



deaeyc

Delaware Association for the Education of Young Children

AUGUST 2022, ISSUE NO. 6

ECE Matters

How is deaeyc Making a Difference?

Membership Project:

Funded by the Rotary of Wilmington and matched by deaeyc, this project includes four (4) partner agencies: Kingswood Community Center, Latin American Community Center, St. Michael's, and Christina Cultural Arts.



Staff at all four centers have been awarded Standard Memberships with deaeyc for one year. Over the course of the year, deaeyc will be working with each center to provide access to quality professional development and training. This effort with the Rotary of Wilmington and its partner agencies has been the inspiration for many new initiatives, such as incorporating more inclusive opportunities, like bilingual services. There is a lot more to come this year; look forward to updates!

Professional Development Trainings

Currently, deaeyc's Professional Development Committee is in the process of editing/revising the trainings we have, and we are working on creating new PD trainings, such as an Anti-Bias series, which will include an overview, how to develop and anti-bias

Professional development

Contribute



If you are interested in helping deaeyc achieve its goals in assisting the early childhood field, you can do so in many ways:

[DONATE](#)

[BECOME A BOARD MEMBER](#)

[JOIN A DEAEYC COMMITTEE](#)

[BECOME AN ADVOCATE](#)

Become a Member!

deaeyc

Delaware Association for the Education of Young Children

LATEST UPDATES

Employment Law Update

Deaeyc is planning an Employment Law Update event for late September 2022, and we are looking for providers as employers to answer a few questions about interest and availability, so we can plan a valuable and accessible event.

Employment Law Update: Interest and Availability Survey



mindset, recognizing everyday biases, ableism, etc. Other training topics being developed in the future include, but are not limited to, managing challenging behaviors, mindfulness, special needs, and more.



Family Membership Project:

Deaeyc recently received funding from Highmark to embark on a membership campaign to connect with parents and families. A Family Membership with deaeyc costs \$35/year and, beginning this fall, benefits will include CPR/First Aid training for up to two (2) household caregivers and access to a parent-centered training course (bottle/breast weaning, sleep training, choosing child care programs, advocacy, and more!) Right now, a Family Membership interest survey is being disseminated to help us create the best program for parents. Please pass it along to any family that has children under eight years old.



Early Educator Resource Center

Early educators and providers need resources, tools, and materials to meet the needs of the growing children in their classrooms. Deaeyc is developing a resource center to provide these necessary items, such as an industrial laminator, paper cutters, photo copies, crickets, and more! In addition, we are creating spaces for educators to make activity plans and craft activities for the classroom, as well as areas to study and research for continuing education. Finally, deaeyc plans to create NAEYC-approved developmentally appropriate activity-themed bins for educators to borrow to use in their classrooms. In an effort to make this resource the best it can be for educators across the state, here is a Resource Center Needs Assessment Survey. If you are an early educator or provider who has not completed it yet, please do so! (And share it with any other early educators you know!)

Deaeyc listens: We see that resources are needed for Sussex and Kent counties, and we plan to develop a delivery service to assist with access. Stay tuned for updates as things develop!



Family Education Services for Deaf and Hard of Hearing Children

OUTREACH
Delaware Statewide Programs for the
Deaf, Hard of Hearing, and Deaf-Blind

contributed by Mindi Failing, Ed.S

"Each year, approximately two or three out of every one-thousand children in the United States are born with hearing loss in one or both ears (National Institute on Deafness and Other Communication Disorders, 2016). Over 90% of these children are born to hearing parents. Often, these parents may have little to not knowledge about hearing loss. Therefore, such parents will need information and support in making decisions about the medical, linguistic, and educational management of their child (Kushalnagar et al., 2010).

Delaware Statewide Programs for the Deaf, Hard of Hearing, and Deaf-Blind offers Family Education services to families in all three counties of Delaware. Family Education is family-centered early intervention designed to facilitate the development of infants and young children who are deaf and heard of hearing (birth through age 3).

Our family educator is a certified Teacher of the Deaf with specialized certifications in sign-language education and oral/aural education. Additionally, our family educator is certified in early childhood education and certified by the SKI-HI Institute, a division of the Center for Persons with Disabilities at Utah State University in Logan, Utah, to deliver un-biased and family-centered services using the SKI-HI curriculum. The SKI-HI curriculum is a menu of resources developed to best serve the needs of infants and young children with hearing loss and their families.

Our family educator is an integral part of the early intervention team and works closely with Child Development Watch (CDW), school district personnel, Nemours/Alfred I. duPont Hospital for Children, The Children's Hospital of Philadelphia, as well as other state and local agencies to provide information and support that is in the best interest of the child and family.

Family education services align with the best-practices outlined by the Joint Committee on Infant Hearing (JCIH) and the Early Hearing Detection & Intervention Action Center (EHDI) to carefully design individualized intervention delivered within each child's natural environment in order to minimize the primary impact of hearing loss on language development and use, and maximize the social, cognitive, communicative, and linguistic outcomes for each unique child."



20+ Basic Sign Language Phrases



Daily Affirmations with Mr. D



Lining up with their backpacks and ID badges! Take a look [HERE](#) at Mr. D's daily affirmations with the group!

Morning Circle Time



Ms. Margot reading during morning circle time. Many books will have to do with transitioning to Kindergarten to get our young learners thinking about their big move.

Updates from St. Michael's School and Nursery.



ST. MICHAEL'S
SCHOOL AND NURSERY, INC.

contributed by Danielle Hawkins,
Director of Curriculum & Supervision

Greetings from St. Michael's

We wanted to share some of the fun our rising Kindergartens got in to this week. We are looking forward to a summer full of more fun and learning with our Kindergarten Camp!



