



River Valley Early Childhood Association

Newsletter

May 2022 Issue 16



Teacher Appreciation Week
May 2nd-6th, 2022

Early Childhood Center: Greenwood Preschool Center

Director: Candice Long

Words that describe my teachers:

Hard working, loving, and flexible.

How do your teachers make everyday special for their students?

They make each student feel loved.

My teachers shine the brightest when:

They see growth in their students.

Early Childhood Center: Immaculate Conception Preschool

Director: Saron Blentlinger

Words that describe my teachers:

Devoted, collaborative, affectionate, knowledgeable, versatile, and encouraging.

How do your teachers make everyday special for their students?

Individual attention, appreciation of the gifts and talents of each child, hugs and words of affirmation.

My teachers shine the brightest when:

They celebrate the accomplishments of their children.

Early Childhood Center: First Place Academy

Director: Becky Petty

Words that describe my teachers:

Motivated, loving, caring, active, intentional, and patient.



River Valley Early Childhood Association

Newsletter

May 2022 Issue 16



How do your teachers make everyday special for their students?

They are intentional to the needs and the interests of their students. They spend time planning and preparing experiences that will harvest a love for learning and a love for Jesus! Each teacher emphasizes that their students are uniquely designed by God who loves them!

My teachers shine the brightest when:

When they are in their element, the classroom, spending time with the littles they have been entrusted with.

Early Childhood Center: Little Blessings Preschool

Director Nikki Brewer

Words that describe my teachers:

Friendly, Team-Spirited, Competitive, Energetic, Crafty, Fun, Dedicated, Caring, Passionate, Innovated, Resourceful, and Motivated.

How do your teachers make everyday special for their students?

Morning greetings, fun stories, playing with them in centers, connecting, singing songs at naptime, patting backs, playing games outside, saying goodbye whenever picked up.

My teachers shine the brightest when:

They know what is expected of them, when I am on their side, when they have the supplies they need, they are encouraged.



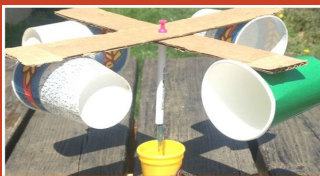
River Valley Early Childhood Association

Newsletter

May 2022 Issue 16



Click pictures for
May activities!



Measure the Wind
Spring STEM Activity
Build Your Own Wind Anemometer



GIANT
NAIL SALON
www.happytoddlerplaytime.com



15 fun & easy
TOILET PAPER ROLL
CRAFTS FOR KIDS



TASTE SAFE
MUD
For Your Baby
and Toddler



WWW.PLAYINSPIREDMUM.COM



River Valley Early Childhood Association

Newsletter

May 2022 Issue 16



Attention Preschool Teachers!!

Do you need help with lesson planning or themes? Did you know **UAFS** has a collection of theme boxes that are **FREE** to check out and use in your classroom?

Email Sheri Young at sheri.young@uafs.edu if you are interested. Need more resources or inspiration? Check out the **RV-ECA pinterest** page.

Calling all Storytellers!

As an Arkansas early educator, you became one of the nation's most essential workers during the Covid-19 pandemic. The attention of the world is now focused on the important role that Early Childhood Education plays in the economy and to families – we want to KEEP that attention by sharing YOUR stories! We know you have important things to say! We want to provide you with the opportunity to work with a story coach and a group of colleagues/fellow storytellers to hone your story and increase your confidence in sharing with others.

Visit our website for more info and to apply:

www.arkansasearlychildhood.org/storytelling






River Valley Early Childhood Association

Newsletter

May 2022 Issue 16



Call to schedule a time to use.
479.788.7605

 **UAFS**
EARLY CHILDHOOD
EDUCATION
RESOURCE ROOM

@ ECHOLS
next to
Stubblefield

- Laminator
- Die Cuts
- Construction Paper
- Art Materials
- Poster Board
- Card Stock
- Large Work Area

SATURDAYS @ ECHOLS



UAFS | EARLY CHILDHOOD
EDUCATION

WE ARE BACK FOR FACE TO FACE
TRAININGS THE 2ND SATURDAY OF EACH
MONTH.

OUR RESOURCE ROOM WILL BE AVAILABLE
TO PARTICIPANTS.



River Valley Early Childhood Association

Newsletter

May 2022 Issue 16



2022 **River Valley Early Childhood Association** Meetings

**Tuesday
January 11th**

Tuesday 6:30-8:00
Be Well. Care Well. Arkansas:
Susanna Creed

Learn about the Be Well Care Well Arkansas program. This is a new opportunity for child care providers to do something special for themselves and their staff that helps improve job satisfaction, reduce stress, strengthen relationships, and foster positive interactions with children. well-being.



