

# River Valley Early Childhood Association



## Newsletter

May 2023 Issue 28



## May Activities



Click on images for links to articles!



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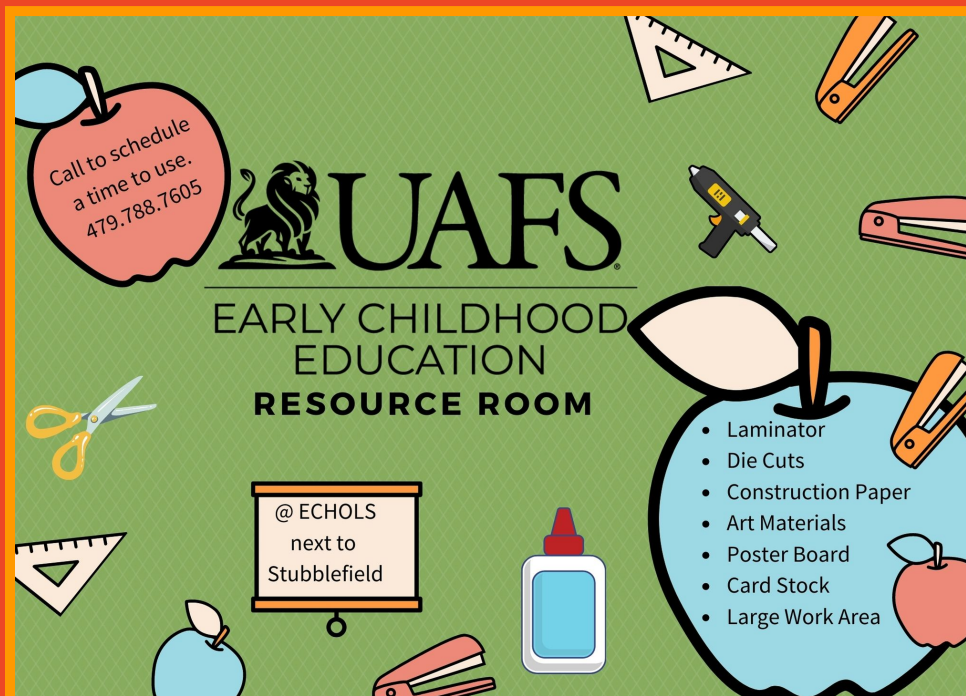


### Attention Preschool Teachers!!



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](mailto:sheri.young@uafs.edu) if you are interested.

Need more resources or inspiration? Check out the [\*\*RV-ECA\*\* \*\*pinterest\*\*](#) page!



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# Teachers are amazing!

**Early Childhood Center:** First Place Academy

**Director:** Becky Petty

**Words that describe my teachers:**

MIGHTY: Motivated, Intentional, Gentle, Heroes, Thoughtful, Young at Heart 💪

**How do your teachers make everyday special for their students?**

FPA teachers begin each day with a smile making students feel seen. They make time to really listen to what each child has to say, making them feel heard. Our teachers offer an array of opportunities that engage children as they play. They are creative and thoughtful in response to the needs of each child making them feel special. 💕

**My teachers shine the brightest when:**

They are in their element...getting silly and spending time with the children they serve!

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**Early Childhood Center:** Immaculate Conception Preschool

**Director:** Sharon Blentlinger

**Words that describe my teachers:**

Collaborative, eager learners, hands-on teachers, advocates for children, rays of sunshine everyday!

**How do your teachers make everyday special for their students?**

Listen to their stories, laugh at their jokes, make each child in their room feel special and unique, give great hugs!

**My teachers shine the brightest when:**

They tell others stories about their marvelous children!

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**Early Childhood Center:** Harvest Time Preschool

**Director:** Taylor Smith

**Words that describe my teachers:**

Dedicated, attentive, loving, encouraging, phenomenal, fun, and engaging

**How do your teachers make everyday special for their students?**

My teachers create meaningful moments for their students. They intentionally make memories through experiences with their lessons or daily activities. They create environments of open arms and helpful actions.

**My teachers shine the brightest when:**

They share about the fun engagement their kids have in the classroom with each other.



