

Children are born learning, and they learn best through play.

Play is present at all stages of development – from infancy to school-age. It is usually spontaneous but can also be guided through discovery and experiments. While playing, solid foundations in math, science, and language are laid in children's minds that will help them <u>reach for the stars</u> and become life-long learners.

Want to make play extra special for children? Join in the fun! When you join, a deep bond is created between you and your child. Keep this one thing in mind during playtime. Let your child guide the fun! There are no rules, so don't offer correction unless your child is in danger. Learn more about the importance of play in a child's life on the Play is Learning page of our website.

We've included some <u>science resources</u> to inspire play and fun. You'll also find more great resources from the Better Beginnings website that can build on your knowledge of <u>child development</u> and keep children safe this Halloween while trick-or-treating.

Keei Hilburn

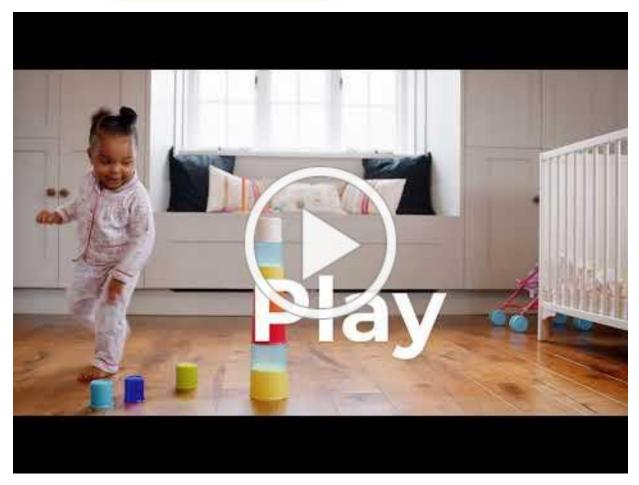


JOIN US IN OUR GOAL THIS YEAR TO REACH FOR THE STARS
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LEARNING RESOURCES







Sticks & Stones Creativity

There is a world full of natural resources outside! Playing with those elements helps children develop a love for nature. When they love nature, they become caretakers of it. Use this resource as a guide for encouraging exploration.

View Resource



States of Matter

States of matter is a term that refers to the physical form of everything around us, such as liquid, solid or gas. The activities in this resource are perfect for children three and older to learn this concept – through play!

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Sensory Play

Play is critical to a child's development. Through play, they develop new skills and explore their imagination. Sensory play allows them to explore new textures through feel and taste safely.

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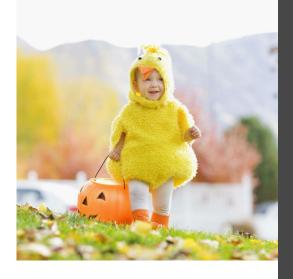
Ages and Stages

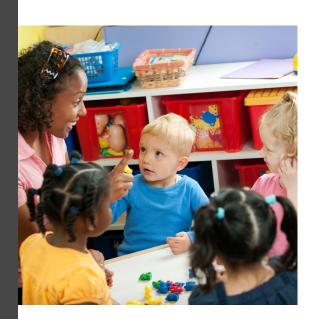
Early learning and childhood experiences set the foundation for a person's life. The Ages and Stages section of the Better Beginnings website has information on each stage of child development with corresponding activities to make that stage even more fun.

View Resource

Safety doesn't have to eliminate fun. Our latest press release gives you easy tips for keeping children safe while trick-or-treating this Halloween.

Get The Tips





Child Care Finder Tool

The child care finder tool is the best way to search for providers in your area. This tool provides you with the age groups served, Better Beginnings level, and more to help you make the best decision you can on what facility is best for your child. Check it out today!

View Resource

Arkansas is the Best!

Arkansas was named the state in the U.S. with the best early education system! This is an exciting accomplishment for the state and for children.

Division of Child and Early Childhood Education Director**Tonya Williams** was recently interviewed about this. Read to see why she thinks Arkansas is the best.

Learn More



Powerful Conversations with Fathers will host its last online webinar Monday, October 10 from 6:30 – 7:30 p.m. with Marvin Benton, a firefighter and father of three daughters. He will share his story as a father and discuss how he raised his daughters in spite of the adversity he encountered.

You're invited to join the conversation. Register today!

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**

















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

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