**Tuesday
April 12th**

Tuesday 6:30-8:00pm
Infant-Toddler Lesson Planning:
Ashley Napurano

Need some help writing lesson plans? Do your lesson plans need a refresher? Join us for some tips and new ideas for developing your I-T lesson plans and learn about the Explorers Curriculum for Toddlers and Twos

**Tuesday
Sept. 13th**

Tuesday 6:30-8:00pm
Preschool Lesson Planning:
Ashley Napurano

Need some help writing lesson plans? In need of some needs ideas? Join us for some tips and new ideas for developing your preschool lesson plans and learn about the Explorers Preschool Curriculum.

**Tuesday
Nov. 15th**

Tuesday 6:30-8:00pm
Teach Education and Compensation
Helps (TEACH)
Paul Lanzeby and Ronnette Haynes

Interested in a Certificate of Proficiency, Technical Certificate, or Associate Degree in Early Childhood Education? Need course hours toward your CDA? Paul and Ronnette will discuss how you can get 90% of your schooling paid for through the TEACH Scholarship program.



FOR MORE INFORMATION EMAIL ANapurano17@gmail.com



River Valley Early Childhood Association

Newsletter

May 2022 Issue 16



Save the Date

50th Annual

Arkansas State University
Childhood Services
Statewide
Early Childhood Education
Conference

Jonesboro
August 8 - 10, 2022



River Valley Early Childhood Association

Newsletter

May 2022 Issue 16



2022 ANNUAL CONFERENCE

LITTLE ROCK

OCT 12-15



River Valley Early Childhood Association

Newsletter

May 2022 Issue 16



TRAININGS

For more information about the Toddlers and Twos trainings below,
contact Marcy White, MWhite@AState.edu

Toddlers and Twos: Establishing Identity (Zoom) (2 hours of PDR credit)

May 5, 3:15 p.m. - 4:45 p.m.

Register: <https://conta.cc/3u4343n>

May 5, 6:15 p.m. - 7:45 p.m.

Register: <https://conta.cc/3x0xt4r>

Toddlers and Twos:

Strengthening Communication (Zoom) (2 hours of PDR credit)

May 10, 3:15 p.m. - 4:45 p.m.

Register: <https://conta.cc/3K0RN8B>

May 12, 6:15 p.m. - 7:45 p.m.

Register: <https://conta.cc/37nLEXa>

Toddlers and Twos:

Playful Math, Literacy, and More (Zoom) (2 hours of PDR credit)

May 17, 3:15 p.m. - 4:45 p.m.

Register: <https://conta.cc/36s5Qqh>

May 19, 6:15 p.m. - 7:45 pm

Register: <https://conta.cc/3uSZrOg>



River Valley Early Childhood Association

Newsletter

May 2022 Issue 16



Responsive Routines -

Welcoming Infants and Toddlers (2 hours of PDR credit)

April 26 – May 5

Register: <https://conta.cc/3LJZUc4>

For more information contact Rebecca Dunahoo, RDunahoo@AState.edu

Thinking Together -

Simple Art Experiences (2 hours of PDR credit)

April 28, 6:30 p.m. - 7:45 p.m.

Register: <https://conta.cc/3uEeg7n>

For more information contact Rebecca Dunahoo, RDunahoo@AState.edu

Early Learning Standards Basics (1.5 hours of PDR credit)

May 2-16

Register: <https://conta.cc/3I1dGVh>

May 9-23

Register: <https://conta.cc/351EHsY>

For more information contact Meghan Foster, MAnderson@AState.edu

Responsive Routines –

Meals and Snacks with Infants and Toddlers (2 hours of PDR credit)

May 3 - 12

Register: <https://conta.cc/3H0yAmb>

For more information contact Rebecca Dunahoo, RDunahoo@AState.edu

Responsive Routines –

Nap and Rest with Infants and Toddlers (2 hours of PDR credit)

May 10 – 19

Register: <https://conta.cc/3oVvb1B>

For more information contact Rebecca Dunahoo, RDunahoo@AState.edu

Thinking Together –

Building Science Knowledge with Picture Books (2 hours of PDR credit)

May 12 - May 24

Register: <https://conta.cc/3NY4QLz>

For more information contact Rebecca Dunahoo, RDunahoo@Astate.edu



River Valley Early Childhood Association

Newsletter

May 2022 Issue 16



Cooking with Young Children (2 hours of PDR credit)

May 12-26

Register: <https://conta.cc/3DtjdRA>

For more information contact Lyndsie Odle, LOdle@AState.edu.

