



# CHILD CARE CHAT

JANUARY

FEBRUARY

MARCH

2026



## ACPC Office Hours

Monday - Thursday 8:00 - 5:00  
CLOSED on Friday

## ACPC Holiday Closings

January 1st - 2nd, and  
January 19th



# 5 Little Snowflakes

## Literacy Activity:

“Five Little Snowflakes” Fingerplay & Rhyme

Age Group: 3–5 years

Setting: Circle time or small group



## Materials Needed:

- Felt or paper snowflake cutouts (5 per set)
- Flannel board, magnetic board, or chart stand
- Chart paper with the rhyme written and illustrated
- Pointer or teacher finger for tracking print
- Optional: winter picture cards, scarves, or white pom-poms for movement



## Fingerplay / Rhyming Song “Five Little Snowflakes”

Five little snowflakes floating in the sky,  
 One fell down—oh my, oh my!  
 Four little snowflakes, cold as could be,  
 One fell down—now there are three.  
 Three little snowflakes dancing with you,  
 One fell down—now there are two.  
 Two little snowflakes having some fun,  
 One fell down—now there is one.  
 One little snowflake hanging in like a hero,  
 It fell down—now there are zero!



## NC FELD Alignment

Language Development & Communication

LDC-2: Engages in group conversations and songs.

LDC-4: Demonstrates phonological awareness through rhyming and repetition.

Cognitive Development – Emergent Literacy

CD-EL-1: Shows interest in rhymes, songs, and word play.

CD-EL-4: Demonstrates understanding that print carries meaning.

Approaches to Play & Learning

APL-1: Shows curiosity and engagement.

APL-2: Maintains focus during group activities.

# QUARTER THREE TRAINING CALENDAR

<p style="text-align: center;"><b>First Aid/ CPR</b></p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Pediatric CPR and First Aid</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Registration deadline: January 6, 2026</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">January 8, 2026 5:00 – 9:00pm CVCC Alexander Campus NO FEE for Alexander County Providers</p>
<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Introduction to SACERS-U</b></p>	<p style="text-align: center;">This training will provide information about the SACERS-U. It will include basic terms and definitions as well as detailed information about specific items and indicators. Examples of different ways programs can earn credit for various indicators will be reviewed. There will be an opportunity for the participants to ask questions. This session is for School Age Child Care Providers.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Registration deadline: January 5, 2026</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">January 9, 2026 12:00 – 2:00pm 2 DCDEE Credits Latoya Hedgespeth ACPC Office \$5</p>
<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Introduction to ECERS-3</b></p>	<p style="text-align: center;">This training will provide information about the ECERS-3. It will include basic terms and definitions as well as detailed information about specific items and indicators. Examples of different ways programs can earn credit for various indicators will be reviewed. There will be an opportunity for the participants to ask questions.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Registration deadline: January 6, 2026</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">January 13, 2026 6:30 – 8:30pm 2 DCDEE Credits Megan Porter ACPC Office \$5</p>
<p style="text-align: center;"><b>ITS-SIDS</b></p>	<p style="text-align: center;">To give child care providers an overview of Sudden Infant Death Syndrome (SIDS). Identify the SIDS risk factors and describe ways to reduce the risk of SIDS in child care. Discuss the requirements of NC laws that require placing infants on their back to sleep, keeping documentation and having a Safe Sleep Policy.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Registration deadline: January 15, 2026</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">January 20, 2026 6:30 – 8:30pm 2 DCDEE Credits Ashli Elder ACPC Office \$5</p>
<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Emergency Preparedness and Response</b></p>	<p style="text-align: center;">This training covers planning and preparing for emergencies in early care and education settings. It includes an overview and introduction of the online EPR template.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Registration deadline: February 4, 2026</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">February 6, 2026 10:00am – 12:30pm 2.5 DCDEE Credits Ashli Elder ACPC Office \$7.50</p>

