



Infant & Toddler Newsletter

Resource Book Highlight

This is Play: Environments and Interactions that Engage Infants and Toddlers by Julia Luckenbill, Aarti Subramaniam, and Janet Thompson highlights the importance of play for the social, emotional, and intellectual development of very young children. It combines theoretical and practical information and includes guidance about how to improve interactions with children, select materials for young children to use, and work with families to support children’s development. With vignettes, photographs, and narrative text, providers will learn a range of ideas to be-

come more responsive to children’s cues and more intentional in their interactions and play with children.

Research has demonstrated the power of play for fostering young children’s development in a variety of areas, including mathematics, spatial skills, language, scientific thinking, and social skills. The goal of this book is to provide providers with guidance for creating developmentally appropriate methods for supporting children’s play and learning. Each of the age-based chapters starts by giving a snapshot of children’s development during that particular range, then

gives practical examples and tips for supporting children’s play. The authors also include extensive lists of additional resources for teachers and families in each chapter.

Overall, *This is Play* is a much-needed addition to the literature written for early childhood educators. This book is easy to read, provides many concrete examples, and is inclusive of the varied needs of children. The authors provide clear guidance to help educators create and support children’s play without adding too much more to their plates.

Helpful Hints: Room Arrangement

Surroundings have such a powerful influence on infants and toddlers. There are eight (8) points to consider when setting up an environment, and they can be divided into two groups:

- 1) Infants and their caregivers: Safety, Health, Comfort, and Convenience.

- 2) Infant development: Child Size Space, Flexibility, Movement, and Choice.

Quality childcare can be found in all types of spaces. Both the adults and the children should find the environment welcoming and comfortable. A well organized, arranged, and equipped

classroom gives the caregiver more time for stimulating and supportive interactions with children.

www.communityplaythings.com/-/media/files/cpus/library/training-resources/booklets/it-spaces.pdf

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Special Points of Interest

* Child Care & COVID-19 Training is open!!!

<https://earlychildhood.marylandpublicschools.org/training>

* Child Care COVID-19 Survey Extended

<https://earlychildhood.marylandpublicschools.org/child-care-providers/child-care-scholarship-program>



Lower Shore Child Care
Resource Center
at Salisbury University

www.lowershoreccrc.org

FYI: The Infant and Toddler Advisory Board provides feedback and suggestions to improve the infant and toddler services offered by the LSCCRC. They meet quarterly to plan events to support other infant and toddler providers in the lower shore region.

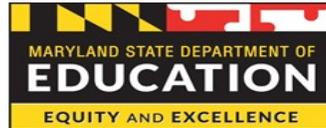
Specialized Training for Infants and Toddlers & Networking Group Sessions

- November 10th—*“Math and Science Board Books for Babies” @ 6:30pm—8:30pm (Child Development)*
- November 14th—*“Bottoms Up: Tummy Time Fun” @ 9:00am—12:00pm (Child Development)*
- November 18th—*“Communicating with Infants and Toddlers while wearing a mask” @ 6:30pm—7:30pm (Network Session)*
- December 12th—*“Baby Blocks: Helping Infants and Toddlers Grow @ 9:00am—12:00pm (Curriculum)*

The Lower Shore Child Care Resource Center is a member of the Maryland Child Care Resource Network with funding provided from the Maryland State Department of Education, through Maryland Family Network, and Salisbury University.



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Infant and Toddler Activity (www.holidayinsights.com/moreholidays/November/partybearaday.htm)

November 16th is “Have a Party with Your Bear Day”. Is your Teddy Bear a real “party bear”? Hopefully he or she is, because what a swell day it is going to be! You get to have a party and you get to spend time with your Teddy Bear. I bet you can’t think of anything that is more fun!!

Get out the party banners and balloons. Make a cake. Send out the invitations. Invite all of your teddy bears, and your human friends too. Let them bring their teddys along. Today is going to be a fun day. You can even get together virtually!

Did you know? Teddy bears are by far the most popular bear for kids. Panda Bears are a close second overall, as people of all

ages are fascinated by pandas.

Here are a few ideas to do with your little ones.

- 1) For toddlers, ask the children to sort their teddy bears by categories (size, color, those wearing bows, etc.) Then count the number in each category. Also, let the children come up with ideas for categories. Talk about more and less.
- 2) Sing and act out “We’re Going on a Bear Hunt”. Think of different actions to do or have the children help you.
- 3) Have the children create a “Bear” collage from magazines. Discuss the types of bears they find (grizzly, po-

lar, teddy, etc.)

- 4) In the block center encourage the children to make caves and or homes for their teddy bears.
- 5) Bear Dance Party! Play different tempos of music and encourage the children to make their bears dance or move in a way that matches the beat.

