



Literacy



Math



Science

Family Buzz | August 2024



better beginnings

EVERY CHILD DESERVES OUR BEST



A NOTE FROM KELLI HILBURN

PROGRAM ADMINISTRATOR

Children are born learning. They're learning everywhere they go and with each experience they have. You can incorporate literacy learning opportunities in the most mundane activities. In a grocery store? Read signs and product labels with your child. In a car? Sing some fun songs together. These little moments help to build a solid foundation and will have your child [reaching for the stars](#).

Looking for more **literacy** activities? Keep reading! This edition of *The Buzz* brings you resources with tips on increasing your child's vocabulary and cultivating their love of reading. You'll also find this month's kindergarten readiness **tips** and a **resource** to help you and your child at drop-off. We also included information about two parenting courses, car safety tips, and **changes** to a CCDF grant subsidy program that can give eligible families more access to high-quality child care.

Every moment is a learning experience for young children. Make the most of it and you'll create memories that will last a lifetime.

Until next time,

Kelli Hilburn

Kelli Hilburn
BETTER BEGINNINGS PROGRAM ADMINISTRATOR
OFFICE OF EARLY CHILDHOOD



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



VIDEO
CORNER

WATCH NOW 

Talking about a story before reading a book and acting it out makes reading fun and creates lasting memories. Watch the video below to learn more.

PLAY
— TO —
LEARN



just like in the story!

LEARNING RESOURCES



PLAY,
LEARN,
EXPLORE



WORDplay
Learning Fun Inspired By A Love of Fish by Sarah Kincaid

Word play is an open-ended opportunity for learning through play. What is a group of animals called? A group of kangaroos? Or you know that you have three little kittens. What play leads to discovery of words for collections of animals, some group words and the animals in it.

Some Ideas:

- Make group words from recycled paper cutouts of animals. Some group words include the animals in it.
- Make some words for plates and bowls.
- Use the words to make a group and animal name cards.
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- Use the words to make a group and animal name cards.

Children enjoy to play with words. They like to use words and animal fun words and children learn to use words in a fun way. They like to use words in a fun way. They like to use words in a fun way.

A Parcel of Penguins

Click here to visit our Resource Library. You'll find activities and tips to help you prepare your child for life.

ARBetterBeginnings.com • 1-501-682-8590

Make Reading Fun

Children take their first steps towards literacy long before they talk. Talk, sing and tell your child stories. When your child is able to play with books, all these resources are the building blocks for reading and writing. Here are some simple ways you and your child can enjoy books together.

How to Use This Resource:

- **Bring books to school.** Ask your teacher for a list of books to bring to school. You can also bring your own books.
- **Read and play with books every day.** Take a few minutes each day to read and play with books. You can also bring your own books.
- **Share books with friends.** Share your books with friends. You can also bring your own books.

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Better Beginnings with Books

Books for Young Infants: Birth to 8 Months

Books for Infants: 9 to 18 Months

Books for 2 and 3 Year-old Children

Click here to visit our Resource Library. You'll find activities and tips to help you prepare your child for life.

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Word Play

Open-ended opportunities for learning through play are great ways to activate your child's natural curiosity. The age-appropriate activities in this resource are great guides for teaching your child about animals and the world around them while expanding their vocabulary.

[View Resource](#)

Making Reading Fun

Reading books to your child can help them develop the ability to talk and a love of reading. Check out this resource for details on how children interact with books and how you can cultivate a love of books in your child from a young age.

[View Resource](#)

Better Beginnings with Books

Not sure what books to read with your child? Check out this recommendation list, broken down by age group so you can find the books that best fit your child.

[View Resource](#)



LEARNING IS FUN!

ADDITIONAL RESOURCES



The Arkansas Department of Education **announced** changes to the CCDF subsidy program, giving more families access to high-quality child care programs. These changes, which became effective on July 1, can help eligible families balance home and work life and make applying for this assistance easier.

[Learn More](#)



[Kindergarten Readiness](#)

Did you know that reading a book to your child for at least **10 minutes** every day can help them learn to speak and improve their vocabulary?

You do now! To learn more, and get a list of recommended books, check out the Getting Ready for Kindergarten Calendar on the Better Beginnings website.

[Learn More](#)



[Tips for Saying Goodbye at Child Care](#)

Child care drop-off can be stressful, especially if you're establishing a new family routine. Our Saying Goodbye at Child Care resource is full of tips that can help you make those moments easier.

[Get the Tips](#)



How Children Learn Through Play

August 14, 2024

We know children learn through play but have you ever wondered how? This class will walk you through how your child's brain turns play into understanding important learning concepts. Register today to reserve your spot.

[Register](#)

Parenting with Purpose: Self-Control

August 22, 2024

Self-control is important for children to learn. This session will show you strategies that can help you teach your child self-control.

[Register](#)



HEALTH AND SAFETY



Car Safety Tips

We spend a lot of time in our cars. Here are three ways you can make that time safer for you and your child:

- Everyone should wear a seat belt.
- Keep your child in a car seat until they meet the recommended weight to change to a booster seat.
- When arriving at your destination, always check your back seat before locking

the car.

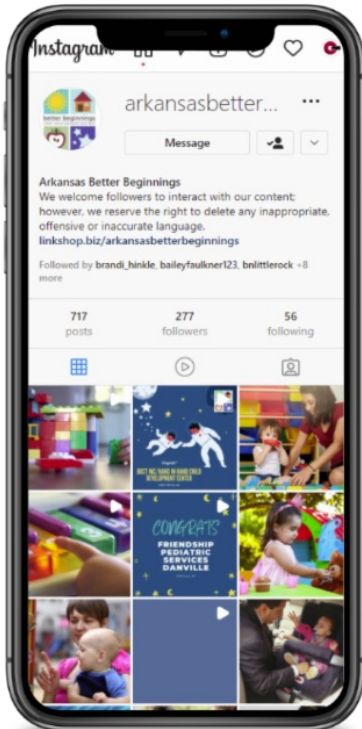
Find more car safety tips from the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration on their [website](#).

WHAT IS BETTER BEGINNINGS?



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

Visit our Website



FOLLOW US FOR MORE RESOURCES



Better Beginnings is Arkansas' tiered quality rating and 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 Education and Office of Early Childhood.



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