



Literacy



Math



Science



**A NOTE FROM
KELLI HILBURN**
PROGRAM ADMINISTRATOR

Summer is a time of joy for many of us. From relaxing by the pool to vacations, we can get time to enjoy our families and loved ones.

Seek out occasions when you can get uninterrupted time with your child. Those moments bring great opportunities to continue your child’s learning at home. Fun, age-appropriate science experiments are great for this. They provide valuable hands-on learning experiences that tap into a child’s natural curiosity about the world around them and help them **reach for the stars**.

Keep reading because we’ve included three **scientific** activity resources to get you started. We’ve also included a **checklist** to help you identify high-quality early care and education environments. You’ll also see this month’s tip to prepare your child for **kindergarten**, information about an upcoming **parenting** course, and **tips** for childproofing your home.

Fun experiments can make this a summer to remember. Together, you and your child can 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 🍿

Infants and toddlers use touch to explore the world around them. Watch this video for ways to help them do this safely.





PLAY,
LEARN,
EXPLORE

LEARNING RESOURCES



Oil & Water Experiments

Don't just tell your child that oil and water don't mix. Show them with the fun experiments in this resource.

[View Resource](#)

Sunflower in a Jar

Is your child asking how things grow? This is the perfect resource to provide a hands-on learning experience.

[View Resource](#)

Sensory Play

Infants and toddlers explore the world through touch and taste. Use this resource as a guide to make exploration easy and safe.

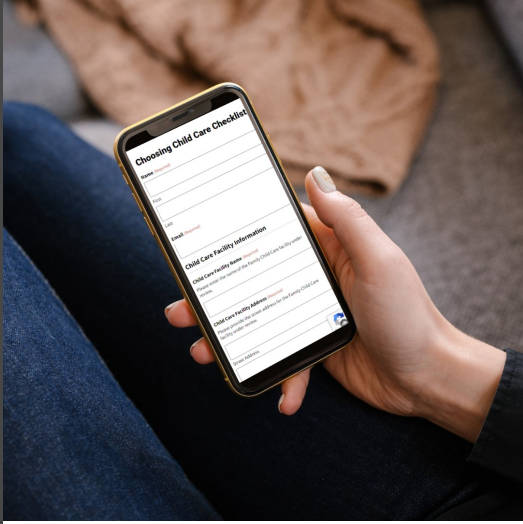
[View Resource](#)



LEARNING
IS FUN!

ADDITIONAL RESOURCES





[Choosing Child Care Checklist](#)

Finding high-quality early care and education can be difficult, especially when you don't know what to look or ask for. The Choosing Child Care Checklist from our website can help! It's interactive and smartphone-friendly, making it a great tool to take with you when touring a facility.

[Check it Out](#)

[Kindergarten Readiness](#)

Is your preschooler heading to kindergarten next month? Get them ready by making a plan and demonstrating what school will be like so they are prepared for the new experience.

Check out the Getting Ready for Kindergarten Calendar and our **updated [Kindergarten Readiness Indicator Checklist](#)** so you can hit the ground running in August.

[View the Resources](#)



[Responsive Caregiving](#)

Tuesday, July 18 at 10 a.m.

Join our friends at Curricula Concepts over Zoom for a session designed specifically for families with infants and young toddlers. Learn how to read and respond to your child's unique cues.

[Register](#)



HEALTH AND SAFETY



4 Tips for Childproofing Your Home:

As infants and young toddlers get more mobile, they investigate everything around them. Here are four ways you can make your home a safer place for exploration:

1. Secure furniture, such as shelves, to the wall.
2. Put cleaning products in locked cabinets or high out of your child's reach.
3. Keep all medications in locked cabinets and out of reach.
4. Check your floors regularly for small objects as those are choking hazards.

Find more [tips](#) on childproofing your home from the American Academy of Pediatrics.

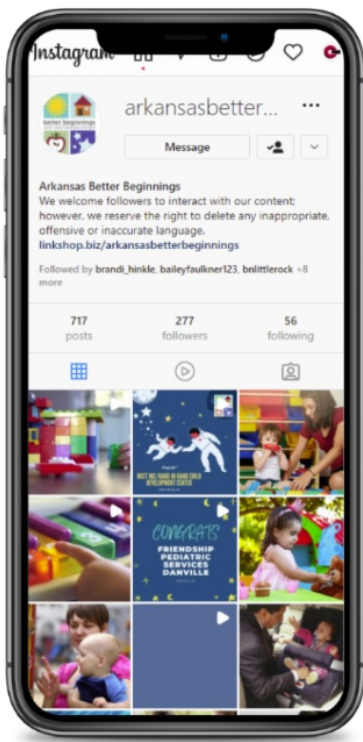
WHAT IS BETTER BEGINNINGS?



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





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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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