



# Calaveras Child Care Council



## April/May Newsletter?

*The mission of the Calaveras Child Care Council (CCCC) supports the development of affordable, accessible, quality child care which promotes the success of all children, their families, and the economy of our communities. We envision an inclusive, affordable child care system that promotes healthy, successful children and youth.*

*?Meetings are held on the 3rd Tuesday of every month.*

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Newsletter

This issue of our newsletter was inspired by our upcoming **Calaveras Children's Fair TOMORROW** (see more details below), and will be dedicated to focusing on some of the ways that experiencing the outdoors can be beneficial to all of us! Keep reading to begin the adventure, and enjoy...



It's here! The Calaveras Child Care Council will be hosting the annual **Calaveras Children's Fair ~ TOMORROW - Saturday, April 6...** at Calaveras High School!

¿This year's theme is "**Wilderness Wonderland!**" Please be sure to join us for this **FREE** event filled with lots of family fun... including nature and outdoor play-based crafts and activities, facepainting, free lunch, and much more! **PLEASE NOTE** ~ **Despite the chilly weather, the Calaveras Children's Fair is still on!** We're excited to announce that the event will proceed as scheduled, so bundle up and join us for a day of fun-filled activities and entertainment for the whole family.

If you would like to make a tax-deductible donation to this year's event, please click the button below and **select "Calaveras Children's Fair"** in the drop-down menu. Donations allow us to provide food and entertainment for local families... two things that we are unable to purchase with our own funding. As a 501(c)3 organization, we appreciate your support! SEE YOU TOMORROW!

[Donate to 'Calaveras Children's Fair'](#)

# MAKING CONNECTIONS

with The Resource Connection

APRIL 2024 WWW.RR.TRCAC.ORG VOLUME #6

## CHILD CARE RESOURCE HUB PROVIDER NIGHT:

Thursday, April 18th 4:30 - 7:00 pm

April is National Garden Month! It's a wonderful time to introduce children to the joys of gardening. Let's nurture their curiosity and appreciation for nature as we explore the wonders of the great outdoors together!



We're thrilled to have Anna Farfan & Magaly Vega, from SEIU LOCAL 521/CCPU- Child Care Providers United joining us for Provider Night!

Don't forget to bring your questions! This is a fantastic opportunity to engage with CCPU and gain valuable insights into advocacy and any other topics you'd like to explore. Let's make the most of this gathering by sharing our thoughts and experiences!

The Resource Connection  
Empowering Families  
Inspiring Communities  
Supporting Children

APRIL 2024 WWW.RR.TRCAC.ORG VOLUME #6

## CHILD CARE RESOURCE HUB



### Grass Hair Pots

Step 1. Paint a couple of pots with white paint. I also went about an inch down on the inside of the pots. Decorate faces using paint and a sharpie for the hair details.  
Step 2. Fill the pots up with soil and plant your seeds. Grass, spelt, wheat, rye or cat grass seeds are great options.  
Step 3. Water and wait for the 'hair' to grow.  
Step 4. Allow kids to cut hair again and again!



### STEP BY STEP LEGO PLANTERS





*Please join us  
for the official  
dedication ceremony  
of*  
**KELLI'S  
HOUSE**

APRIL 24TH, 2024 AT 12:30PM

*The Resource Connection  
Calaveras Children's Advocacy Center  
1934 Hwy 26 Valley Springs Ca. 95252  
209-584-9092*



*Kelli Coane's vision was to start a Children's Advocacy Center in Calaveras County, to serve the children victimized by crime. The passion and dedication she showed for the Children's Advocacy Center is why we are honoring her on this day.*

**Kelli Coane** was a dedicated part of The Resource Connection for decades, and served our community as a Director and then Executive Director of our organization.

Please join us as we honor her with a dedication ceremony of "**Kelli's House**," on April 24 at the Calaveras Children's Advocacy Center.

## WHAT'S NEW

Ideas for Outdoor Learning Opportunities



We love this unique way to re-use cardboard! Cut nature-inspired shapes out of a piece of cardboard, decorate around the edges, and use it in all types of ways! See photo for inspiration, or come up with your own ideas... don't forget that even the youngest learners can enjoy and benefit from this fun activity!

Spring is the perfect time to breathe in the fresh air and let the forest work its magic! "**Forest Bathing**," inspired by the Japanese practice of Shinrin-Yoku, goes beyond a simple walk in the woods. It's about connecting with nature through your senses, reducing stress, and improving your overall health.

