of the age group they fall in based on their chronological age. Even if you do not work with this age group, you may have children who are developmentally at this level or are in need of a little extra support and will gain valuable information to support all children's developmental needs. We can see the skills are stair stepped to ensure that we do not miss crucial steps/skills so we ensure children have a solid foundation to build upon.

Rebecca stressed the importance of looking at the terms and definitions so we have a clear understanding of what the domain is asking for. Social Emotional Development is the foundation that needs to be addressed first and then the academia will follow. Rebecca gave us some great activity ideas for Social and Emotional domain: building those foundational relationships. She also shared ways for us to be able to interact with peers.

Strategies & Activities is another helpful tool that supports the learning domains of the CDELS. Elizabeth shared that gaining knowledge and tools are crucial when working with mixed age groups. Utilize the resources so you can be successful in working with mixed age groups. The main thing is to keep all ages of children safe, meeting the developmental needs for all children while still engaging older children.

[The Explorers Curriculum has a lesson on Trees.](#) The Book, "Leaf Man" by Lois Ehlert is mentioned with activities. The lesson and book will also be in the bag for those pre-registered and some will win as a door prize!

You can contact Rebecca Dunahoo at RDunahoo@Astate.edu or Elizabeth Scudder at escudder@uark.edu if you want any resources that were discussed tonight.

Until We Meet Again

Emma Tempest

Emma reminded us to look for the Well Being connection post in the [Facebook group](#).

Next Meeting

Join us on March 8th at 6:30 pm as our guest speaker, Marcy White talks about Arkansas Children Week(PDR #38209). Remember the first 25 to register will receive a goodie bag!

Adjourn

President

Rebecca adjourned the meeting at 8:00 pm.