Outdoor Exploration

This week our children learned about our wiggly friends, worms, utilizing our Outdoor Classroom. Children got to observe how worms move and even a few brave students touched the slimy worms.

With the help of our Outdoor Curriculum Coordinators, our children created their own wormery using a mayonnaise jar.

Stay tuned for updates on our wiggly friends.



Language Development

"Researchers have pinpointed language development in early childhood as one of the best predictors of later school success and one of the biggest sources of educational inequality." [Read more.](#)

"Most children pick up language naturally, but the way the people around them react can make a difference in how fast their skills develop. Here are a few ways family members and caregivers can help young children build their language skills." [Read more.](#) **ESPAÑOL**

Babies are Saying Less Since the Pandemic

Language Development in Young Children:

"This compilation highlights ways in which parents, families, and caregivers--regardless of income, education level, or home language(s)--can help their child develop language skills and set them on a path to learning." **ESPAÑOL**

Math Talk with Infants and Toddlers

"This brief [online article](#) highlights opportunities to simultaneously develop math and language capabilities with very young children.

One, Two, Buckle My Shoe: Math and Literacy for Preschoolers

"Here are four examples of ways to integrate language and math, in English and Spanish." **ESPAÑOL**

ESPAÑOL



Caregiver Resources

The following articles are from "Baby Talk: Resources to Support the People Who Work with Infants and Toddlers" and "Natural Resources: Free Resources for Learning About and Using Trauma-informed practices." All content is free to be shared or copied.

Experiencing challenging behaviors with young children in your care?

The [Family Routine Guide](#) "can assist family members and caregivers in developing a plan to support young children who are using challenging behavior...Once caregivers understand the purpose or meaning of the behavior, they can begin to select strategies to change the behavior...by selecting prevention strategies, teaching new skills, and changing the way they respond to eliminate or minimize the challenging behavior."

MINDFULNESS

"Infants whose mothers participated in a [mindfulness-based program](#) during pregnancy had healthier stress responses at 6 months old, a new study found. This is the first study to show that a prenatal social intervention may improve health outcomes in offspring. It is really well established that maternal stress in pregnancy increases the risk for health problems in children."

"Resources on Infant and Early Childhood Mental Health

"A new topic page from the Early Childhood Technical Assistance center provides a set of free, curated resources that address the social-emotional well-being of young children from birth to five. [Read more.](#)

"Are you looking for ideas and new activities?"

"[Download this assortment of suggestions](#) for games and activities to do with children of different ages, from 6 months up to adolescence...that promote child-caregiver bonding and build children's brains through play."

"Crawling, cruising, walking.

Once a baby is up and moving, they are a force to be reckoned with. Here are some tips on how to balance the dual roles of safety officer and fellow explorer." [Read more.](#)





Paternal Influence

HEAD START

The use of the term "father," consistent with [Head Start protocol](#), refers to 'fathers and other men who play a significant role in raising a child. This person may be a biological father, adoptive father, or stepfather. He may be a grandfather, another adult male family member, a foster father, a guardian, or significant other.'

[Birth to 5 Father Engagement Guide](#), "designed to help early childhood program staff learn how to build strong, meaningful and authentic relationships with fathers. [Read more.](#)

ESPAÑOL

"A companion collection of three archived Fatherhood Connection webinars is also available [here](#).

ESPAÑOL

Parental Influence

"New research findings indicate that the ways in which infants at six months of age are parented exerts an influence on children's sleep quality, which, in turn, is associated with aggressive behavior in early childhood." For a summary of the research, [click here](#).

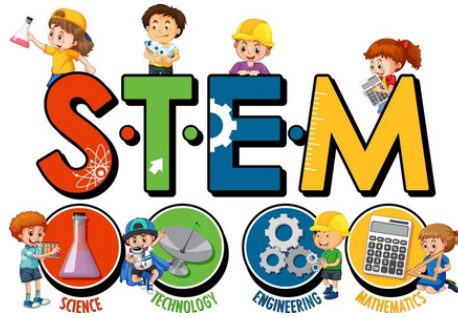
Please share any of the resources from this newsletter with your staff, colleagues, and families. If anyone is interested in receiving the newsletter, please have them contact Lisa Miller, lmiller@deaeyc.org to be added to the mailing list.

More Caregiver Resources



NAEYC Resources

- "The [NAEYC position statement](#) on developmentally appropriate practice (DAP) highlights core considerations that should inform the decisions of early childhood educators. Rather than viewing development as a single measurement or domain, DAP reminds us to consider the intersections among commonality in children's development and learning, individuality reflecting each child's unique characteristics and experiences, and the context in which development and learning occur. This [issue](#) shares examples of intersections across these and other dimensions."
- "'[How Do You Spell Butterfly?!](#)' [Connecting Play to Content Learning](#)'-- This NAEYC article provides great examples on the ways in which play may be the vehicle for engaging children in ways that advance critical thinking and content knowledge...look at the pairings the author has provided: painting and literacy, water and measurement, blocks and symbolic representation, and more."



[STEM Storybook Reading for Infants, Toddlers, and Young Children](#)

"One of the greatest recent gifts to family members and early childhood educators is the set of storybook materials from the STEMIE project." On the [website](#), choose a book title; from there "you'll discover ways to access the story in alternate formats (online, video), prompts for exploring the STEM (science, technology, engineering, and math) and language concepts in the story, ideas for reading the story together, and guidance for adaptations to support each young child, including those with disabilities."

[Would You Like to Contribute to this Newsletter?](#)

We are looking for contributors for content in the following areas:

- TEACHER HIGHLIGHTS
- CENTER/PROVIDER HIGHLIGHTS
- PROGRAM EVENTS
- LOCAL ADVOCACY
- PARENTS' CORNER

Send your contributions to Lisa Miller
lmiller@deaeyc.org

THANK YOU!