Scientific studies suggest benefits like:

- Lower stress and anxiety
- Improved mood and emotional well-being
- Boosted immune function
- Enhanced cognitive function



Even if you live in town, you can reap the rewards! Calaveras County is filled with green spaces and countryside... visit your local park, or take a walk on the backroads to explore and absorb the benefits of being out in the fresh air. Bring nature indoors with plants, essential oils, and nature sounds. Practice mindfulness exercises to reconnect with the present moment. Don't forget to

visit **this Saturday's Children's Fair** too, where the theme of the day will be **"Wilderness Wonderland!"**

Take a step towards a healthier, happier you. Learn more about the benefits of forest bathing at <https://shorturl.at/ehGX9>



**StoryWalks**, a new program from the Calaveras County Library is getting kids and families outside to engage in both exercise and literacy, and it's totally free and accessible to anyone! Click photo for the details!



CALAVERAS COUNTY  
**PARKS & RECREATION  
MASTER PLAN**

### COMMUNITY MEETINGS

**DISTRICT 1**

April, April 18, 2024  
5:30pm-7:00pm

Jenny Lind Veterans Memorial  
300 W. Daphne Street,  
Valley Springs, CA 95252

**DISTRICT 2**

Thursday, April 11, 2024  
5:30pm-7:00pm

West Point Community Hall  
22283 State Route 26  
West Point, CA 95252

**DISTRICT 3**

Wednesday, April 17 2024  
5:30pm-7:00pm

Native Sons Hall  
389 Main Street  
Munichys, CA 95247

**DISTRICT 4**

Thursday, April 4, 2024  
5:30pm-7:00pm

Governor Mansion  
101 Stone Street  
Copperopolis, CA 95228

**DISTRICT 5**

Wednesday, April 3, 2024  
5:30pm-7:00pm

Calaveras County Fire House  
650 I Jenny Lind Road  
Valley Springs, CA 95252



ONLINE SURVEY OPEN FROM 3/29—4/25.  
SCAN THE QR CODE OR GO TO  
[www.surveymonkey.com/r/calaverasmpm](http://www.surveymonkey.com/r/calaverasmpm)



CALAVERAS COUNTY  
**PARKS & RECREATION  
MASTER PLAN**



**TAKE THE SURVEY!  
SCAN THE QR  
CODE OR GO TO**

[www.surveymonkey.com/r/calaverasmpm](http://www.surveymonkey.com/r/calaverasmpm)

Your input is needed!

Share your thoughts on the future of our parks and recreation by taking the survey!  
Survey open from **3/29 —4/25**.

Visit our website for more information on the parks & recreation master plan and future engagement opportunities! [parksandrec.calaverasgov.us](http://parksandrec.calaverasgov.us)

# UNIVERSAL PREKINDERGARTEN (UPK)

## Local updates



### Calaveras Unified School District **TK & KINDERGARTEN REGISTRATION**

**Begins March 6, 2024**

#### Call Your School For More Information:

Jenny Lind Elementary	754-2350
Mokelumne Hill Elementary	754-2140
San Andreas Elementary	754-2365
Valley Springs Elementary	754-2141
West Point Elementary	754-2255
Sierra Hills Education Center	754-2123

To register for Kindergarten, student must be 5 years old on or before September 1, 2024. To register for Transitional Kindergarten student must be 5 years old between September 2, 2024 and June 2, 2025.

#### The following documents are required for registration:

1. Birth Certificate
2. Proof of Residence (Utility bill, rental agreement, etc.)
3. Current Immunization Records
4. Proof of Physical Exam

DESIGNED AND PRINTED COURTESY OF SHORE PHOTOGRAPHY

Do you have a child ready to start **Transitional Kindergarten (TK) or Kindergarten**? Don't forget that it's time to **register!**

