

# River Valley Early Childhood Association



Newsletter

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## July Summer Activities



Click on images for links to articles!





## Attention Preschool Teachers!!



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

Email Amanda Fuentes at [amanda.fuentes@uafs.edu](mailto:amanda.fuentes@uafs.edu)

or call 479-788-7249 if you are interested.

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



Don't forget about the **FREE** resources from the Better Beginnings website. [Click on the image above](#) to get access to curriculum and circle time printables!

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**Election season is here!**  
*Click the image below for job descriptions*

**Are you interested in being a**  
**RV-ECA**  
**Officer?**



**Join Us & Make a Difference**



**All positions are available:**  
**-President**  
**-Vice President**  
**-Secretary**  
**-Treasurer**

**We will be taking nominations**  
**Sept-October 17th**

**Go to the RV-ECA affiliate**  
**webpage or facebook page to**  
**complete the nomination form**

**For more information,**  
**contact Ashley**

**ANapurano17@gmail.com**

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River Valley Early Childhood Association  
an affiliate of the  
**arkansas early childhood**  
association

### Meetings 2024

<p><del>Tues. Jan. 9th</del></p> <p><del>How to: Involve Preschool Children in Whole Group Activities</del></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li><del>*Planning Whole Group Time</del></li><li><del>*Conducting Whole Group Time</del></li></ul> <p><del>PDR# 62251      6pm-8pm</del> <del>Business Meeting</del> <del>5:45-6pm</del></p> <p><del>Echols @ UAFS</del></p>	<p><del>Tues. Apr. 9th</del></p> <p><del>How To: Enrich your Indoor/Outdoor Preschool Environment with Prop Boxes</del></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li><del>*Importance of Prop Boxes</del></li><li><del>*How to Build Prop Boxes</del></li></ul> <p><del>PDR# 62259      6pm-8pm</del> <del>Business Meeting</del> <del>5:45-6pm</del></p> <p><del>Echols @ UAFS</del></p>
<p>Tues. Sept. 10th</p> <p>How to: Include Preschool Children in Small Group Activities</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>*Planning Small Group Time</li><li>*Conducting Small Group Time</li></ul> <p>6pm-8pm Business Meeting 5:45-6pm</p> <p>Echols @ UAFS</p>	<p>Tues. Nov. 12th</p> <p>How to: Include Sensory Materials and Activities in the Environment</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>*What Is Sensory Play?</li><li>*Sensory Play Activities</li></ul> <p>6pm-8pm Business Meeting 5:45-6pm</p> <p>Echols @ UAFS</p>

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# 2024 RV-ECA Training Challenge

Attend 3 trainings and you are entered to win a \$50 Amazon gift card!



~~January 9th~~

~~How To: Involve  
Preschool  
Children in Whole  
Group Activities~~

~~PDR #62251~~

~~.....  
ECHOLS@UAFA~~

~~April 9th~~

~~How To: Enrich  
your Indoor/Outdoor  
Preschool  
Environment with  
Prop Boxes~~

~~PDR #62259~~

~~.....  
ECHOLS@UAFA~~

Drawing will  
be held on  
November  
12th!

September  
10th

How To: Involve  
Preschool Children  
in Small Group  
Activities

.....  
ECHOLS@UAFA

November  
12th

How To: Include  
Sensory Materials  
and Activities in  
the Environment

.....  
ECHOLS@UAFA

2 HOURS OF  
PDR CREDIT

Trainings 6:00-8:00pm  
Business meetings 5:45-6:00pm



## Exploring the World of Childhood: A-State CHS Early Childhood Education Conference 2024



**Click images** to register!

A registration banner for the AECA Conference. It features the Arkansas Early Childhood Association logo at the top left. In the center, there is a stylized graphic of a globe with a red and white "REGISTER NOW" stamp and a yellow mouse cursor icon. Below this, the text "Linking Hearts &amp; Minds" is written in a blue font, with "Early Childhood Connections" underneath. At the bottom, the conference details are listed: "AECA Conference October 9-12, 2024", "Wyndham Riverfront Hotel", and "North Little Rock". The banner is decorated with blue and white geometric corner graphics.

AECA Conference page **HERE**.

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### Teacher Trainings

**Arkansas New Staff Orientation** (8 hours of PDR credit)

Register: <https://arkansas.learningterritory.com/>

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

**Emergency Preparedness Direct**

For more information or to register contact Nicole Goad, [Jnwilson@AState.edu](mailto:Jnwilson@AState.edu)

For more information contact Gwendolyn Murphy at [GMurphy@AState.edu](mailto:GMurphy@AState.edu)

**Starting Well with Families of Infants and Toddlers (In Spanish)**

(2 hours of PDR credit)

Available upon request

If interested, please contact Miriam Jackson, [Mirjackson@AState.edu](mailto:Mirjackson@AState.edu)



**2024-25 Conscious Discipline  
Pre-K Training Opportunities**

**2024-25 Conscious Discipline  
Infant/Toddler Training Opportunities**

For more information about Conscious Discipline trainings contact Melissa Sutton, [MSutton@AState.edu](mailto:MSutton@AState.edu) or Debi Dunning, [DDunning@AState.edu](mailto:DDunning@AState.edu)



## Stay connected with us!

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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### 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)



A graphic for the T.E.A.C.H. program showing a hand holding a book, with rays emanating from behind it.

**T.E.A.C.H.** Early Childhood®

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**ARKANSAS**

*A Program of*  
Arkansas Early Childhood Association

**T**eacher

**E**ducation

**A**nd

**C**ompensation

**H**elps

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!