Physical Activity (2 hours of PDR credit)

May 16-26

Register: <https://conta.cc/3In2lj1>

For more information contact Lyndsie Odle, LOdle@AState.edu

Responsive Routines –

Diapering and Toileting with Infants and Toddlers (2 hours of PDR credit)

May 17 – 26

Register: <https://conta.cc/3GZkFwv>

For more information contact Rebecca Dunahoo, RDunahoo@AState.edu

Using Books to Promote Healthy Eating (2 hours of PDR credit)

This course can be taken at any time.

Register: <https://conta.cc/3qLiRkF>

For more information contact Jeri Lynne Knight, JKnight@AState.edu

Going Outdoors with Infants and Toddlers (2 hours of PDR credit)

This course can be taken at any time.

Register: <https://conta.cc/3JAZMKI>

For more information Jeri Lynne Knight, JKnight@AState.edu



River Valley Early Childhood Association

Newsletter

May 2022 Issue 16



Explorers Curriculum for Toddlers and Twos

<http://asuchildhoodservices.org/#!/toddlers>

Explorers Preschool Curriculum

<http://asuchildhoodservices.org/#!/preschoolexp>



The social story, “**I Have a Wishing Heart,**” is available on our website. We hope you enjoy sharing it with your children and families.

<http://asuchildhoodservices.org/docs/heart2020.pdf>

Conscious Discipline in Arkansas YouTube Channel

<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCLD8w2wZ5fFAM09PrNd3j-A>

[BehaviorHelp Support](#)

BehaviorHelp offers services to assist child care programs in managing challenging classroom behaviors, as well as the social and emotional well-being of your children, families, and staff. If administrators or staff would like support from a technical assistance provider or mental health consultant, please complete an online BehaviorHelp support request form.

behaviorhelponline.org



River Valley Early Childhood Association

Newsletter

May 2022 Issue 16



Stay connected with us!

Like us on [Facebook](#), check our [affiliate google site](#), and check the AECA [affiliate page](#) to stay current on upcoming events.



Training Feedback Form:

What training(s) are you interested in? What training do you **NEED**? We want to hear from **YOU**! Click on this [link](#) to fill out our Professional Training feedback form.



River Valley Early Childhood Association

Newsletter

May 2022 Issue 16



Join AECA

*Connect with like-minded professionals
who share a goal to make life better for children*



Member Benefits

- ★ Membership in two associations for one price
- ★ Networking through local affiliations or chapters
- ★ Support from social media groups and message boards
- ★ Access to the latest information about child development
- ★ Verified training in the Professional Development Registry
- ★ Advocacy with policymakers on important early childhood issues
- ★ Home of T.E.A.C.H. Early Childhood Arkansas Scholarship Program
- ★ Reduced rates to AECA and SECA conferences



Sign up now

ArkansasEarlyChildhood.org



**Make sure to choose
RV-ECA as your
affiliate!**



River Valley Early Childhood Association

Newsletter

May 2022 Issue 16



Five reasons to become an Arkansas Early Childhood Association Member today!



Support

We help AECA members in their work with children and families as one team, providing support and recognition for the work involved in early childhood across the state of Arkansas, by building community to celebrate our successes and supporting each other when times are tough.



Standards

We work to improve the standards of care and quality of life for young children. We hold our members up as a professional community committed to high quality care and education of young children, shining a light on the work we do as highly essential to all communities.



Understanding

We further the development of knowledge and understanding of young children and the dissemination of such information. We provide our members with professional development opportunities that help them improve the lives of children and become confident advocates.



Contribution

We encourage the provision of education, developmental resources, and services for young children. By sharing the latest cutting edge information and quality research, our members are able to contribute to high quality care and education that children deserve every day.



Connections

We have community based affiliate groups across Arkansas where members can receive professional development, network and enjoy touring the settings of providers. We also has an annual conference where members get exclusive discounts. As an affiliate of the Southern Early Childhood Association, you are automatically a member of SECA and receive access to Dimensions of Early Childhood, the refereed journal that includes current articles on best practices in childcare and early childhood education policy.

Being a member of AECA means belonging to a group of like-minded professionals with a common goal to make life better for children.

Want more information? Visit our website and follow us on social media today

www.arkansasearlychildhood.org





River Valley Early Childhood Association

Newsletter

May 2022 Issue 16



T.E.A.C.H. Early
Childhood®

ARKANSAS

A Program of
Arkansas Early Childhood Association

**Teacher
Education
And
Compensation
Helps**

Are you an Early Childhood teacher, director or family child care provider?

Interested in a degree in Early Childhood Education, but in need of financial assistance?

Then **T.E.A.C.H.** is the program for you! Click the T.E.A.C.H. link above to learn more and apply for this great opportunity to further your education and careers!