

# REGION 5

J a n u a r y	Jan 3 11am-1pm 2 hrs Great Falls	Deb Huestis Advanced \$15	<b>Director's Lunch Bunch</b> Bring your lunch and take a break from your hectic day. Share ideas and support with other center directors. Topics will include personnel policies and employee handbooks, advocacy, accreditation, and legal matters to name a few.	KB: Professionalism CDA: Maintaining a commitment to professionalism
	Jan 3 6-8pm 2 hrs Great Falls	Rori Croft Beginning Free	<b>Introduction to the Pyramid Model</b> Find out what the Pyramid Model is and how the strategies can help providers create an environment that fosters social emotional growth in children and helps to prevent challenging behavior.	KB: Child Guidance, Environmental Design CDA: Supporting social & emotional development
	Jan 4 7-9pm 2 hrs Great Falls	Tammy Phelps Beginning Free	<b>Program Management Essentials for Providers</b> Explore Montana agencies & programs that support quality early care and education. Topics: licensing requirements, child development, curriculum, environments, guidance, family partnerships and professionalism. <b>You must have applied to become a licensed provider.</b>	KB: Program Management CDA: Manage an effective program operation
	Jan 12 6:30-8:30pm 2 hrs Great Falls	Erin Helms Beginning \$15	<b>Building Classroom Communities: Developmentally Appropriate Practice</b> Join us to find out more about what developmentally appropriate practice means for you and your program.	KB: Professionalism CDA: Maintaining a commitment to professionalism
	Jan 13 9am-12pm 3 hrs Great Falls	Laura Wren Beginning \$22	<b>Timely Transitions</b> Young children struggle with moving between activities throughout the day resulting in confusion, frustration and challenging behaviors. Planning for transition times is beneficial to children. Visuals help children move throughout their day reducing challenging behaviors.	KB: Child Guidance, Environmental Design CDA: Supporting children's social & emotional development
	Jan 18 6:30-8:30pm 2 hrs Great Falls	Karen Vanni Beginning \$15	<b>Beginning Excel Program Skills</b> Come find out about this helpful program and how it can work for you. Bring your laptop to learn your own machine and program version. This is a beginning skills class for those with no experience or those wanting to brush up on the basics.	KB: Professionalism CDA: Maintaining a commitment to professionalism
	Jan 25 6:30-8:30pm 2 hrs Great Falls	Erin Helms Beginning \$15	<b>Foundations of Play</b> Need help talking to families about the importance of play? Want to learn more about how to make your program play based? Join us for this new series on the importance of play! Come to one or all of the classes to learn new tips and tricks for a play based curriculum.	KB: Child Growth & Development CDA: Understanding principles of child development & learning
	Jan 29 & Feb 26 6:30-8:30pm 4 hrs Great Falls	Deb Huestis Intermediate \$30	<b>Hand, Hand, Fingers, Thumb - Sculpture &amp; 3D Art</b> Join us to explore how creative activities, sculptures & 3D representations enrich cognitive development and vice versa. Hands-on training using activities to create "a-ha" moments and link learning to MELS. <b>You MUST attend both sessions to receive credit.</b>	KB: Curriculum CDA: Advancing children's physical & intellectual development
	Jan 13 10am-1pm 3 hrs Cut Bank	Tammy Phelps Beginning \$22	<b>Brain Development &amp; Baby Sign</b> Come join us as we explore baby sign! Learn the importance of early communication and how to get started. <b>Sugar and Spice Childcare 130 3rd Ave NW, Cut Bank</b>	KB: Child Growth & Development CDA: Advancing children's physical & intellectual development
	Jan 20 10am-2pm 4 hrs Conrad	Tammy Phelps Intermediate \$30	<b>The Inclusive Classroom 1.0</b> Join us as we explore the world of inclusion in the early childhood classroom. This session will include recognizing children's strengths, creating an accessible environment, and partnering with parents. <b>Stockman Bank Drive Thru 710 S Main, Conrad</b>	KB: Personal Dispositions, Diversity CDA: Maintaining a commitment to professionalism
