Family Buzz | October 2024





A NOTE FROM KELLI HILBURN **PROGRAM ADMINISTRATOR**

There is great joy to be found in almost every moment when children are having fun. October begins a season of fun for families, with special activities that will help you bond with your child. For many families, this will be a season of firsts – first Halloween costume, first pumpkin patch visit, first s'more. Savor those moments, as they are precious and inspire awe. Another way you can create wonder this Fall is with the<u>science</u> activities included below! Science is magical to a learning brain. As you read, you'll also see information about starrated <u>quality</u>, this month's <u>kindergarten readiness</u> tip, and trick-or-treat safety <u>tips</u>. All of this will have your child excelling and <u>reaching for the stars</u>.

Fall is a great time of year to create memories that will last a lifetime. May it be full of smiles, joy, and love.

Until next time,

Keel Hilburn)

Kelli Hilburn BETTER BEGINNINGS PROGRAM ADMINISTRATOR OFFICE OF EARLY CHILDHOOD







Every moment your child plays, they learn something about the world around them. Falling blocks? That's gravity in action! Watch the video below then check out our <u>Play is Learning</u> section to see the importance of play in your child's learning journey.





LEARNING RESOURCES







Rainstorm in a Jar

Make rainy days fun and educational with this resource! With only three ingredients you can show your child how to make it rain.



Play, Explore, Learn Outdoors

Exploration is fun and beneficial to everyone as it cultivates your child's natural curiosity and promotes physical activity. Check out this resource for ideas.



Sticks & Stones Creativity

The world around us is full of natural resources. Creating nature scenes with these resources can help your child develop a love of nature. Download this resource for a guide to make this happen.

View Resource

View Resource

View Resource



Star Rated Quality

The Better Beginnings star levels are markers of

quality you can look to when deciding what early care and education facility is best for your child. Check out our star-rated quality page to learn more about what is required for providers to reach each level.

Learn More





Kindergarten Readiness Tip

Physical activity is important for a child's development and getting them ready for kindergarten. While your child is having fun, they're developing the skills they need to keep their balance, throw and catch a ball, and more. You will find a full list of activities on the Getting Ready for Kindergarten Calendar that you can do with your child this month, including a list of toys, that will encourage them to move.

View Calendar



Healthy Media for Young Children Zoom, October 24, 11:30 a.m. - 1 pm

Want to learn how to use media to positively impact your child? This class is for you! You'll also see how media affects your child's health and development and learn how to identify high-quality media experiences for young children.

Register

Family Café: For the Love of Reading

Zoom, October 29, 11:30 a.m. - 1 p.m.

Reading to your child does more than create a strong bond between you. It also helps them to develop their language and literacy skills! Learn more strategies for incorporating language through reading and everyday conversations through this class.



Halloween Trick-or-Treat Safety Tips

Trick-or-treating is a standard Halloween activity but safety is a priority. Here are three tips to do ahead of time that can help ease your mind:

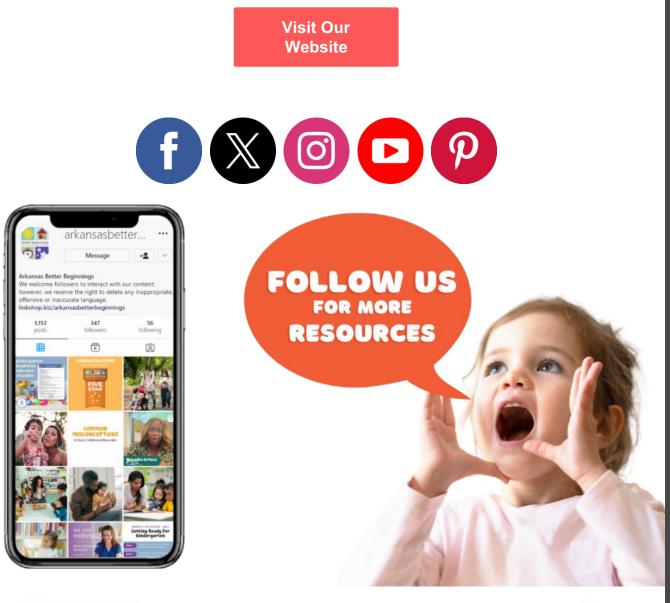
- **Keep your child visible:** You're going to be walking a lot in neighborhoods with cars. Make sure your child can be seen by drivers by putting them in bright-colored costumes or a bright safety vest.
- **Safe Costumes:** Speaking of costumes, make sure your child's costume fits well to avoid any tripping.
- Set Some Rules: Make sure your child knows how and when to cross the road and to never cut across someone's yard. Also, make sure they know to never go into someone's home.
- **Be Present:** By being present, you enjoy the time with your child and are better able to actively supervise them.

Kelli Hilburn, Better Beginnings Program Administrator, provided more safety tips on *Arkansas Style*.

Watch Now



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.





Better Beginnings is Arkansas' 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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