



Literacy



Math



Science



better beginnings

EVERY CHILD DESERVES OUR BEST



**A NOTE FROM
KELLI HILBURN**

PROGRAM ADMINISTRATOR

At Better Beginnings, we encourage everyone to establish strong connections with children. There is no connection stronger than the one between a child and their families. Intentional moments of connection, such as at the dinner table or during play, are sweet and special. They strengthen bonds and help your child **reach for the stars.**

In this edition of the *Buzz*, we've included resources full of fun **math** activities that can help guide you to connect with your child in what can be a busy time. You'll also find this month's kindergarten readiness **activity**, **news** about changes to child care assistance grants, and **safe sleep** tips.

Every moment with your child is an opportunity to strengthen family bonds and create delightful memories that will last a lifetime. I hope your September is full of those moments.

Until next time,

Kelli Hilburn

Kelli Hilburn
BETTER BEGINNINGS PROGRAM ADMINISTRATOR
OFFICE OF EARLY CHILDHOOD



JOIN US IN OUR GOAL TO
REACH FOR THE STARS
CLICK TO LEARN MORE



VIDEO
CORNER

WATCH NOW

Songs help children remember words and new concepts. Watch this video to see ways you can do this at home with your child.



A large yellow banner with a white circular inset on the left. The inset shows a young child with curly hair playing with colorful blocks. To the right of the inset, the text "LEARNING RESOURCES" is written in large, bold, white letters. Below the inset, a smaller orange circle contains the text "PLAY, LEARN, EXPLORE".

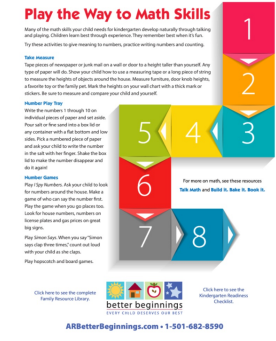




Make it Math

Playdough is a great tool to help your child identify numbers and colors while working on their fine motor skills. See how to guide them through this with this resource.

[View Resource](#)



Play the Way to Math Skills

Children learn best through play. This resource is full of fun activities to help children retain key fundamental math concepts to aid them in their future educational endeavors.

[View Resource](#)



Talk Math

Introduce your child to math through everyday conversation! Children learn by repetition so sing, talk, play, and repeat while you work and play. Check out the activities in this resource for more.

[View Resource](#)



LEARNING IS FUN!

ADDITIONAL RESOURCES



Kindergarten Readiness

Encourage your child to create, explore, and

pretend...through art! Drawing helps them build their fine motor skills while learning shapes. Find more activities to help get your child ready for kindergarten on our website.

[Learn More](#)



[Child Care Assistance Grant Changes](#)

The Arkansas Department of Education **announced** changes to the CCDF subsidy program, giving more families access to high-quality child care programs. These changes, which became effective on July 1, can help eligible families balance home and work life and make applying for this assistance easier. Learn more on the ADE website.

[View Rules](#)



Positive Solutions for Families: Putting it all Together with a Plan *Zoom, September 10*

Challenging behaviors are common in children. This class can help you plan for responding to your child's challenging behavior in a way that benefits everyone. Register today!

[Register](#)

Move, Play, Grow: Nurturing Child Development Through Physical

Challenging behaviors are common in children. This class can help you plan for responding to your child's challenging behavior in a way that benefits everyone.

Register today!

Register



HEALTH AND SAFETY



Safe Sleep Tips

Arkansas Children's Hospital shares a helpful guide to safe sleep. All you have to remember is ABC:

- **A**lone – Co-sleeping with your baby isn't advised
- **B**ack – Babies should sleep on their backs
- **C**rib – Remove blankets, bumper pads, stuffed animals, and other suffocation hazards from your baby's sleep environment.

Get more safety tips from the [ACH website](#).

Learn More

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



FOLLOW US FOR MORE RESOURCES



Better Beginnings is Arkansas' tiered quality rating and 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 Education of Office of Early Childhood.



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