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## River Valley Early Childhood Association Meetings 2023



~~Tuesday~~

~~January  
10th~~

~~via zoom~~

### ~~Teacher Resources (6:30pm-7:30pm)~~

~~Dee Goff will share information about free teaching resources. Course ID 51817~~

~~Via zoom RV-ECA Business meeting 6:15-6:30~~

### ~~Physical Development (6:30pm-7:30pm)~~

~~It's Spring! Learn some indoor/outdoor games for the spring AND summer. Activities for all age groups included.~~

~~Location: ECHOLS building at UAFS. Course ID 51819~~

~~RV-ECA Business meeting 6:15-6:30~~

~~Tuesday~~

~~April  
11th~~

~~ECHOLS building @ UAFS~~

Tuesday

September  
12th

via zoom

### Classroom Management (6:30-7:30pm)

New school year. New classroom! Learn some new tips to make your daily schedules and classroom transitions run smoothly and safely. Course ID 51820

RV-ECA Business meeting 6:15-6:30

### Child Care Aware (6:30pm-7:30pm)

Erica Holland will share resources and services for teachers and parents. Location Child Care Aware Center.

Location: Child Care Aware of the River Valley Center.

Course ID 51822

RV-ECA Business meeting 6:15-6:30

Tuesday

November  
14th

Child Care Aware River Valley



Made with PosterMyWall.com

**Training Challenge!**  
Participants that attend 3 trainings will be entered to win a \$50 Amazon gift card!

Questions? Email [rveca50@gmail.com](mailto:rveca50@gmail.com)



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## TRAININGS

### **Classroom-Based Assessment** (12 hours of PDR credit)

**March 28 – May 08**

For more information or to register, <https://bit.ly/CBASpring23> or contact Rebecca Dunahoo, [RDunahoo@AState.edu](mailto:RDunahoo@AState.edu)

### **Thinking Together - Promoting Imagination** (2 hours of PDR credit)

**April 19 – May 4**

For more information or to register, <https://bit.ly/TTImagination4-23> or contact Rebecca Dunahoo, [RDunahoo@AState.edu](mailto:RDunahoo@AState.edu)

### **Physical Activity**

**May 16 - 30**

Register: <https://conta.cc/3n4upBF>

For more information contact Lyndsie Odle, [LOdle@AState.edu](mailto:LOdle@AState.edu)

### **Cooking with Young Children**

**May 16 - 30**

Register: <https://conta.cc/4048Yz6>

For more information contact Lyndsie Odle, [LOdle@AState.edu](mailto:LOdle@AState.edu)

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

**This course can be taken at any time through June.**

**PDR# 55559**

For more information contact [BetterBeginnings@AState.edu](mailto:BetterBeginnings@AState.edu)

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

**This course can be taken at any time through June.**

**PDR# 55253**

For more information contact [BetterBeginnings@AState.edu](mailto:BetterBeginnings@AState.edu)



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#### Southwest Arkansas Director's Roundtable

May 9, 11:30 a.m. - 12: 30 p.m.

Register: <https://conta.cc/3JD2xfj>

For more information contact Geania Dickey, [GDickey@AState.edu](mailto:GDickey@AState.edu)

#### Introduction to the Youth Program Quality Intervention

(1.5 hours of PDR credit)

May 22

PDR# 55874

For more information contact Lindsey Carter, [Licarter@AState.edu](mailto:Licarter@AState.edu)

#### Introduction to the Organizational Quality Assessment (OQA)

for OST Programs (1.5 hours of PDR credit)

May 23

PDR# 55875

For more information contact Lindsey Carter, [Licarter@AState.edu](mailto:Licarter@AState.edu)

#### Active Learning- A Youth Work Method Workshop (2 hours of PDR credit)

May 26, 9:00 a.m. - 11:00 a.m.

Little Rock

PDR# 55890

For more information contact Lindsey Carter, [Licarter@AState.edu](mailto:Licarter@AState.edu)

#### Emotion Coaching (2 hours of PDR credit)

May 26, 11:30 a.m. - 1:30 p.m.

Little Rock

PDR# 55891

For more information contact Lindsey Carter, [Licarter@AState.edu](mailto:Licarter@AState.edu)

#### Out-of-School Time (OST) Physical Activity and Nutrition Professional Development

6 Sessions available on demand

For more information contact Woodie Sue Herlein, [WHerlein@AState.edu](mailto:WHerlein@AState.edu)





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**The Youth Development Institute offers 27 courses**

This includes a course on Developmental Assets.

For more information, contact Karl Benz, [KBenz@AState.edu](mailto:KBenz@AState.edu)

## Curriculum

### **Explorers Curriculum for Toddlers and Twos**

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

### **Neighborhood Creatures**

### **Explorers Preschool Curriculum**

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



### **Insects!**

## **Behavior Help 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](http://Behaviorhelponline.org)**

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### Stay connected with us!

Like us on [Facebook](#), check our [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.

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## 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](https://ArkansasEarlyChildhood.org)



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



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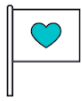


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## Five reasons to become an Arkansas Early Childhood Association Member today!



### 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](http://www.arkansasearlychildhood.org)





**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!