

January 2020



A NOTE FROM DAWN JEFFREY:



Wow! 2020?! How can it be? Believe it or not, it's here and we're excited.

[Better Beginnings](#) is looking forward to another year of quality child care!

Notice something new? Does this edition of the *Buzz* look a little different to you? That's because it is! Did you make resolutions this year? We did, and it's all about **YOU!** We want to deepen our relationship with our providers, and we are actively working toward showing you just **who** Better Beginnings is and **what** Better Beginnings does. So, your *Buzz* will be customized just for YOU and your center. This new **Provider**

Buzz will be dedicated to all of the amazing, behind-the-scenes action you do to deliver **quality child care**.

What about you? Did you make any resolutions? If not, no worries, we've got an idea! How about making it a goal to make your curriculum as *interactive* as possible? Have you seen our [Provider Curriculum and Supplements](#) section on our website? You've got to check it out. Here's one to get you started.

Dawn Jeffrey M.S. E.

Division of Early Child Care and Early Childhood Education
Program Manager for Better Beginnings



ADVENTURES FOR TODDLERS

Adventures for Toddlers, a comprehensive curriculum for children from **eighteen through thirty-six months**, has been developed and revised through contracts with the Division of Child Care and Early Childhood Education. Programs using the Adventures for Toddlers curriculum can easily transition into the **Adventures in Learning** curriculum for children from **three through five**.

Get started with this **About Me** curriculum supplement, **Learning my Name**.

Key Messages to Explore:

1. I have a **name**.
2. I am **growing**.

Teacher tip: Consider extending this topic of study beyond a one-week period of time. There is so much for toddlers to learn about themselves. Carry over activities from one week to another because toddlers enjoy and learn best through repetition.



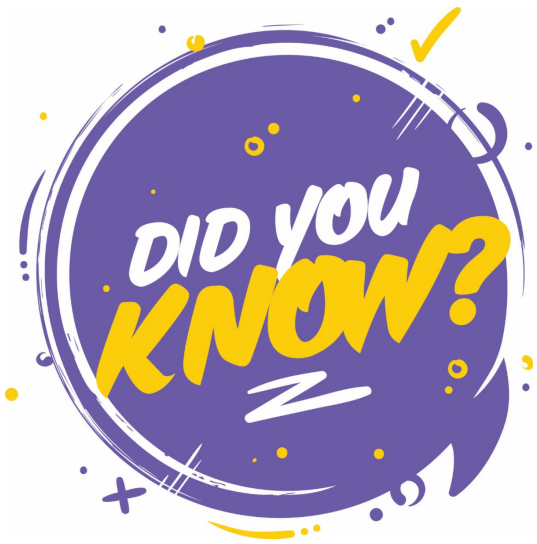
THANK YOU | BETTER BEGINNINGS QUALITY COMMUNITY

Better Beginnings is focused on making quality child care more accessible to families of young children across Arkansas. More high quality access means more kids are better prepared for kindergarten.

The following programs are now **3-star** Better Beginnings providers:

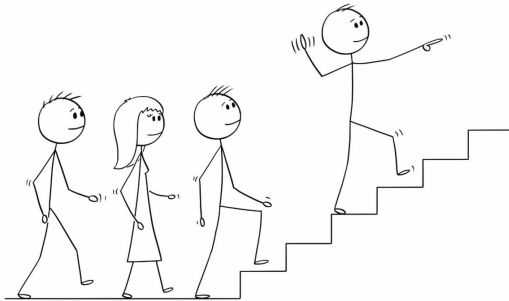
- **POCAHONTAS** - Black River Early Child Development Center
- **DOVER** - ABC Children's Academy Dover Campus 3

If you are a Better Beginnings provider and are interested in moving up in star ranking, click [here](#).



Remember, at [Better Beginnings](#), we are dedicated to helping you to provide quality childcare.

Learn more about leveling up through Better Beginnings. Check out our [Requirements and Information](#) page to get you started.



2-star requirements

3-star requirements

What is [Better Beginnings](#)?

High **quality** child care and early childhood education set the stage for how well our children learn, how they think of themselves and how they interact with their world. So, what is quality child care? **It's interactive. It's playing on the floor. It's getting your hands dirty. It's turning your classrooms into a science lab, library and outdoor adventure, all in one!**

[Better Beginnings](#), a program of the Arkansas Department of Human Services, connects early child care providers with resources and tools that aim to make your day-to-day simpler, and your curriculum fun! Better Beginnings is designed to improve the level of quality in childcare and early childhood education programs across the state. Better Beginnings distinguishes the quality of each Arkansas child care facility by a 1, 2 and 3-star rating system.

Visit our website to learn more.

OR check us out on [social media](#).



Better Beginnings is Arkansas's quality rating improvement system for child care, early education and school-age programs that have gone above and beyond the state minimum requirements. Better Beginnings is administered by the Arkansas Department of Human Services Division of Child Care and Early Childhood Education.