<p><b>First Aid/ CPR</b></p>	<p>Pediatric CPR and First Aid</p> <p>Registration deadline: February 5, 2026</p>	<p>February 9, 2026 5:00 – 9:00pm CVCC Alexander Campus <b>NO FEE</b> for Alexander County Providers</p>
<p><b>Introduction to ITERS-3</b></p>	<p>This training will provide information about the ITERS-3. It will include basic terms and definitions as well as detailed information about specific items and indicators. Examples of different ways programs can earn credit for various indicators will be reviewed. There will be an opportunity for the participants to ask questions.</p> <p>Registration deadline: February 3, 2026</p>	<p>February 10, 2026 6:30 – 8:30pm 2 DCDEE Credits Megan Porter ACPC Office \$5</p>
<p><b>ITS-SIDS</b></p>	<p>To give child care providers an overview of Sudden Infant Death Syndrome (SIDS). Identify the SIDS risk factors and describe ways to reduce the risk of SIDS in child care. Discuss the requirements of NC laws that require placing infants on their back to sleep, keeping documentation and having a Safe Sleep Policy.</p> <p>Registration deadline: February 26, 2026</p>	<p>March 3, 2026 6:30 – 8:30pm 2 DCDEE Credits Ashli Elder ACPC Office \$5</p>
<p><b>First Aid/ CPR</b></p>	<p>Pediatric CPR and First Aid</p> <p>Registration deadline: March 10, 2026</p>	<p>March 12, 2026 5:00 – 9:00pm CVCC Alexander Campus <b>NO FEE</b> for Alexander County Providers</p>

## TRAINING REMINDERS



• **Completed registration form and fee must be received by Alexander County Partnership for Children by the registration date listed.**

**Please submit form and payment together.**

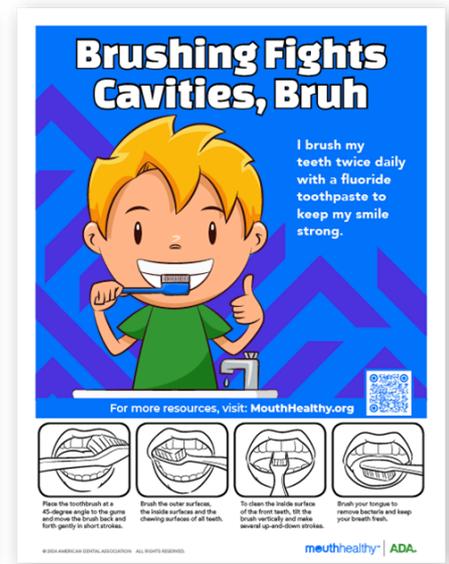
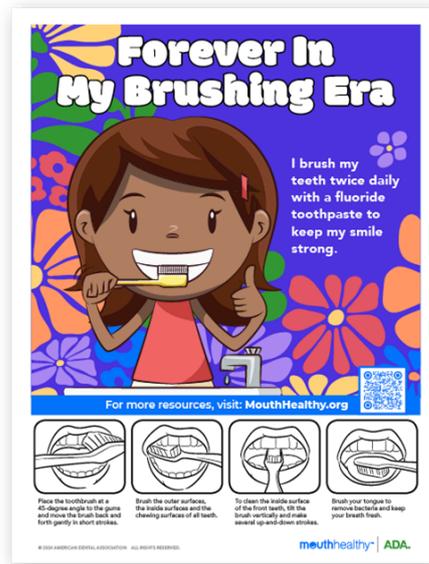
• **24 hour notice of cancellation is required to receive a transferable credit if you are unable to attend.**

• **Children ARE NOT allowed to attend any training.**

# February is National Dental Health Month

For information and resources on dental health awareness visit:

<https://www.ada.org/resources/community-initiatives/national-childrens-dental-health-month>



## Check out how WAGES impacted NC Early Educators in 2024–2025!

### Impact in North Carolina FY 2024-2025

Nearly **\$9 million** invested in WAGES salary supplements

**89%** of active participants whose counties have participated two or more years have the AAS ECE or higher, or have submitted education during the year to document additional coursework

**4,075**  
supplement recipients

**13%**  
turnover rate

**1,806** early education programs with supplement recipients

**\$1,227** average six-month supplement

Alexander County Partnership is proud to continue to fund the WAGES program for qualifying Early Childhood Educators! To learn more about the impact of WAGES and how Early Educators can qualify visit:

<https://www.earlyyearsnc.org/programs/wages/>

# Looking for Additional Training?

Southwestern Child Development Commission, Inc. offers a variety of professional development opportunities for ALL types of early educators in the profession, including but not limited to: Family Child Care Homes, Family Friend & Neighbor Care, Center in a Residence, Child Care Centers, School Age Facilities, Summer Camps and more.

Check out their online training by visiting:

<https://www.swcdcinc.org/online-learning>



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