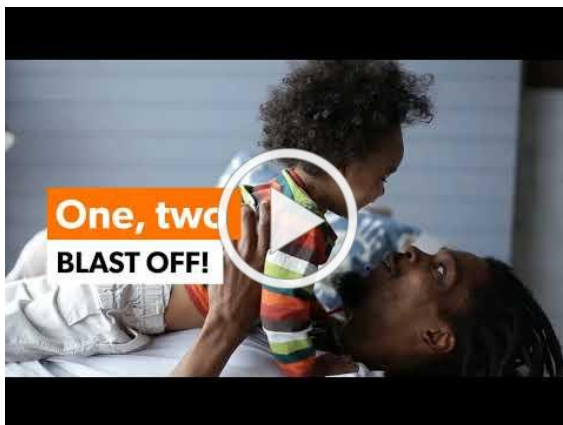


September 2019

FAMILIES | Play is for Learning

Better Beginnings has new activities to help your child learn through play this month and throughout the year. Check out our latest addition to the [Family Resource Library](#). [Find resources en Español here.](#)



Smart Start

Play and sing songs with numbers and counting. Music helps children remember. It's easy to talk math with these ten tips. Click to check out our resource, Talk Math.



Let's Make Music

Math and music have more in common than you might think. Get the directions to make three musical instruments from household items. Talk about shapes and colors while you play.

THIS MONTH'S FEATURED RESOURCE | Math Play

Play the Way to Math Skills

Many of the math skills your child needs for kindergarten develop naturally through talking and playing. Children learn best through experience. They remember best when it's fun. Try these activities to give meaning to numbers, practice writing numbers and counting.

Take Measures
Tape pieces of newspaper or junk mail on a wall or door to a height taller than yourself. Any type of paper will do. Show your child how to use a measuring tape or a long piece of string to measure the heights of objects around the house. Measure furniture, door knob heights, a favorite toy or the family pet. Mark the heights on your wall chart with a tick mark or stickers. Be sure to measure and compare your child and yourself.

Number Play Tray
Write the numbers 1 through 10 on individual pieces of paper and set aside. Pour salt or fine sand into a box lid or any container with a flat bottom and low sides. Pick a numbered piece of paper and ask your child to write the number in the salt with her finger. Shake the box lid to make the number disappear and do it again!

Number Games
Play 'Say Numbers.' Ask your child to look for numbers around the house. Make a game of who can say the number first. Play the game when you go places too. Look for house numbers, numbers on license plates and gas prices on great big signs.

Play Simon Says. When you say 'Simon says clap three times,' count out loud with your child as she claps.

Play hopscotch and board games.

For more on math, see these resources [Talk Math and Build It. Bake It. Book It.](#)

Click here to see the complete Family Resource Library.



Click here to see the Kindergarten Readiness Checklist.

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[Also en Español.](#)

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:

- **FORT SMITH** - Sunnymede Preschool
- **BEEBE** - Early Impressions Preschool and Childcare
- **CABOT** - Quality Childcare

The following programs are now **2-star** Better Beginnings providers:

- **BENTONVILLE** - Annor Academy of Bentonville

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

PROVIDERS | We Have Resources for You

Adventures in Learning, a comprehensive curriculum for children from three through five, has been developed and revised through contracts with the Division of Child Care and Early Childhood Education. The curriculum features 40 topics of study in nine focus areas. Each topic is introduced with familiar children's books and has a strong language and literacy emphasis.



[Find More Curriculum Resources Here](#)

To learn more about
Better Beginnings
and the resources available:

[Visit our website](#)

Stay in touch with Better
Beginnings.



Share this edition of the Buzz with your family and friends.



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.

