



Literacy



Math



Science

Family Buzz | May 2025



better beginnings

EVERY CHILD DESERVES OUR BEST



**A NOTE FROM
KELLI HILBURN**

PROGRAM ADMINISTRATOR

Provider Appreciation Day is on Friday, May 9! I encourage you to take time to show your early care and education provider how grateful you are for their hard work and dedication to providing high-quality care for your child and community. Your child's provider is an important partner in getting your child ready for kindergarten and life.

One way you can partner with your provider is by extending your child's learning at home, and this month's edition of the *Buzz* is full of resources to help you do that:

- [Literacy](#) resources that encourage your child to ask questions
- This month's [kindergarten readiness tip](#) has ways you can help your child develop strong problem-solving skills
- Details on how to get a free book each month from [Dolly Parton's Imagination Library](#)

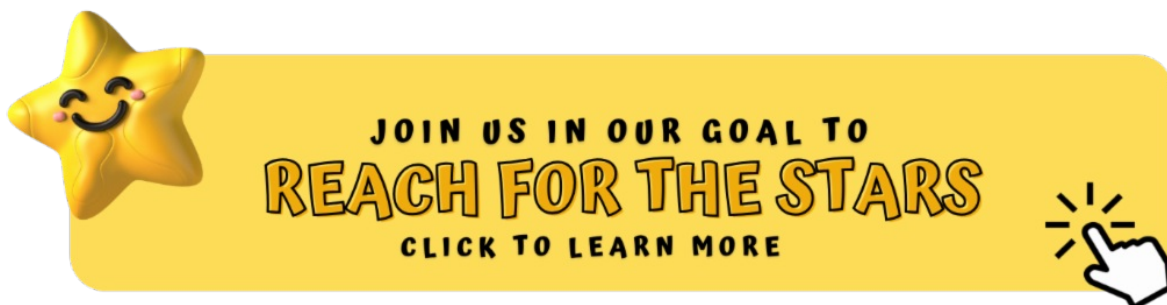
Children learn something every day. By working with your child's provider, you can help your child reach for the stars and get ready for the learning that lies ahead.

Until next time,

Kelli Hilburn

Kelli Hilburn

BETTER BEGINNINGS PROGRAM ADMINISTRATOR
OFFICE OF EARLY CHILDHOOD



WATCH NOW 

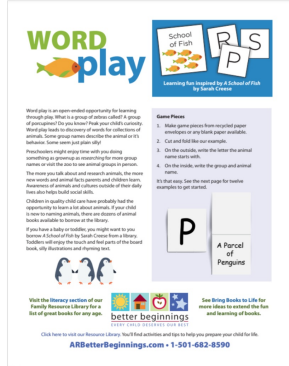
Children learn about their world and how to communicate when adults talk, read, and play with them. Watch this video to see how it's done.



**LEARNING
RESOURCES**

PLAY,
LEARN,
EXPLORE

The banner features a large orange background. On the left, a circular inset shows a young child with curly hair, wearing a blue and white striped shirt and denim overalls, sitting at a table and looking down at a book. Below this circle is a smaller orange circle containing the text "PLAY, LEARN, EXPLORE". To the right of the main circle, the words "LEARNING" and "RESOURCES" are written in large, bold, white capital letters. At the bottom of the banner, there are two more circular insets. The left one shows two children sitting at a table, playing with colorful toys. The right one shows a child sitting on a green mat, playing with a colorful toy.



Word Play

Answering your child's questions and helping them "research" what they're interested in helps expand their vocabulary. Click on this resource to learn more.

[View Resource](#)



9 Tips to Boost Baby Language Development

Children are born learning. Check out this resource for ways you can help your baby develop language faster.

[View Resource](#)



9 Ways to Advance Toddler Brain Development

Talking and reading to your child are the best ways to increase their knowledge and help their brains grow! Learn more with this resource.

[View Resource](#)



LEARNING IS FUN!

ADDITIONAL RESOURCES



Kindergarten Readiness Tip: Invite Your

Child to Think and Solve Problems!

When your child develops strong problem-solving skills, they're more resilient and better equipped to face challenges. You can help your child build this important skill by giving them a puzzle to complete or reading books that engage their curiosity about the world around them. Learn more on the Better Beginnings website.

[Learn More](#)



Dolly Parton's Imagination Library

Children in Arkansas are eligible to receive a free book each month from Dolly Parton's Imagination Library! Sign your child up today and build a home library of age-appropriate books that encourage curiosity and expand knowledge.

[Learn More](#)





HEALTH AND SAFETY



Health and Safety Tips

We're entering vacation season! Here are five safety tips to keep in mind while traveling by car with young children:

1. Use a car seat or booster seat.
2. Take frequent breaks.
3. Pack toys or other items for long car rides.
4. Never leave your child in a car unattended.
5. Ride in the back with an infant.

With these tips in mind, you and your child can have an easier and safer travel experience. Learn [more](#) from the American Academy of Pediatrics.



WHAT IS BETTER BEGINNINGS?

Better Beginnings means better opportunities. Investing in quality 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's tiered quality rating and improvement system for child care, early education, and school-aged programs that have gone above and beyond the state minimum requirements. Better Beginnings is administered by the Arkansas Department of Education Office of Early Childhood.



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