Jan 26 9am-3pm 6 hrs Great Falls	Kurt Cunningham Beginning Free	<b>Growing Up Wild</b> This course is for Pre-k to grade 3 educators who will receive curriculum guides, instructional tools, and resources for teaching about nature. Engage in standards-based inquiry including science, math, reading, and physical education skills. This course will be located at the MT Fish and Game and Giant Springs Park .	KB: Child Growth and Development CDA: Advancing physical and intellectual development	
F e b r u a r y	Feb 1 & 22 6:30-8:30pm 4 hrs Great Falls	Erin Helms Intermediate \$30	<b>I Spy: Using Observation in the Classroom</b> Join us to discuss different observation techniques and how to use them effectively in your classroom. <b>You MUST attend both classes for credit!</b>	KB: Observation, Documentation & Assessment CDA: Observing & recording children's behavior
	Feb 1 6-9pm 3 hrs Great Falls	Tammy Phelps Beginning Free	<b>Early Childhood Essentials</b> Explore Early Childhood systems in Montana and practices that promote health, safety, professionalism and quality care and education. Explore community resources that support early childhood professionals, families and children.	KB: Child Growth & Development CDA: Understanding principles of child development & learning
	Feb 7 11am-1pm 2 hrs Great Falls	Deb Huestis Advanced \$15	<b>Director's Lunch Bunch</b> Bring your lunch and take a break from your hectic day. Share ideas and support with other center directors. Topic will include personnel policies and employee handbooks, advocacy, accreditation, and legal matters to name a few.	KB: Professionalism CDA: Maintaining a commitment to professionalism
	Feb 7 6:30-8:30pm 2 hrs Great Falls	Erin Helms Beginning \$15	<b>Foundations of Play: Let's Create</b> Part 2 of our on going series on the power of play. Join us to learn how to add creative opportunities to children's play and how to encourage creativity daily.	KB: Child Growth & Development CDA: Understanding principles of child development & learning
	Feb 8 & 22 6-9pm 6 hrs Great Falls	Laura Wren Beginning Free	<b>Montana Blended Pyramid Model Module 1</b> Learn strategies based upon the Pyramid Model to help children develop social emotional skills and how you, as a provider can help children with challenging behaviors. <b>You MUST have completed Intro to the Pyramid Model.</b>	KB: Child Guidance, Environmental Design, Family & Community Partnerships CDA: Supporting social & emotional development, Providing positive guidance, Establishing & maintaining a safe healthy learning environment
	Feb 15 6:30-8:30pm 2 hrs Great Falls	Karen Vanni Intermediate \$15	<b>Intermediate Excel Program Skills</b> Come find out about this program and how it can work for you. Bring your laptop to learn your own machine and program version. This is an intermediate class that builds on the basic functions and tools of the Excel program.	KB: Professionalism CDA: Maintaining a commitment to professionalism
	Feb 21 6-8pm 2 hrs Great Falls	Rori Croft Beginning \$15	<b>The Power of Parents</b> In this part of our social emotional series, learn how important parents are to the success of the children in your program. Also, learn strategies to get parents more involved.	KB: Family & Community Partnerships CDA: Supporting social & emotional development
	Jan 29 & Feb 26 6:30-8:30pm 4 hrs Great Falls	Deb Huestis Intermediate \$30	<b>Hand, Hand, Fingers, Thumb - Sculpture &amp; 3D Art</b> We will explore how creative activities (sculptures/3D representations) enrich cognitive development and vice versa. This is a hands-on training using actual activities to create "a-ha" moments and link learning to MELS. <b>You MUST attend both sessions to receive credit.</b>	KB: Curriculum CDA: Advancing physical & intellectual development
	Feb 10 10am-2pm 4 hrs Lewistown	Tammy Phelps Intermediate \$30	<b>The Inclusive Classroom 1.0</b> We will explore the world of inclusion in the early childhood classroom. This session will include recognizing children's strengths, creating an accessible environment, and partnering with parents. <b>Small Wonder Child Care 512 West Broadway, Lewistown</b>	KB: Personal Dispositions, Diversity CDA: Maintaining a commitment to professionalism