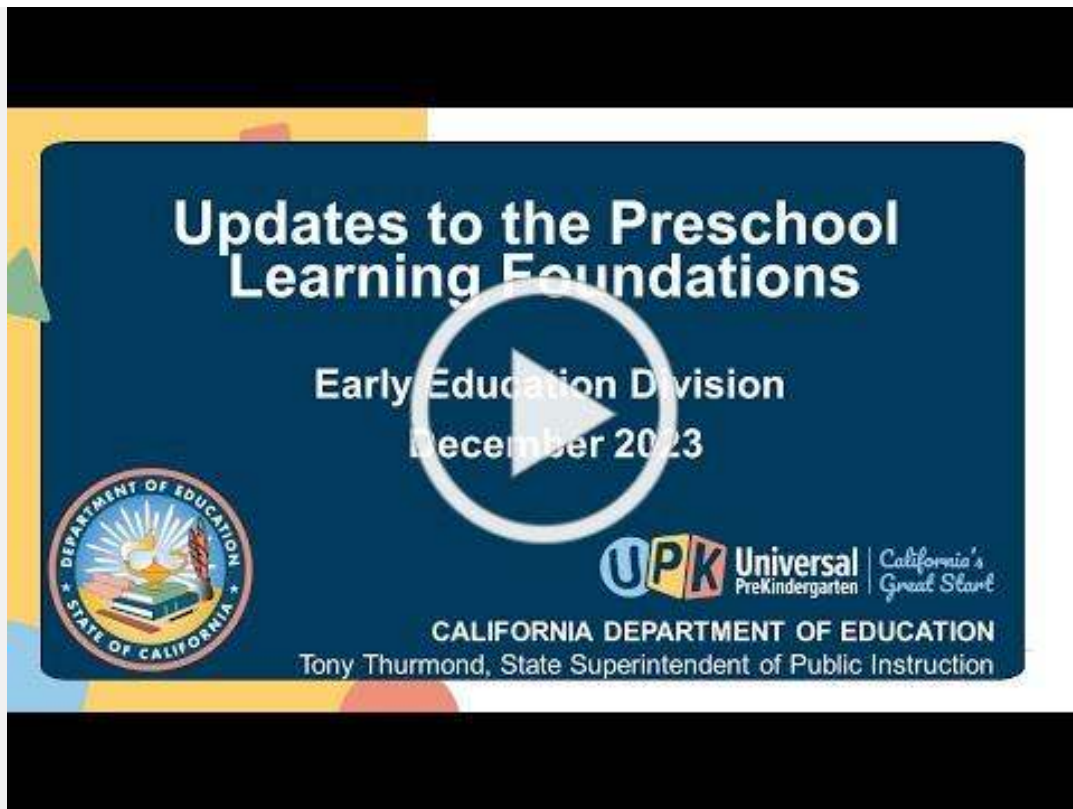
See **graphic below** for TK age cut-off guidelines...



?

Exciting news! The **updated Preschool Learning Foundations** are set to release in summer 2024 — their most significant update since 2008. These Foundations are California's early learning standards for children ages 3 to 5 1/2 in center-based preschool, home-based preschool, and Transitional Kindergarten (TK) settings. In 2021, the California Department of Education (CDE) was provided one-time funding to update these Foundations to incorporate recent research in child development. These changes are the result of a thoughtful, multi-year process involving interest holder meetings and public input.

Curious about the history of these Foundations, and the changes that are in store? **Watch the recorded webinar below** where California Department of Education staff share the changes you can expect.



UPK Presentation - Calaveras County

## LEGISLATIVE UPDATES

### Affecting the Early Learning & Child Care Field

Exciting news for aspiring early childhood educators in California!

**The Commission on Teacher Credentialing (CTC)** recently introduced the **PK-3 Early Childhood Education (ECE) Specialist Instruction Credential**, a credential designed for those passionate about teaching young children. Focused on developmentally appropriate practices, this credential will empower teachers to engage students based on their developmental levels, fostering joyful learning that prioritizes each child's cognitive, social, emotional, linguistic, and cultural experiences, creating an inclusive and enriching educational environment. The regulations for the PK-3 Early Childhood Education ECE Specialist Instruction credential were just approved by the Office of Administrative Law on February 7, 2024, and will be effective April 1, 2024.

**For lots more information and resources on the PK-3 ECE Specialist Instruction Credential**, visit the California Commission on Teacher Credentialing's website, [here](#).



In January, the CTC gave a fantastic presentation on this brand-new credential at the **Amador & Calaveras Child Care Council's Joint UPK Mixed Delivery Session**. To view their PowerPoint from that evening, [click below!](#)



## PK-3 ECE Specialist Instruction Credential Update

AMADOR & CALAVERAS COUNTIES UPK FORUM 1/17/24

The **California Budget & Policy Center** hosted a webinar on January 22, with a break down of the Governor's proposed budget. [Click here](#) to watch recorded webinar.

## MONTHLY IDEAS

Spring is Here

## PUBLIC MEETINGS

Join us!



