



Literacy



Math



Science

Family Buzz | March 2023



A NOTE FROM KELLI HILBURN

PROGRAM ADMINISTRATOR

Spring is a magical time as flowers bloom and the air warms. Do you know what else is magical? Numbers! They help us build things and explain the world around us. That's why numbers and counting are math concepts young children need to learn early in life.

Numbers aren't the only math concept your child needs to know before entering [kindergarten](#). Colors and shapes also tell us more about the world and add pizzazz to our lives. Teach these concepts at home with the help of our featured [math](#) resources from the Better Beginnings [website](#). The three learning resources listed further below in this month's edition of the *Buzz* are a great place to start. With the resource materials as your guide, you can help your child [reach for the stars](#) and prepare them for success in kindergarten and beyond. These resources and more are also available in [Spanish](#).

As you continue reading, take note of upcoming classes for families. Topics covered include [self care](#), [managing screen time](#), and [self-esteem](#). These classes are done via Zoom, so you can participate from the comfort of your home. Check out our tips for [communicating](#) with your child care provider, get tips on helping your child adjust to [Daylight Saving Time](#), and find out how you can [support](#) quality child care in your local community.

There are many exciting things coming this year, so share this newsletter with your friends, and encourage them to [sign up](#). We'd love to include more families in our community.

Until next time,

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**

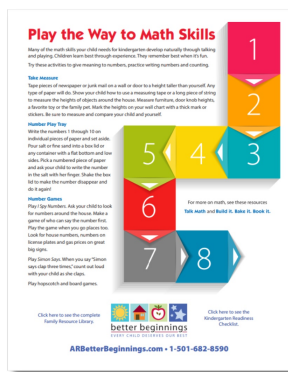
WATCH NOW

Watch the video below as Better Beginnings Specialist, Marasha Grimes, shows us how to create math moments with playdough.



**PLAY,
LEARN,
EXPLORE**

LEARNING RESOURCES



Make it Math

Use these hands-on activities to help your toddler recognize numbers, shapes, colors, and patterns! They'll have fun molding the playdough into shapes

Play the Way to Math Skills

Learning through play is the best way to develop math skills in your child. Children remember what is engaging, so use this resource to create fun

Simon Says Roll

Get some exercise and learn about math with this energizing activity for the whole family! It's the perfect activity for upcoming sunny spring weekends.

and cookies while learning important math skills.

learning experiences that will help children prepare for kindergarten.

[View Resource](#)

[View Resource](#)

[View Resource](#)



LEARNING IS FUN!

ADDITIONAL RESOURCES



Did You Know?

The Find Child Care tool offers information to find high-quality child care in your area and provides details about your current or potential provider. When your search leads to a provider, scroll down for facility details including hours of operation, rates, and the number of children in each age category. Click **view** in the right-hand corner of the page to check for details on compliance with licensing requirements and founded complaints.

[Find Child Care Tool](#)



Biblioteca de Recursos

The resources from our **Family Resource Library** are available in Spanish. Check those resources out and share them with families you know who may be interested.

[View the Spanish Resources](#)

How to Communicate with your Child Care Provider

Communicating regularly with your child care provider is important for your child. When you're informed about what's going on with your child, your child is given the best opportunities to prosper. Check out this resource for questions to ask your provider.

[View the Resource](#)



Lack of Affordable Child Care Hurts Business

Tyson Foods Senior Manager of Corporate



Responsibility, Garrett Dolan, discusses the impact affordable child care has on the state economy and workforce in this [op-ed](#). We thank Tyson Foods for recognizing that access to high-quality child care is key to the success of working families and children in Arkansas. Learn how you can support high-quality child care on our website.

[Support High-Quality Child Care](#)



Family Café: The Importance of Self Care
March 9, 5 - 6:30 p.m.

Participants will learn the effects of stress on the mind and body. There will also be discussion on strategies for self care and ways self care can be implemented in their daily lives.

[Register](#)

Self-Esteem & Achievement
March 14, 6 - 7 p.m.

Participants will consider strategies that build and offer praise to their children that in return strengthens their child’s self-esteem and achievement.

[Register](#)

Better Together Family Café: Managing Screen Time in a Technology World Online
March 30, 12:30 - 2 p.m.

This training demonstrates how managing and reducing screen time as a family supports children and their development.

[Register](#)



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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