



Literacy



Math



Science



better beginnings
EVERY CHILD DESERVES OUR BEST



A NOTE FROM KELLI HILBURN

PROGRAM ADMINISTRATOR

Spring is a magical time. The season thaws what winter leaves behind and brings back new life as flowers and colors emerge in full force. My favorite time of year is when the azaleas and dogwoods are blooming. Don't forget to talk with your children about their favorite things of each season. With the help of math concepts like numbers, we can better understand the world around us and the changes that happen with each passing season.

That's why we included three [math](#) resources in this month's *Buzz* to help children learn these important concepts. Those resources, which are also available in [Spanish](#), are great for classroom fun and promote [learning through play](#). Math concepts, such as measuring, comparing height, or recognizing shapes, are key indicators of [kindergarten readiness](#). With those and other math skills in place, children can [reach for the stars](#) and find success in kindergarten and beyond.

Also included in this month's *Buzz* are [activities](#) to connect math and literature, the dates of this month's provider [calls](#), and some fun upcoming events, including the dates for [Arkansas Children's Week](#)! I hope you take some time to enjoy the gifts of spring with your children and families. Keep reading to see everything coming up this spring.

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

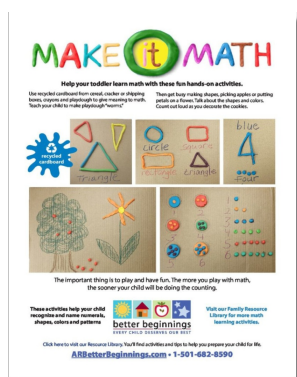


Watch the video below as Better Beginnings Specialist, Marasha Grimes, shows us how to create math moments with playdough.




LEARNING RESOURCES

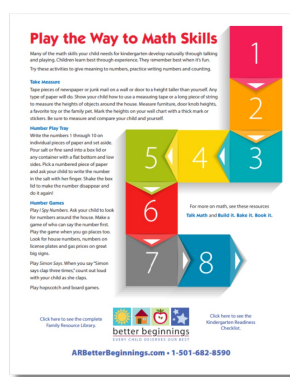
PLAY, LEARN, EXPLORE



Make it Math

Use these hands-on activities to help toddlers recognize numbers, shapes, colors, and patterns! They'll have fun molding the playdough into shapes and cookies while learning important math concepts.

[View Resource](#)



Play the Way to Math Skills

Learning through play is the best way to develop math skills in children. They remember what is engaging, so use this resource to bring fun learning experiences that will help children prepare for kindergarten.

[View Resource](#)



Simon Says Roll

Bring exercise and math together with this fun activity for all ages. This is an amusing way to play and learn outside.

[View Resource](#)



LEARNING
IS FUN!

ADDITIONAL RESOURCES



Connecting Literacy and Math

Connecting Literature and Math provides age-appropriate math learning and shows kids how they see, hear, and experience math all day long. It is a great resource for providers working with children ages three through five.

Check it out!



Biblioteca de Recursos

The resources from our [Family Resource Library](#) are available in Spanish. Check those resources out and share them with your client families.

View the Spanish Resources



Arkansas Children's Week 2023

Save the date! Arkansas Children's Week 2023 will take place **April 15-21**. We're looking forward to another Arkansas Children's Week where we'll celebrate the children of Arkansas with you! Stay tuned to the Arkansas State University Childhood Services [website](#) for more information, including this year's theme and training dates.

Super Saturday

A-State Childhood Services is offering two professional development opportunities. Join them in Clarksville on March 11 or in Forrest City on April 15.

Register Here

Upcoming Provider Calls

- Informational Provider Meeting – Tuesday, March 7 at noon.

- Placement & Residential Informational Meeting – Thursday, March 2 at 10 a.m.
- Regulatory Check Training – Thursday, March 30 at noon.

Find Zoom links to join the meetings on the Better Beginnings [website](#).



Better Beginnings is focused on making **quality child care more accessible to families of young children across Arkansas**. More high-quality access means more kids are better prepared for kindergarten. To meet this objective, Better Beginnings encourages providers to improve their facility's Star Ratings. Below are the most recent facilities to advance their quality standards.

THREE STAR PROVIDERS

The following programs are now **3-star** Better Beginnings providers:

- Jim D. Rollins Elementary Pre-K, Springdale
- Ms. Carrie's Day School, Little Rock
- Treehouse Children's Learning Center, North Little Rock

TWO STAR PROVIDERS

The following programs are now **2-star** Better Beginnings providers:

- Dardanelle Head Start, Dardanelle
- Paragould Tiny Blessings of Arkansas, Paragould
- Kare-A-Lot Learning Academy, Little Rock
- Christ the King Pre-Kindergarten, Little Rock
- Imagination Station Learning Center, Pocahontas
- Mountain Home Public School, Mountain Home
- Youth Institute of College Station, College Station
- Roberts Elementary Care Program, Little Rock
- Pulaski Heights Elementary Care Program, Little Rock
- Care Otter Creek Elementary, Little Rock
- McDermott Care, Little Rock

ONE STAR PROVIDERS

The following programs are now **1-star** Better Beginnings providers:

- North Hills Children's House, Van Buren
- Lilypad Preschool Academy Inc., Pine Bluff
- Little Sunshine's Playhouse, Rogers
- Jack and Jill Childcare, Fort Smith

Congratulations to these providers! Thank you for everything you do to keep Arkansas children safe, nourished and well. If you are interested in becoming a Better Beginnings provider or moving up in star ratings, click the button below!

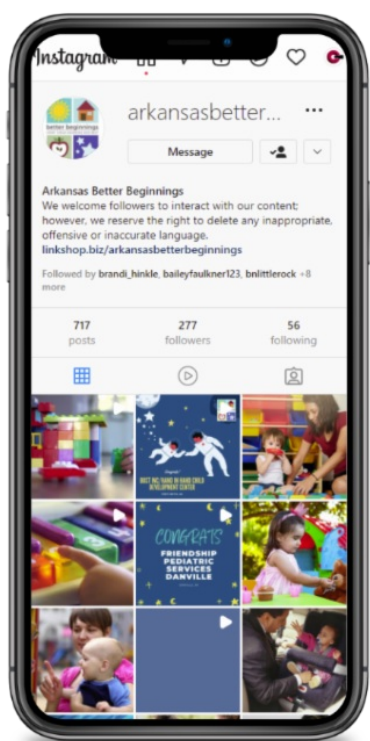
Visit our Website

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'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.



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

[Unsubscribe info@arbetterbeginnings.com](mailto:info@arbetterbeginnings.com)

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

Sent by info@arbetterbeginnings.com in collaboration with



Try email marketing for free today!