**CALAVERAS CHILD CARE**  
**COUNCIL MEETING**

**Tuesday, April 16**  
**9:00 am**



Spring is here! Child care providers and early learning professionals everywhere are getting ready to focus on Spring-themed ideas! One component to a high-quality learning environment, is including a fun and age-appropriate curriculum.

Pair this simple recipe for a **Birdhouse Sandwich** with the **Opal's Springtime Birdhouse book** below, for a well rounded mini-curriculum. Add Spring or Birdhouse-themed crafts or sensory activities, and you've got a full day's (or more) worth of quality additions to your program, or to enjoy at home with your kiddos!ENJOY!

Calaveras County

Office of Ed

*We meet on the 3rd*

*Tuesday of every*

*month.*

**UPK MIXED DELIVERY**

**?WORKGROUP MEETING**

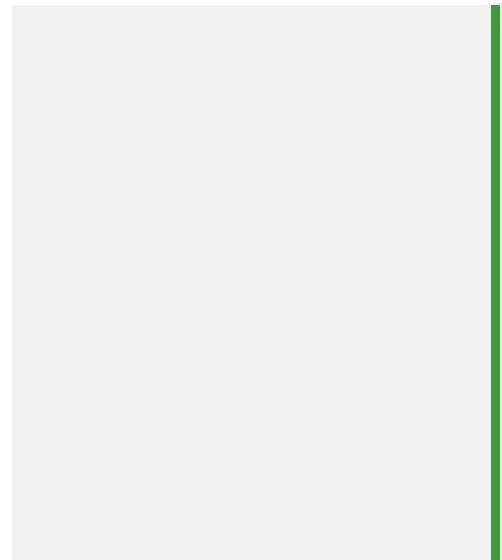
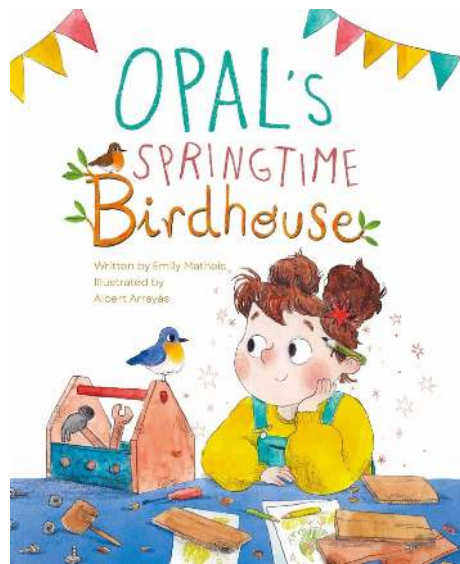
**Wednesday, May 22**

**3:00 pm**

**CCCC/TRC Office**

**8085 Hwy 26 Ste G**

**Mokelumne Hill**



**#WearBlue4Kids**

**April is  
Child Abuse  
Prevention Month**

**PREVENT CHILD ABUSE  
COUNCIL  
CALAVERAS**

**Be  
THE  
ONE**

**One person can make a  
difference in the life  
of a child.**

**April is Child Abuse Prevention Month!**

Child abuse is preventable when children have at least one caring, supportive adult in their life who believes in their potential and provides them unconditional support

and care. We all have the power to BE THE ONE to a child.

YOU CAN HELP SPREAD AWARENESS BY:

- Wearing BLUE throughout the month of April.
- Take a picture of you wearing BLUE.
- Add the Prevent Child Abuse Calaveras Child Abuse Prevention profile frame to your picture at: <https://twb.nz/btocapmonth>
  - or download the frame **here** to edit it yourself.
- Add the hashtags **#WearBlue4Kids #BeTheOne** and post to social media to join the movement!
- Tag **Prevent Child Abuse Calaveras** so we can share!

And don't forget that this Friday, April 5 is **WEAR BLUE DAY!**

Courtesy of: [Prevent Child Abuse Calaveras](#)



**SAVE THE DATE!**

**April 6—12** ..... **#woyc24**

naeyc  
**Week of the Young Child**

**The** Engaging Families  
**Resource** Empowering Communities  
**Connection** Enriching Lives

8085 Highway 26, Suite G  
Mokelumne Hill, CA 95245  
(209) 754-1075



Calaveras Child Care Council | 8085 Highway 26 Ste. G, Mokelumne Hill, CA 95245

[\(209\) 754-1075](tel:(209)754-1075) / [cccc@trcac.org](mailto:cccc@trcac.org) / [Facebook](#)

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