Feb 17 10am-2pm 4 hrs Conrad	Tammy Phelps Intermediate \$30	<b>The Inclusive Classroom 2.0</b> Join us as we explore the world of inclusion in the early childhood classroom. This session will include working together to aid the child, environment arrangement, and choosing materials. <b>Stockman Bank Drive Thru 710 S Main, Conrad</b>	KB: Environmental Design, Diversity CDA: Maintaining a commitment to professionalism Planning a safe, healthy, learning environment	
M a r c h	March 1 6-8pm 2 hrs Great Falls	Tammy Phelps Beginning Free	<b>Program Management Essentials for Providers</b> Explore Montana agencies & programs that support quality early care and education. Topics: licensing requirements, child development, curriculum, environments, guidance, family partnerships and professionalism. <b>You must have applied to become a licensed provider.</b>	KB: Program Management CDA: Managing an effective program operation
	Mar 6 6:30-8:30pm 2 hrs Great Falls	Erin Helms Beginning \$15	<b>CDA Workgroup</b> Bring your CDA portfolio and any questions to this workgroup. We will help you find missing pieces, talk about portfolio development and what the CDA observation look like	KB: Professionalism CDA: Maintaining a commitment to professionalism
	Mar 7 11am-1pm 2 hrs Great Falls	Deb Huestis Advanced \$15	<b>Director's Lunch Bunch</b> Bring your lunch and take a break from your hectic day. Share ideas and support with other center directors. Topic will include personnel policies and employee handbooks, advocacy, accreditation, and legal matters to name a few.	KB: Professionalism CDA: Maintaining a commitment to professionalism
	Mar 14 & 21 6-9pm 6 hrs Great Falls	Rori Croft Intermediate Free	<b>Montana Blended Pyramid Model: Module 2</b> Continue learning strategies from the Pyramid Model to help children develop social emotional skills and how you as a provider, can help children with challenging behaviors. <b>You MUST have completed Intro and Module One and attend both sessions to receive credit.</b>	KB: Child Guidance CDA: Supporting children's social & emotional development., Providing positive child guidance. Establishing & maintaining a safe, healthy learning environment.
	Mar 20 6:30-8:30pm 2 hrs Great Falls	Erin Helms Beginning \$15	<b>Foundations of Play: Let's Move</b> Part 3 of our on going series on the power of play. Join us to learn new ways to encourage children to move and how to add fun movement activities to your day.	KB: Child Growth & Development CDA: Understanding principles of child development & learning
	Mar 22 6:30-8:30pm 2 hrs Great Falls	Karen Vanni Advanced \$15	<b>Advanced Excel Program Skills</b> Deepen your skills and knowledge about Excel and how it can work for you and your program. Bring your laptop so you can learn your own machine and program version. This is an advanced class, participants should have taken the first two classes or have experience with the Excel program.	KB: Professionalism CDA: Maintaining a commitment to professionalism
	March 10 10am-2pm 4 hrs Lewistown	Tammy Phelps Intermediate \$30	<b>The Inclusive Classroom 2.0</b> Join us as we explore the world of inclusion in the early childhood classroom. This session will include working together to aid the child, environment arrangement, and choosing appropriate materials. <b>Small Wonder Child Care, 512 West Broadway, Lewistown</b>	KB: Environmental Design, Diversity CDA: Maintaining a commitment to professionalism Planning a safe, healthy, learning environment
	March 17 10am-2pm 4 hrs Conrad	Tammy Phelps Intermediate \$30	<b>The Inclusive Classroom 3.0</b> Join us as we explore the world of inclusion in the early childhood classroom. This final session will include guiding behavior, facilitating communication, and dealing with physical needs to allow participation. <b>Stockman Bank Drive Thru 710 S Main, Conrad</b>	KB: Child Guidance, Diversity CDA: Maintaining a commitment to professionalism, Supporting children's social & emotional development



