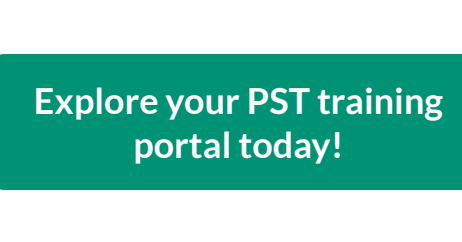


May/June 2026 - In This Issue:
 Outdoors Theme + For Directors & Teachers

Hello there,

The sunshine is calling — and so is your next big breakthrough! ☀️ Spring is here, and we couldn't be more excited to kick off the season with you. Just like children discovering the joy of outdoor play after a long winter, this is YOUR time to run, explore, and grow.

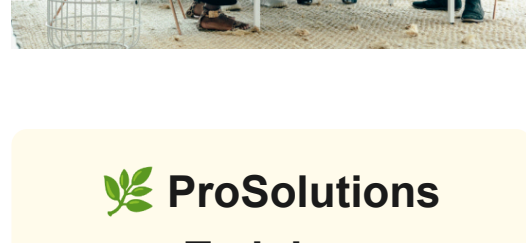
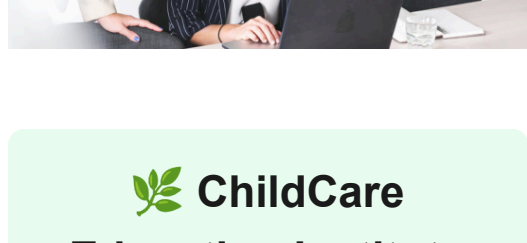
Whether you're soaking up fresh ideas like sunshine or planting seeds of inspiration in the little ones you serve every day — we are cheering you on every step of the way!



Explore your CCEI training portal today!

Explore your PST training portal today!

SPOTLIGHT COURSES



ChildCare Education Institute Course

ProSolutions Training Course

Incorporating Nature-Based Learning Experiences

Discover the physical and mental benefits of nature-based learning and how to bring it into your daily classroom routine. Perfect for teachers ready to take learning outside.

STREAM and the Great Outdoors

Explore how the STREAM approach integrates reading and writing into outdoor environments for young children. Build literacy and science skills alongside nature.

Enroll Today!

Enroll Today!

UPCOMING EVENTS

May 14
ECE Power Hour: Back to the Playground
 Free credits
 May 14, 2026 | 7–8 PM CT / 8–9 PM ET | [Register Here](#)

Jun 30
Introduction to your Online CDA Program Informational Session
 June 30, 2026 | 7 PM ET | [Add to Your Calendar](#)

CCEI Resources
[→ Training Portal](#)
[→ Course Catalog](#)
[→ Help Center](#)

PST Resources
[→ Training Portal](#)
[→ Course Catalog](#)
[→ Help Center](#)

COMPLIANCE and CERTIFICATION NEWS

Certification Spotlight: Birth–5 CDA

Stay on track with your CDA goals. We've got you covered from start to finish:

✓ CDA Coursework —

Complete your required training hours at your own pace, online.

✓ Portfolio Prep —

Guidance to build a strong, complete CDA portfolio with confidence.

✓ Final Exam Prep —

Tools and resources to help your staff feel confident and prepared.

CCEI CERTIFICATION PATHWAYS

PST CERTIFICATION PATHWAYS

GROW YOUR PRACTICE



Reimagining Your Outdoor Classroom

That magical moment when a child who struggles to focus indoors suddenly becomes completely absorbed in examining a line of ants... it's not just you—we've all seen it.

As the weather warms up, your outdoor space isn't just for recess. It's potentially your most valuable classroom where children feel empowered making choices within your thoughtfully designed framework.

From Natural Elements Sensory Station to Nature's Art Studio, we've got five outdoor centers you can set up this week and we've included material lists along with quick setup tips.

Explore Outdoor Center Ideas

INSIGHTS & IDEAS

Tips for Successful Outdoor Play

Why this matters: Outdoor play supports children's well-being and creates rich learning opportunities — especially during warmer months.

✓ 1. Smooth Transitions Outdoors

Prepare children in small groups to reduce wait time. Use this time for sunscreen, clothing changes, and reviewing safety rules.

✓ 2. Turn Outdoor Time into Learning Time

Encourage exploration of nature—wind, water, sunlight. Ask open-ended questions and provide materials like bubbles or ribbons.

✓ 3. Encourage Safe Risk-Taking

Support climbing, balancing, and active play. These build confidence and problem-solving skills.

Explore Outdoor Learning Courses

Director's Corner

Supporting Outdoor Learning Across Classrooms

As a director, you set the culture for outdoor learning in your program. When staff see that outdoor time is valued, structured, and connected to learning goals, engagement goes up for everyone — teachers and children alike.

Encourage your team to integrate outdoor learning daily by providing the right tools, clear expectations, and shared language. Even small shifts can lead to big wins in child engagement.

COMMUNITY SPOTLIGHT: ACELERO LEARNING

50 → 150
Seats Since Sept 2025

3x
Growth in 8 Months

↑
Improved Outcomes

When Acelero set out to expand their staff training efforts, they faced a common challenge: how to scale learning across their organization without sacrificing quality or engagement.

To meet this need, Acelero partnered with StraighterLine Education Group to implement a fully customized CDA Group Subscription. With an intuitive administrative dashboard, their team was able to easily manage enrollments, track progress, and support educators every step of the way.

The results speak for themselves. Since onboarding in September 2025, Acelero has grown from 50 to 150 seats—demonstrating strong adoption, increased engagement, and meaningful improvements in learner outcomes.

