



Literacy



Math



Science



better beginnings
EVERY CHILD DESERVES OUR BEST



A NOTE FROM KELLI HILBURN

PROGRAM ADMINISTRATOR

The air is warmer, and the days are longer. Warm weather and sunshine give us more time to explore the great outdoors. Exploring the world brings the opportunity to teach children about nature so, they will care about it later in life.

To make this easier, we've included some nature-based **science** activities in this month's edition of *The Buzz*. These resources offer tips on encouraging exploration through play which is the best way children learn, helping them **reach for the stars**.

Also included in this month's *Buzz* is information about **Arkansas Children's Week** and tips for finding the best **summer care**. Did you know you can search for high-quality early child care and education on our website? Simply visit www.ARBetterBeginnings.com and click on the orange bar at the top of the page to search for child care near you. The number of stars indicates the quality rating for that program.

Spring is exciting. There's always something to do or somewhere to be. Our spring will be just as busy, so stay tuned!

Until next time,

Kelli Hilburn

Kelli Hilburn
BETTER BEGINNINGS PROGRAM ADMINISTRATOR
DIVISION OF CHILD CARE AND EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION



JOIN US IN OUR GOAL THIS YEAR TO
REACH FOR THE STARS
CLICK TO LEARN MORE



Exploring nature means experiencing the weather. Show your child how rain works with the *Rainstorm in a Jar* activity. Do this activity at home using the resource below as your guide.



LEARNING RESOURCES

PLAY, LEARN, EXPLORE



Play, Explore, Learn Outdoors

Playing outside is beneficial for children and adults, promoting healthy habits, and happy attitudes. This resource is full of activities that allow children to safely interact with the outdoors.

[View Resource](#)



Rainstorm in a Jar

In children's minds, it's magical how April showers bring May flowers. With this resource, you can bottle that magic by teaching children about the science of weather while using common materials found in most homes.

[View Resource](#)



Woodland Mini Garden

Take your child on an adventure to the nearest park or your backyard. Encourage them to collect leaves, pebbles, or sticks to create mini gardens. Supervise to make sure they don't pick up anything harmful.

[View Resource](#)



LEARNING
IS FUN!

ADDITIONAL RESOURCES



Arkansas Children's Week

Arkansas Children's Week is April 15 - 21, 2023. Check with your provider to see how they're celebrating and ask how you can join in the fun! Then, you too can take your child on an adventure exploring play yards, neighborhoods, and other special areas.

[Learn More](#)

Summer Care Checklist

If you're looking for child care this summer, this resource can help. The [Summer Care Checklist](#) from Better Beginnings has tips on finding the summer care program that will best support and interest your child. Find this list on the Better Beginnings website.

[View the Checklist](#)



Child Care Finder Tool

This tool helps find high-quality child care in your area and provides details about your current or potential provider. When your search leads to a provider, scroll down for facility details including hours of operation, rates, and the number of children in each age category. Click view in the right-hand corner of the page to check for details on compliance with licensing requirements and any found complaints.

[Find Child Care Now](#)

WHAT IS BETTER BEGINNINGS?



Better Beginnings means better opportunities. Investing in quality child care for all Arkansas children creates better opportunities for our children, families, workforce and communities.

Visit our Website



**FOLLOW US
FOR MORE
RESOURCES**



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Better Beginnings is Arkansas's tiered 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.



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