



Literacy



Math



Science

Family Buzz | February 2023



A NOTE FROM KELLI HILBURN

PROGRAM ADMINISTRATOR

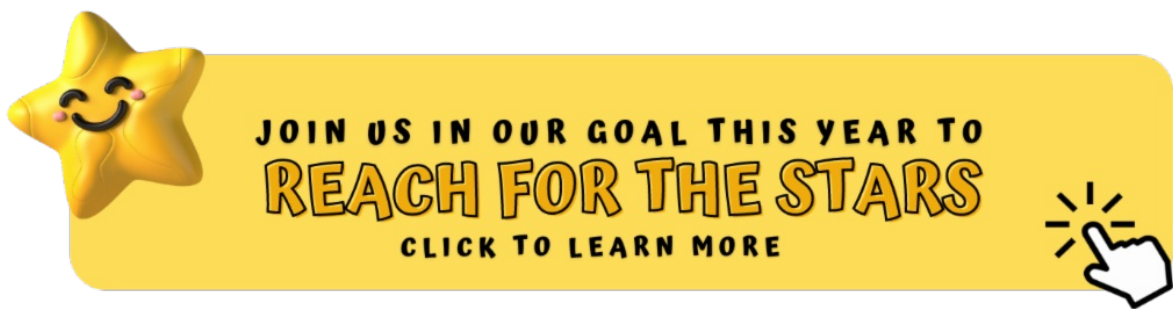
Join us in celebrating I Love to Read month! It's never too early to read to children. In fact, reading aloud to children helps develop the social and emotional skills they need to [reach for the stars](#) and be successful in kindergarten and beyond.

To learn more, check out the [10 Minutes Matter](#) material from the Arkansas Department of Human Services and the *Raising a Reader* series featured later in this month's Buzz for [infants](#), [toddlers](#), and [preschoolers](#). As your child grows, they begin relating to and approaching books differently. With the help of these [resources](#), you can work within each developmental stage to make books fun for your child.

Also, in this edition of the *Buzz*, there is a new literacy [resource](#) from our friends at [Child Care Aware of West Central Arkansas](#). As you keep reading, you'll see details to nominate the next Arkansas Outstanding Early Childhood Professional. You have until February 17, 2023 to [nominate](#) a deserving provider so don't wait!

Until next time,

Kelli Hilburn



Watch the video below to see Arkansas child care providers read the bedtime counting story, Ten Twinkly Stars.



Learn more about the importance of reading aloud to children at least 10 minutes per day by checking out the [10 Minutes Matter](#) material on the Arkansas Department of Human Services [website](#).



PLAY,
LEARN,
EXPLORE

LEARNING RESOURCES



Raising A Reader: Babies

It's never too early to read aloud to your child. This resource provides tips on what types of books are best for babies and the importance of high-contrast images for babies' brains.

[View Resource](#)



Raising A Reader: Toddlers

Your toddler can now hold books and turn pages! Touching and holding books, even putting books in their mouths, helps them explore all that books have to offer. Use this resource to create an early appreciation for books in your child.

[View Resource](#)



Raising A Reader: Preschoolers

Most of the skills your child needs for kindergarten develop naturally through play and reading with you! Learn what language skills your child needs in order to be ready for school through this resource.

[View Resource](#)



ADDITIONAL RESOURCES



Arkansas Outstanding Early Childhood Professional Nomination

Is there a provider in your life that has gone above and beyond for your children? Nominate them to be the 2023 Arkansas Outstanding Early Childhood Professional! You can find the nomination packet [here](#). The nomination deadline is **February 17, 2023**.

[Make A Nomination](#)



Ages & Stages

Have questions about what development milestones your child is expected to hit? See a detailed list on the [Ages & Stages](#) section of our site!

[View Ages & Stages](#)



Playing With Language

[Child Care Aware of West Central Arkansas](#) is offering a book full of activities that will help children notice and manipulate the sounds of language. Download the book for free today and bring these activities into your home!

[Download the Book](#)





Parenting with Purpose: Healthy Media for Very Young Children
Thursday, February 16, 2023, 12:30 – 2 p.m.

Learn about using screen time to maximize the positive impact on young children’s development while minimizing potential negative effects. You’ll also learn about the effects of media use on child health and development, how to identify high-quality media experiences and guidelines for media use in the early years.

[Register Now](#)

Parenting with Purpose: Self-Control
Thursday, February 16, 2023, 1 – 2:30 p.m.

Learn what self-control is, why it’s important to a child’s development, and strategies to support the development of self-control in children via Zoom.

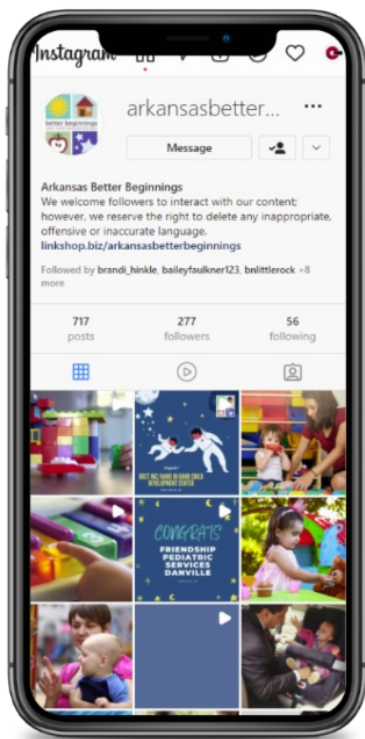
[Register Now](#)



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](#)





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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