

Apprenticeship
For Child
Development
Specialist

Counties currently
offering classes:

- Berkeley
- Cabell
- Greenbrier
- Kanawha
- Harrison
- Logan
- Mercer
- Monongalia
- Nicholas
- Ohio
- Putnam
- Raleigh
- Upshur
- Wood



For a complete list
of ACDS infor-
mation and
events, including
class start dates,
visit the ACDS
website
www.wvacds.org.

ACDS Quarterly Newsletter



Spring 2022

New Beginnings

Traditionally, we think of starting fresh when we mark a new calendar year each January 1, but spring can also be considered a time for new beginnings.

Spring is a time of rebirth in nature and so many things get a fresh start. Trees develop new buds, flowers start to bloom, and everything seems to start waking up after a long winter hibernation. Perhaps most importantly, we get more hours of daylight and the sun is warmer.



With all of this re-

newal, spring is the perfect time for conducting science activities. Use this time of year to take the children outside and introduce them to the science happening all



around them. Children will love to catch and measure rain, splash in puddles, and watch caterpillars bloom into butterflies. As adults, we

sometimes take for granted all of these changes happening around us, but children can still find amazement in these natural events. Try to view the season from the eyes of a young child. Use your imagination and see if you can create some unique and fun activities.

We will support you by sharing some ideas with you on our Facebook page. Keep an eye out and let us know if you try any of our suggestions and if the children enjoyed them. ~ Jennifer

Congratulation Graduates

Cabell	Kanawha	Statewide Virtual
Mercer	Nicholas	



After graduating you may still be involved in the program by becoming a mentor or local council member. Mentors serve as supervisors for students that do not have direct supervisors. Local councils meet twice a year to discuss current happenings in the ACDS program and to determine the class schedule in their region. For more information on becoming a mentor or local council member contact ACDS.



Outdoor Adventures



Although, we can go outside in the winter months, our time spent outside is limited. With spring, children can once again go outside for extended time frames. What ideas do you have planned for the warmer weather? Do you have plans to try some new activities? Following is a list of activities that you may want to try this spring.

- Scavenger hunts
- Insect discovery
- Parades
- Relay races
- Obstacle courses
- Build long standing structures
- Gardening
- Picnics
- Outdoor easel painting
- “Car wash” - tricycles
- Outdoor library
- Sand/water play
- Parachute play
- Flying kites
- Hopscotch
- Shadow tracing
- Rain dances
- 5 senses walk
- Marching band
- Make nature bouquets
- Make wind chimes

You can register for next semester by completing the appropriate orientation on WV STARS and submitting the \$25.00 registration fee. Visit the ACDS website, www.wvacds.org for additional information.



Week of the Young Child

This year Week of the Young Child (WOYC22) is April 2-8. The Week of the Young Child is an annual event sponsored by the National Association for the Education of Young Children (NAEYC). It is intended to draw attention to the needs of young children and families and the programs that serve them.

During this week, NAEYC encourages early childhood programs and organizations to plan events to showcase early childhood in their communities. Remember, the purpose is to celebrate young children and families. Events should be fun and/or educational in nature. Planned events range from

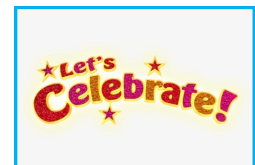
parades to parent workshops. Some programs host parent and teacher appreciation dinners and open houses during this week. Sometimes individual classrooms plan special activities, such as a parent luncheon or a special art activity. There really isn't a wrong way to celebrate. If you are looking for ideas, or want to join a more national celebration, NAEYC offers suggestions and has daily themes for the WOYC22. The website is naeyc.org/events/woyc/plan-your-event.

If you choose to celebrate this week, we would love to hear what you have done. You can send us your

ideas and we will share them on our Facebook page. If you want to share photos we would love that too. Make sure that any children in the photos have parental permission to be photographed and shared on social media.

Ask your instructor about extra credit points for joining in this celebration. Perhaps you could share your activity either in a written paper or oral presentation.

Even if you miss this specific week, you can certainly celebrate young children and families any time of the year.



ACDS Contact Information

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|----------------------------|---|---|
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This program is being presented with financial assistance as a grant from the West Virginia Department of Health and Human Resources and is administered by WV Early Childhood Training Connections and Resources, a program of River Valley Child Development Services.

Questions and Answers

- **How do I get the Department of Labor Certificate?**

When apprentices have accumulated between 3200 and 4000 OJT hours they can submit for completion with the Department of Labor. Apprentices will need to send copies of all OJT logs, all 4 semester supervisor evaluations and the Department of Labor application for completion (www.wvacds.org) to the ACDS office. Once received we will review all documents for accuracy and submit a completion request on behalf of the apprentice. It is important that students complete this process as soon as they collect the hours. We urge apprentices not to delay submission.

- **Do I need to let anyone know if I switch employers?**

Yes, apprentices do need to let the ACDS office know when they change employers. We must get a new employer acceptance agreement signed on the student's behalf from their new employer. We also update the employer in the Department of Labor database.

- **If I start a semester and do not complete it do I need to pay the \$25.00 registration fee again when I repeat the semester?**

Yes, all students are required to pay the registration fee for each semester they attend. Also, there are no refunds given if students start the program and decide to leave and not return.



Testimonial

"In every semester I gained some new and interesting information which kept me on my toes for the past two years."

~Anonymous Student



"A child's play is not simply a reproduction of what he has experienced, but a creative reworking of the impressions he has acquired."

~ Vygotsky