

PROVIDER'S

FOCUS Magazine

October/November/December 2017

a quarterly publication for early childhood care and education professionals

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Biting, Timeout & Toddlers Pg 06

A commonplace but emotional issue every provider should be ready to address

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New regulations you should know about



EARLY LEARNING
COALITION OF HILLSBOROUGH COUNTY



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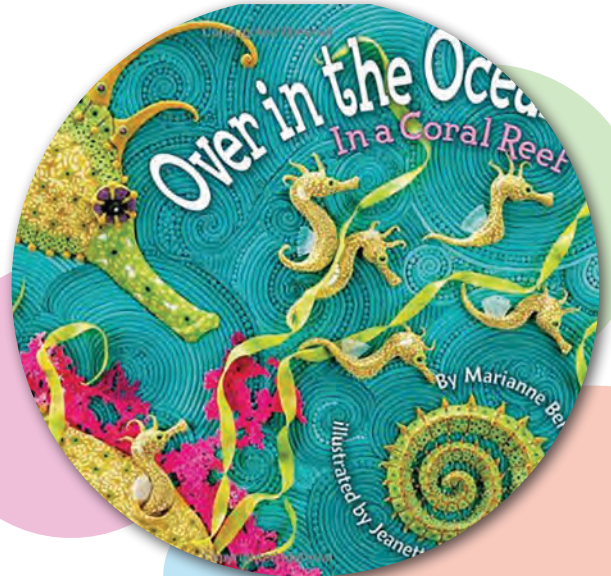
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Providers

FOCUS Magazine

APRIL/MAY/JUNE 2017

INTRODUCTION



The Provider's Focus Magazine is a quarterly publication of the Early Learning Coalition of Hillsborough County (ELCHC). The ELCHC is a non-profit, 501(c)3 organization with its main offices located in Tampa, Florida. The Provider's Focus is printed in limited quantity and distributed across Hillsborough County, Florida. It is also available in digital format at www.elchc.org in the Publications area of the website.

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09 READ FOR THE RECORD

Miss Florida and other celebrity readers help ELCHC Read for the Record.

SUBMISSION INFO

If you would like to submit an article to be included in the Provider's Focus, listed below are the submission deadlines and requirements for the 2017 publication year.

Articles should include the author's name, affiliation and title and be typed, double spaced in 11 or 12 point Arial, Calibri or Times Roman font. Any accompanying photos or artwork should be in high resolution JPEG format (at least 300 dpi) and sent as a separate attachment along with the article (not inserted in the article). Photo releases should accompany any photo submissions. Submit all to twhite@elchc.org by noted deadlines. Please note that submission of articles, information etc., does not guarantee publication.

Submission Deadline	For Issue	Will Hit Mailboxes:
January 10, 2018	Spring 2018 (Jan/Feb/Mar)	Mid - February 2018
April 11, 2018	Summer 2018 (April/May/June)	Mid - May 2018
July 11, 2018	Fall 2018 (July/August/Sept.)	Mid - August 2018
October 10, 2018	Winter 2018 (Oct./Nov./Dec.)	Mid - November 2018



From the CEO **HARD TO SAY** *Goodbye*

It is with great difficulty that I announced my resignation as CEO of the Early Learning Coalition of Hillsborough County on October 16, 2017.

In the 15th months since I came to the ELCHC, we have marked many achievements of which we can be most proud. I have had the amazing opportunity to meet and talk with many of you during my weekly visits to your early learning programs. I leave knowing that the providers in Hillsborough County are extraordinary and very supportive of the ELCHC and its work. You all are committed to providing the highest quality early learning programs to the children and families that we all serve.

During my tenure you have supported the Coalition through various changes in process and procedures aimed at improving how you do business with us and we are grateful for your support. You can rest assured that I leave you to work with an exceptionally dedicated and talented team of professionals who will continue to play an integral role in the everyday running of this successful Coalition.

I will be with the ELCHC until the end of December 2017. Efforts have already begun to secure a new CEO and the provider community should feel comfort in knowing that our Board of Directors will work diligently to find a CEO committed to your continued success and the success of the agency.



Steve





EARLY LEARNING
COALITION OF HILLSBOROUGH COUNTY

FEBRUARY 25

**AL LOPEZ
PARK**

**10 AM to
2 PM**



DAY of PLAY

HILLSBOROUGH'S BIGGEST PLAY DATE

PLAY IS LEARNING! LEARNING IS PLAY!
Bring your family out for a glorious day of play and learn how the simple act of playing can help your child grow and learn. Families with children ages birth to 12 will enjoy a day of live entertainment, prize drawings and plenty of outdoor games. Come and learn about the value of play!

FREE
EXCEPT FOR FOOD TRUCKS

DRAWINGS **OUTDOOR GAMES**

LIVE FAMILY ENTERTAINMENT

FOOD TRUCKS


OVER 50 EXHIBITORS!



OFFICE OF
Early Learning
LEARN EARLY. LEARN FOR LIFE.



Biting is a commonplace behavior among babies and toddlers. They bite their parents, themselves, and other children. Most anyone is fair game. In a child care setting, however, this can become an emotional issue that providers should be prepared to address with parents and the child.



CONTRIBUTOR
Deborah J. Bromley, M.S.

You have a precious 26 month old who is becoming the most energetic, delightful, eager to learn child. She was home for the first 24 months of her life and she seemed ready for entry into a child care center that you have visited, researched and have confidence in. There has been some adjustment but you are comfortable with the progress your child is making and with the social skills she is acquiring. Suddenly, after 2 months, the director of the center and the teacher are telling you that she has begun to bite other children. The questions now start!

