



ECCDA Fall Conference

Friday, October 3rd, 2025

“... stand together with the same purpose and work together like a team to help others believe the Good News.” Philippians 1:27b - ERV

- 7:30 Light Breakfast, Vendors Open
- 8:40 Announcements, Opening Devotion
- 9:00 - 10:30 The Power of Music

Brittany Teigland, BA in Music Education and a passionate educator with over 22 years of experience, is pleased to deliver an inspiring keynote on the critical role of music in early childhood education. Currently serving as the Preschool-5th Grade General Music Director, Brittany will share her knowledge, energy, and practical insights for music integration in the preschool classroom.

Her keynote will explore how music profoundly impacts early brain development, with a special focus on how it supports language acquisition in young children.

- 10:40 - 11:55 Breakout Session 1
- 12:00 - 12:30 Lunch, Vendors Open
- 12:40 - 1:55 Breakout Session 2
- 2:00 - 2:45 Collaborative Breakout Session

Hosted by Cherry Creek Presbyterian Church
10150 E. Bellview Ave, Greenwood Village, CO 80111

Breakout Session Options

How To Experience the Bible Using Blankets, Marshmallows, Toilet Paper or Less

Do your students beg for Bible story time? Do they remember the details of the story days later? With very few materials, namely items like blankets, marshmallows and toilet paper you can bring your Bible time to life with very few resources. This workshop will give you fresh ideas and tools to teach Biblical concepts through Bible stories for children 18 months and up.

Kay Mack - Preschool Teacher at Bethany Busy Bee, Littleton

Science Activities for Little Learners

Looking to increase hands-on engagement in the classroom and build critical thinking skills? Join me and explore the world of inquiry science to equip the next generation in the knowledge and awe of God and His creation.

Meredith Haun - Learning Center Director at Open Door Ministries, Denver

Revitalize Your Classroom with Puppets!

Puppets can provide multiple opportunities for children to develop listening and focusing skills and add another dimension to art and dramatic play activities. Children that are shy or less vocal may become very animated when talking or singing with a hand puppet! Puppets can also be used to review and enforce classroom rules and help children settle and focus after energetic activities. Participants will experience using finger puppets, hand puppets, and stick puppets to practice oral skills, develop vocabulary, and expand creativity. Presenter will also show an easy way to make a "very hungry caterpillar" puppet and the things he eats!

Darlene Blackford - Movement-Learning Instructor/Specialist, Adjunct Faculty, Otero Jr College, La Junta

New Teacher Tips and Tricks

This class is focused on helping new teachers get acclimated to the wonderful world of Early Childhood Education! We will discuss classroom management practices, parental communication, developing strong relationships with families and teammates, as well as mindful teaching strategies to engage your young students for a successful year!

Stephanie Staab, Director at Holy Love Lutheran Preschool, Aurora

Heather Lasinski, JrK teacher, Assistant Director at Holy Love Lutheran Preschool, Aurora

Promoting Literacy Using Class Books

This class explores the creation and use of personalized class books to foster community, self-esteem, and family involvement in the preschool setting. Teachers will learn practical strategies for making, organizing and managing class books, including systems for tracking, care, and parent communication. The use of photographs, student work, and mentor texts help children build literacy skills, self-concept, and classroom connections. Creative projects like "All About Me," "My Summer Vacation," and "Who's Smile is This?" encourage parental participation and home-school links. Kids with limited verbal skills will be able to engage in conversations with parents about their classmates as the books come home.

Marlene Fallt - Preschool Teacher at Bethany Busy Bee, Littleton

Speech and Language Development

This class will review speech and language milestones across the ages of 2-5 years old and how speech and language can impact function in the classroom. Learn signs for when an assessment might be needed, and ways to approach the parent. Practical ideas to support language and speech development for all ages in the classroom will be discussed.

Adriane Koch, M.S., CCC-SFP - private speech therapist with Cornerstone Therapies, Centennial

Creating a Healthy Organizational Climate - Leadership Track

Creating a positive workplace culture is key to retaining staff and supporting high-quality early learning environments. Directors are invited to join us as we explore ideas from the book "Workplace Wellness: A Great Place to Work"

Laura Watts-Patrick - Chief Program Office for ACECC, Centennial

See you next year! Friday, October 2nd, 2026