Training Calendar
March 2026

leap early learning partners

DATE	TIME	TOPIC	LOCATION	COST
Tuesday March 3	1:00-2:00 PM	The Magic of Words: Creating Literacy-Rich Spaces	All sessions are online this month Register at GaPDS	All sessions are **FREE** this month!
Tuesday March 3	6:00-7:00 PM	POWER Up! Group Time Play Essentials for Family Child Care		
Thursday March 5	12:00 – 1:00 PM	Conversations that Count: Building Language and Literacy Through Meaningful Talk		
Tuesday March 17	12:00-1:00 PM	Every Interaction Counts: Supporting Language Development in Infants and Toddlers		
Tuesday March 17	6:00-7:00 PM	POWER Up! Free Play Essentials for Family Child Care Providers		
Saturday March 21	10:00-11:00 AM	Book Club: Choosing a Good Book		
	11:00 AM-12:00 PM	Book Club: Engaging Children in Read Alouds		
Tuesday March 24	1:00-2:00 PM	From Home to Classroom: Strengthening Language and Literacy Through Family Partnerships		
Tuesday March 24	6:00-7:00 PM	The Power of Quality Child Care, Intro to FCCERS-3, Pt.1		
	7:00-8:00 PM	The Power of Quality Child Care, Intro to FCCERS-3, Pt. 2		
Thursday March 26	12:00-1:00 PM	Sound, Silence, and Rhythm: Supporting Infant & Toddler Language Beyond Words		
Tuesday March 31	1:00-2:00 PM	Stronger Together: Home-School Connections that Boost Language and Literacy		

Carefully review our Attendance Policy to ensure successful completion of trainings.

www.leapccrr.org   leaptraining@augusta.edu   877.228.3566

Training Descriptions for March 2026

The Magic of Words: Creating Literacy-Rich Spaces Competency: ECE 5.5 Step into a world where early literacy comes alive! Explore how to create engaging, literacy-rich environments that support young learners' development in reading, writing, speaking, and listening. This session offers practical strategies, and tools to strengthen early literacy through play and everyday routines. *This training course is submitted for and meets the Early Language and Literacy Lab training requirements.	1 Credit Hour
POWER Up! Group Time Play Essentials for Family Child Care Competency: ECE 1.3, 4.3 Improving the quality of care in the classroom doesn't have to be complicated. Making small improvements and changes can have big results. Focusing on large group play for multi-age children, this training will share some tools, tips, and resources to help teachers do more with less effort, while at the same time improving the quality of their efforts and increasing positive outcomes for the children.	1 Credit Hour
Conversations that Count: Building Language and Literacy Through Meaningful Talk Competency: ECE 1.3, 5.5 This interactive session equips early care and education providers with evidence-based strategies to engage in meaningful conversations with young children, enhancing language and literacy development. Participants will explore how everyday interactions — during routines, play, and transitions — can support vocabulary building, narrative skills, and deeper comprehension.	1 Credit Hour New Training
Every Interaction Counts: Supporting Language Development in Infants and Toddlers Competency: ECE 5.5 This session focuses on how language development unfolds for infants and toddlers and the critical role educators play through responsive caregiving and intentional interactions. Participants will explore how serve-and-return interactions, verbal and nonverbal responsiveness, and relationship-based practices strengthen infants' and toddlers' language skills.	1 Credit Hour New Training
POWER Up! Free Play Essentials for Family Child Care Providers Competency: ECE 4.3 Free play is an essential part of each day for infants and toddlers. This training offers participants the opportunity to reflect on their current practice and explore ways to support the play and development of children in their care by continuous quality improvement.	1 Credit Hour
Book Club: Choosing a Good Book Competency: ECE 1.1, 4.2 The concepts of this training identify the purpose for reading and the elements of high-quality children's literature. This course will equip you with the knowledge and skills needed to select high-quality books that foster cognitive and emotional development, instill a lifelong passion for reading, and support the diverse needs of your classroom. *This training course is submitted for and meets the Early Language and Literacy Lab training requirements.	1 Credit Hour

