





## 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!

River Valley Early Childhood Association



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**Linking Hearts & Minds**  
*Early Childhood Connections*

AECA Conference October 9-12, 2024  
Wyndham Riverfront Hotel,  
North Little Rock

AECA Conference page [\*\*HERE\*\*](#)



## Upcoming RV-ECA Meeting!

### Love you to Pizzas Training at Echols

September 10, 2024

HOW TO: SMALL GROUP  
TIME: 6:15 PM - 8:15 PM  
PDR: 68486

**\*\*Please Register on PDR**

***Pizza***  
**WILL BE  
PROVIDED**

**\*\*Attendees will have their name entered  
to win a FREE registration to UAFS ECE  
Conference**





# River Valley Early Childhood Association



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

### Meetings 2024

~~**Tues. Jan. 9th**~~  
**How to: Involve Preschool Children in Whole Group Activities**  
\*Planning Whole Group Time  
\*Conducting Whole Group Time  
PDR#62251 6pm-8pm  
**Business Meeting 5:45-6pm**  
Echols @ UAFS

~~**Tues. Apr. 9th**~~  
**How To: Enrich your Indoor/Outdoor Preschool Environment with Prop Boxes**  
\*Importance of Prop Boxes  
\*How to Build Prop Boxes  
PDR#62259 6pm-8pm  
**Business Meeting 5:45-6pm**  
Echols @ UAFS

**Tues. Sept. 10th**  
**How to: Include Preschool Children in Small Group Activities**  
\*Planning Small Group Time  
\*Conducting Small Group Time  
PDR#68486 6pm-8pm  
**Business Meeting 5:45-6pm**  
Echols @ UAFS

**Tues. Nov. 12th**  
**How to: Include Sensory Materials and Activities in the Environment**  
\*What Is Sensory Play?  
\*Sensory Play Activities  
PDR#68487 6pm-8pm  
**Business Meeting 5:45-6pm**  
Echols @ UAFS

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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@UAFF~~

~~April 9th~~

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

~~PDR#62259~~

~~.....  
ECHOLS@UAFF~~

Drawing will  
be held on  
November  
12th!

September  
10th

How To: Involve  
Preschool Children  
in Small Group  
Activities

.....  
ECHOLS@UAFF

November  
12th

How To: Include  
Sensory Materials  
and Activities in  
the Environment

.....  
ECHOLS@UAFF

2 HOURS OF  
PDR CREDIT

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



## 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
- Member at Large

We will be taking nominations  
Sept 1st-October 13th

Visit the RV-ECA affiliate webpage to complete the nomination form

For more information, contact **Ashley Napurano** [rveca50@gmail.com](mailto:rveca50@gmail.com)

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Click [here](#) to submit your nominations



## TRAININGS

### Administrator Trainings

#### Directors Orientation Series

Register: <https://sites.google.com/view/directororientation/home>

For more information about Director's Orientation training, contact Gaynell Jamison, [GJamison@AState.edu](mailto:GJamison@AState.edu)

September 12, 9:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m. Conway

**PDR Course # 66236**

September 25, 9:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m. Jonesboro

Register: <https://lp.constantcontactpages.com/ev/reg/gw7892z>

Pre-Licensing Class (No PDR credit for this course)

For individuals interested in opening a new child care center, family home or out of school time program. For information or to register contact Miriam Jackson, [Mirjackson@AState.edu](mailto:Mirjackson@AState.edu)

### 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)

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)



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### Magnolia Super Saturday Early Childhood Conference: Connecting the Dots Building a Strong Foundation

September 28, 2024 (8:30am-3:30pm)

Registration link [HERE](#)

### The High -Quality Classroom Interactions -

ABC Refresher 2024-25 (3 hours of PDR credit)

The following link will take you directly to the Refresher home page. *In order to receive the 3 hours of PDR credit, you must view any six of the 20-minute sessions and follow the directions through the same link and complete the Google doc.*

Register: <https://sites.google.com/view/abcrefresher2024-2025/home>

### Supervision Solutions

PDR Course # 67921

### Connecting with Each Child

PDR Course # 67900

### Baby Steps

PDR Course # 67941

### Schedules and Transitions

PDR Course # 67920

### Protecting Our Children

PDR Course # 67918

### Keys to Successful Guidance

PDR Course # 6794

For more information contact Michelle Ford, [Brford@AState.edu](mailto:Brford@AState.edu)

### The Youth Development Institute

[Click here](#) to enroll in the current AOSN, *Youth Development Institute (YDI)* courses. Choose from more than 30 self-paced online courses.

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

### Out-of-School Time (OST)

### Physical Activity and Nutrition Professional Development

Select from the 25 self-paced online courses that meet the Better Beginnings requirement for physical activity and nutrition training.

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

# River Valley Early Childhood Association



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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!



## 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®

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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 the **T.E.A.C.H.** program is 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!