



Literacy



Math



Science

Family Buzz | February 2024



A NOTE FROM KELLI HILBURN

PROGRAM ADMINISTRATOR

Reading is one of my favorite ways to relax and it brings me great joy. When children see and experience the joy of reading at a young age, lifelong readers are created. Reading is also a great way to build the literacy skills they need to be ready for [kindergarten](#), though your child will have too much fun to notice they're learning. Check out this [reading list](#) for book recommendations that promote kindergarten readiness at home.

This Valentine's Day, I encourage you to share the joy of a good book with your child. You can do this by reading your child their favorite book. This simple activity also builds a bond between you and your child while creating fond memories that will last a lifetime.

There are more [literacy](#) resources later in this edition of *The Buzz* to help you further your child's love of reading at home, including information about [Dolly Parton's Imagination Library](#) and how to enroll your child in this free program to start receiving age-appropriate books in the mail each month. Children birth to age five are eligible, so get your child signed up today!

You'll be helping your child [reach for the stars](#) as their love for reading grows. I encourage you to use these resources and be their guide on this wonderful learning adventure.

Until next time,

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

Reading to your child creates a strong bond. Make it fun and educational with *Brown Bear, Brown Bear What Do You See?* Check out this video featuring child care providers across the state reading this book.



LEARNING RESOURCES



PLAY,
LEARN,
EXPLORE



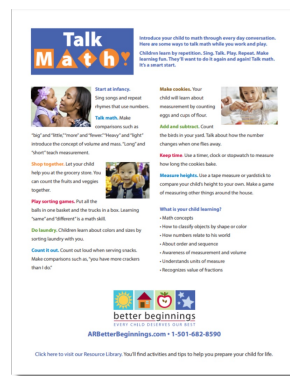
Better Beginnings with Books

Want to get books for the child in your life but don't know where to start? This is the list for you.



What do you see?

There are many ways to read *Brown Bear, Brown Bear* that are fun and cultivate learning, such as pausing to talk about the animals or singing the



Bring Books to Life

Let this resource create a path to learning and creativity. By doing an activity related to a book or reading a story using funny voices, your child

Reference this list next time you're book shopping for age-appropriate recommendations to start your child's reading journey.

words to a familiar children's song.

will experience the fun reading can bring.

[View Resource](#)

[View Resource](#)

[View Resource](#)



LEARNING
IS FUN!

ADDITIONAL RESOURCES



Dolly Parton's Imagination Library

Get the child in your life a free book every month in the mail. Sign them up today on Dolly Parton's Imagination Library website. All children ages birth to age five can participate.

[Learn More](#)

Reading List for Kindergarten Readiness

Bring learning and creative thinking to your child with [this recommended reading list](#). Reading to your child for 10 minutes every day helps their brain develop, increases vocabulary and helps them understand the world they live in.

[View the List](#)



HEALTH AND SAFETY



Keeping Children Safe at Home

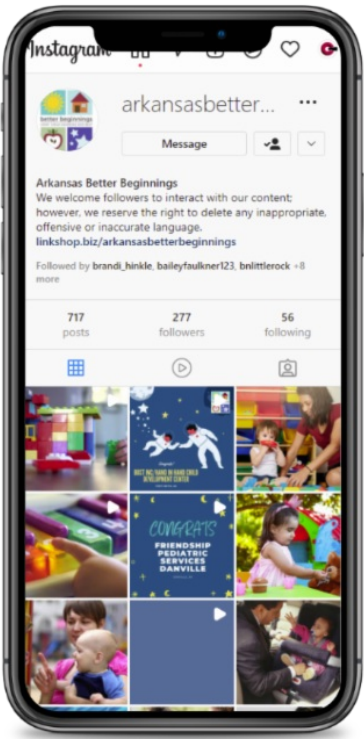
Home should provide a safe place where children can explore and learn. Here are three tips to help keep it that way:

- 1. **Use safety gates:** Safety gates in door frames or at the top and bottom of stairs can help limit your child’s exploration of child-proofed areas of your home.
- 2. **Keep small objects out of reach:** Young children put things in their mouths to better understand their environment, including small items that are a potential choking hazard. Check your home for any small objects your child could reach.
- 3. **Store cleaning supplies and medicines out of reach** Store products or medicines in high places or closed cabinets that are child-locked. Think out of sight, out of mind.

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



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.



Better Beginnings | OEC, Attn: Better Beginnings, PO Box 1437, Slot S150, Little Rock, AR 72203-1437

Unsubscribe info@arbetterbeginnings.com

Update Profile | [Constant Contact Data Notice](#)

Sent by info@arbetterbeginnings.com powered by



Try email marketing for free today!