



10/13/2025

Hot Springs Early Childhood Association
Presentation: *Love Languages for Children*
Training Minutes

There were 19 people in attendance representing three centers. Four board members were present, including Melanie Jackson, Donny Caudill, Shannon Jones, and Chris Hudon.

Melanie called the meeting to order at 6:01 p.m. and welcomed everyone. She began the meeting by encouraging members to join AECA. She then introduced Allison Crane from the Garland County Extension Office as the guest presenter for the evening.

The presentation topic was *Love Languages for Children*, based on the work of Dr. Gary Chapman. Participants learned that children depend on adults to help them interpret what they are feeling and that building connections makes all the difference in how children understand love.

The group discussed what connections children make and how each person defines love, identifying elements such as caring, dependability, respect, and compassion. Allison emphasized that love is not a single thing, and everyone has their own definition and needs.

Participants drew pictures of their families doing something that makes them feel loved and shared their drawings with the group. A short video clip was shown about each of the five love languages.

The five love languages were reviewed and discussed:

- Words of Affirmation – Be genuine and specific in your praise.
- Quality Time – Intentional and deliberate time spent with a child helps them feel valued and loved.
- Physical Touch – The easiest love language to use unconditionally; vital for healthy development and family bonding.
- Gifts – More than material items, gifts symbolize appreciation, thoughtfulness, and care.

- Acts of Service – Actions speak louder than words; doing something intentional and unexpected for someone shows love.

Participants learned that there is no “best” love language; each one is equally valuable. Everyone is unique and wired differently. Several handouts were distributed for participants to take, use, and share.

Handouts included:

1. Adult Love Language Questionnaire
2. *The Love Languages Mystery Game*
3. Caregivers' Guide to Love Languages
4. Tips for Parents
5. Showing Love by Taking Time

Melanie thanked Allison for sharing, then drew names for door prizes.
The meeting was dismissed at 8:00 p.m.