## Registration Information

- \* **Pre-registration required to secure your spot & ensure you are contacted for any course changes or cancellations.**
- \* **Registration required at least one week prior to class date.**
- \* Pay, register for courses and review all professional development training policies online at: [FamilyConnectionsMT.org](http://FamilyConnectionsMT.org)
- \* Payment is required to be registered for a course.
- \* All courses are located at Family Connections unless noted.
- \* If you have any questions, contact Family Connections at 406.761.6010 or 800.696.4503.
- \* All Pyramid Model courses are in a prerequisite format. Participants must take Introduction to the Pyramid Model, Module 1, Module 2, and then Module 3.
- \* All professional development opportunities offered for 5 hours or more are available for CEU and OPI credits.
- \* Online courses are available from Child Care Resources at [childcaretraining.org](http://childcaretraining.org).
- \* Please read the NAEYC's Code of Ethics at [naeyc.org/ethics](http://naeyc.org/ethics)
- \* **Please do not bring your children to trainings without prior approval.**



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## CPR / First Aid in Great Falls

American Heart Association Heart Saver Adult/Child/Infant CPR, AED, and First Aid – 2-year Certification Course

- \* **The course is now \$30 per person and is open to those 18 years or older**
- \* The Heart Saver courses have no written test and do not qualify for health care providers, nursing students or others in the medical field

January 20	9am-2pm	Great Falls
January 23	6-10pm	Great Falls
January 25	9am-2pm	Great Falls
February 22	9am-2pm	Great Falls
February 24	9am-2pm	Great Falls
February 28	6-10pm	Great Falls
March 13	6-10pm	Great Falls
March 23	9am-2pm	Great Falls
March 24	9am-2pm	Great Falls
January 20	9am-2pm	Lewistown
February 24	9am-2pm	Lewistown
March 24	9am-2pm	Lewistown



**American Heart Association®**

**life is why™**

**Small Wonder Child Care**  
512 West Broadway, Lewistown

American Heart Association Basic Life Support (BLS) CPR Course

- \* **The course is now \$45 per person and is open to those 18 years or older**
- \* This course is for those in the health care field and is only the CPR component.
- \* This course will not satisfy child care licensing requirements.

January 29	9am-1pm	Great Falls
February 24	9am-1pm	Great Falls
March 19	9am-1pm	Great Falls

- \* Sign up on line at [FamilyConnectionsMT.org](http://FamilyConnectionsMT.org) or call 406.761.6010 or 800.696.4503
- \* There is a maximum of six participants; **YOU MUST BE REGISTERED TO ATTEND**
- \* All other Family Connections training policies apply.
- \* Certification cards come as an e-card through your email and will be issued at the end of the month training is attended.

We strive to keep the cost of our courses low, however we do need to maintain the equipment and pay for supplies. In October, the American Heart Association significantly raised the price they charge instructors for the required e-cards. Our CPR/FA course fees have increased to cover the additional charges.



It's an exciting time to be a part of the Early Childhood field and here comes another AMAZING opportunity for you!

The **Best Beginnings STARS to Quality Program** is a continuous quality improvement program for early childhood education in Montana. The STARS program can open many doors for both you and your program.

Just a few of the great opportunities the STARS program has to offer are:

- \* Be a part of this exciting program to improve the quality of early childhood care and education.
- \* Receive resources, coaching, assistance, encouragement and support for your child care program.
- \* Qualify for monetary incentives and mini grant opportunities.

**Child Care Providers in Regions 5 & 6 will receive a VISA Gift Card just for applying!**

Apply today at <http://dphhs.mt.gov/hcsd/ChildCare/STARS/applyforstars>

**For more information about STARS or help with the application process: call 406.761.6010 or 800.696.4503**