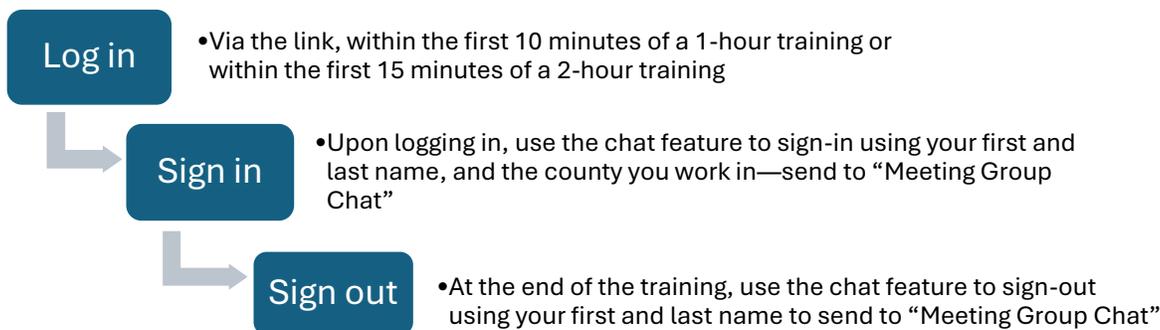|	
Book Club: Engaging Children in Read Alouds Competency: ECE 3.1, 6.2 *Book Club: Engaging Children in Read Alouds* is to empower educators to transform read-aloud sessions into powerful learning experiences that captivate and inspire young learners. The focus is to engage children in read-alouds focusing on various strategies and techniques to make the reading experience interactive, enjoyable, and educational for young learners. *This training course is submitted for and meets the Early Language and Literacy Lab training requirements.	1 Credit Hour
From Home to Classroom: Strengthening Language and Literacy Through Family Partnerships Competency: ECE 2.2, 6.3 Strong language and literacy development begins long before children learn to read. Families play a critical role in nurturing these skills through everyday interactions. This session was designed to help educators intentionally partner with families and caregivers to support preschoolers' language and early literacy development.	1 Credit Hour <mark>New Training</mark>
The Power of Quality Child Care, Intro to FCCERS-3, Part 1 and Part 2 Competency: ECE 4.2, 4.3 Early learning professionals in family child care settings will learn best practices as defined in the FCCERS-3 Tool.	1 Credit Hour
Sound, Silence, and Rhythm: Supporting Infant & Toddler Language Beyond Words Competency: ECE 1.1, 4.2, 6.2 This one-hour professional development training is designed for infant and toddler educators and meets Georgia DECAL Early Language and Literacy requirements. The training focuses on evidence-based practices that support early language and literacy development through sound awareness, rhythm, pacing, repetition, and intentional silence during everyday caregiving routines. Rather than centering on books or formal instructional activities, this session highlights how responsive interactions—tone of voice, timing, pauses, and vocal play—support infants' and toddlers' communication, self-regulation, and later literacy development.	1 Credit Hour <mark>New Training</mark>
Stronger Together: Home-School Connections that Boost Language and Literacy Competency: ECE 2.2, 6.3 Families play a powerful role in helping children grow as readers, communicators, and thinkers. This session explores simple, joyful ways educators can partner with families to build language and literacy skills at home. Through practical take home ideas, supportive communication strategies, and collaborative planning, participants will leave with ready to use resources that strengthen the home–school connection and help every child thrive.	1 Credit Hour <mark>New Training</mark>

Training Registration Policy and Details

Free Online Training Registration
1. Log in to your GaPDS account at https://gapds.decal.ga.gov/Login.aspx
2. Choose *"Trainings/Find Scheduled Training Sessions"*
    a. Search for the training title as listed in the Training Calendar.
3. Register for selected training session.
4. You will receive confirmation and reminder emails from GaPDS.
5. You will receive an email from leaptraining@augusta.edu one day prior to the training with a link to the training.
6. The day of the training, click the link to join us!

Registration closes 24-hours ahead of the training.

Attendance Policy—Online Trainings
To receive credit for state-approved training with Leap Early Learning Partners, please follow these simple requirements:

Log in
- Via the link, within the first 10 minutes of a 1-hour training or within the first 15 minutes of a 2-hour training

Sign in
- Upon logging in, use the chat feature to sign-in using your first and last name, and the county you work in—send to "Meeting Group Chat"

Sign out
- At the end of the training, use the chat feature to sign-out using your first and last name to send to "Meeting Group Chat"

You must be able to see and hear the presentation—participation is key to learning!

One participant per device provides the best experience for the learner and the easiest way to confirm attendance. In cases where multiple learners must use one device, we may ask for additional attendance confirmation via chat and/or email. This could include but is not limited to a live webcam view, time stamped photos of the group in the training, and/or signed statement confirming the learner's attendance from a program leader that was present for the training or a member of the group serving as the program leadership representative.

If you have any questions, concerns, or challenges please contact leaptraining@augusta.edu.

Additional Training Opportunities

In addition to trainings offered by Leap Early Learning Partners, there are many approved trainers and trainings throughout the state. The Georgia Professional Development System for Early Childhood Educators maintains a database of all approved trainings and trainers—this is the definitive source for statewide training opportunities.

Cox Campus also offers free online courses for Bright from the Start credit. To access and download Post Training Plans for these trainings, please visit our downloads page at leapccrr.org/downloads.

AUGUSTA UNIVERSITY

Georgia Dept of Early Care and Learning
BRIGHT FROM THE START