



Literacy



Math



Science

Family Buzz | July 2023



**A NOTE FROM
KELLI HILBURN**

PROGRAM ADMINISTRATOR

We want to help you and your child launch into the summer [reaching for the stars](#). Whether this is your child's first year in an early child care setting or their last, we want them to reach for the stars all year long. You can help your child reach for the stars by pairing at-home activities with those at school to extend the learning. In order to do that, you should establish a line of communication early.

By working with your provider, you will play an active role in your child's education and help them build a solid foundation for learning and growth. Use our [Communicate with Your Child Care Provider](#) resource as a guide to those important conversations. If you're still looking for a provider, we have just the tool for you. The [Find Child Care](#) tool can help you find providers in your area. Once you have your options, use our [Choosing Child Care Checklist](#) to make sure you find the provider that best fits your needs.

We included other resources later in the newsletter to encourage play, exploring, and learning. As you keep reading, you'll also find a [list](#) of places suggested by child care providers across the state that are ideal for exploration and fun.

It's going to be a fun year, and we're glad you're coming along with us.

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



**VIDEO
CORNER**

WATCH NOW

Bring the magic of ice to your home with our Nice Ice activity! Click the video below to watch the demonstration and get more information about this resource.



LEARNING RESOURCES



Get Muddy With Your Buddy

Spark your child's creativity and imagination using mud. Children can paint with it, sculpt with it, and stomp around in it.



Inspire Discovery

Set your child on the road to discovery with these 10 activities. Encourage them to experiment, observe, then experiment some more!



The Sunflower Jar

Is your child asking how plants grow? This activity is perfect for them to see nature in action.

No matter what, they'll have fun learning through play.

[View Resource](#)

[View Resource](#)

[View Resource](#)



LEARNING IS FUN!

ADDITIONAL RESOURCES



Communicate With Your Child Care Provider

Your child care provider is your partner in preparing your child for life. Talk to your provider every day about what happened with your child. Open communication is key to helping your child prosper.

[Learn More](#)



Tips for Saying Goodbye at Child Care

Going to child care can be hard on children, especially when it's a disruption to an established routine. These tips can help you and your child adjust.

[Get Tips](#)

Summer Safety Tips



1. Stay Hydrated

When playing, children can often forget to drink water. Keep water readily available and encourage regular water breaks so your child doesn't dehydrate.

2. Utilize Shady Spots

Encourage your child to find natural shade when playing outside, or create it yourself. Shade protects them from the sun and offers a cooler place to play.

3. Wear Sunscreen

Prevent sun damage to your child’s skin by putting sunscreen on them. Applying this now will reduce the risk of severe damage in the future.

4. Wear Hats

Hats are a cute but effective way to protect faces and necks from the sun.

Learn More



Build Your Own Field Trip

Take this list of special places from across the state, created by [A-State Childhood Services](#) with help from providers, and find a place, or two, to take your child. Make a plan before you go for exploration, discovery, and fun.

Get The List



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’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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