See 'Biting' continued on page 10

Helping Families

find child care as great as their child



EARLY LEARNING

COALITION OF HILLSBOROUGH COUNTY

The Early Learning Coalition of Hillsborough County

FAMILY SERVICES

A FREE SERVICE FOR ALL HILLSBOROUGH FAMILIES

We help all families, regardless of income, identify and select quality early learning programs, connect to local community resources and learn how to engage in their child's early education.



Child Care Listings

Based on information supplied by you, ELCHC Family Services can provide your family with a customized list of child care options that best meets your needs and the needs of your child.



Financial Assistance

Child care is a big household expense. ELCHC Family Services can provide you with information and help with applying for child care assistance and exploring other financial assistance options.



Resources & Information

We can help connect your family to local resources that may be able to assist with other needs such as housing, food, or utility assistance. Call us -- we're here to help.

 (813) 906-5041

FIND OUT MORE ON OUR WEBSITE AT WWW.ELCHC.ORG

OFFICE OF
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ELCHC PROVIDERS FOCUS MAGAZINE
elchc.org Oct./Nov./Dec. 2017



We Went Quackers During READ FOR THE RECORD

Quackers was the word for the day on October 19, 2017 all across Hillsborough County. The Early Learning Coalition of Hillsborough County (ELCHC) spearheaded a local Read for the Record® event which impacted over 11,584 children in Hillsborough County!

Read for the Record® is the world's largest shared reading experience - bringing together millions each year in classrooms, libraries, community centers and homes to read the same book on the same day. The event highlights the importance of building early literacy and language skills for EVERY child, so that all children have the opportunity to enter kindergarten prepared to succeed which is what the ELCHC is all about.

The Coalition is worked with all of its 800+ VPK classrooms to read this year's campaign book Quackers by Liz Wong on Thursday, October 19, 2017 at 10 am. The ELCHC provided a copy of Quackers to each VPK classroom and engaged all of ELCHC's VPK teachers, a host of volunteers and some special volunteer readers like Miss Florida, Sara Zeng and local volunteer 'celebrity readers' like Bob Conigliaro of Caspers Company McDonald's Restaurants and Doris Linville of MyOn Reader, to read to children in VPK classrooms throughout Hillsborough County!

Many of you joined in on the fun and posted photos of your individual Read for the Record® events! Thank you and we look forward to next year and having an even larger impact!





'Biting' continued from page 7

Why is she biting?

Should I feel guilty because she is in child care now?

How do I handle this? How can the child care center handle this?

Is "Time Out" an option for an infant or toddler who is biting?

Why is this not happening at home?

Good questions! Lots of theories out there!

In early childhood, we look at behaviors from a developmental perspective. That means that age, developmental milestones and expectations are factors. That also means that every child develops at their own pace. So what can we do? Biting is a behavior that does need to be addressed as immediately as possible and as efficiently as possible. Let's look at recommendations out there and find ways to set those boundaries and establish ground rules for such an emotional topic.

Research shows that your questions are valid. Biting may happen for a variety of reasons and understanding why may be the key to understanding what to do. Our job as parents and child care providers is never easy. Behaviors like biting happen when you least expect it.

WHY IS MY CHILD BITING?

Take a step back and look at the current situation your child is in realistically. If your child is still learning to express herself and does not have the vocabulary to communicate what she is thinking and feeling, this may be one way of getting her needs met and expressing her feelings and frustration. If your child appears

to communicate and learn through sensory exploration, biting may be exploring how something feels and tastes by the natural action of using her mouth and teeth to do this. There is a physical sensation to biting and chewing that may be a factor. Your sweet child may have seen another child bite or may actually have been bitten by a peer and imitation or copying the behavior may be evident.

Often the reaction to biting can be dramatic and this may have an impact on how to get attention from others. If your child is learning how to play with others and is uncertain about obtaining a toy that someone else has or keeping a toy that another child wants, biting may be an impulsive move to get the toy or keep the toy. Biting can be as simple as a lack of self-regulation during those times when she is tired, hungry or even bored.

SHOULD I FEEL GUILTY OR RESPONSIBLE NOW THAT MY CHILD IS IN CHILD CARE AND HAS STARTED BITING?

It is difficult to know that your child may be frustrated and not getting her needs met so she has started the behavior of biting.

Keep in mind that feeling guilty is our issue and our reaction should be more of one about understanding and preventing situations rather than feeling guilty or placing blame. Just like addressing biting, we need to be pragmatic and realistic. Our guilt is not helpful in dealing with the behavior. Our plan and action is what is needed at this time.

HOW DO I HANDLE THIS? HOW CAN THE CHILD CARE CENTER HANDLE THIS?

Since biting (when it happens) needs to be handled quickly and efficiently, you should be prepared even if you have not seen it happen yet in your setting. Have a plan in place so that your reaction is thought out and effective. First, remove the child who has bitten from the situation. It is important to be calm and in control. Communicate firmly with eye level eye contact that biting hurts. The Center on the Social and Emotional Foundations for Early Learning recommends using clear phrases, such as "No biting", "Biting Hurts". Be firm but avoid yelling and scolding at this point. This can provide ineffective negative attention and sometimes increase anxiety. If a child is biting when anxious, then





negative attention could lead to an increase in biting or aggressive behaviors rather than a decrease.

Then as soon as possible communicate with the child who was bitten. Demonstrate and model compassion for the child who has been bitten. You can share how sad you are that they are hurting and show the child who is doing the biting that this child will be the focus of your attention.

The goal is to prevent the biting from happening again. The Center on the Social and Emotional Foundations for Early Learning from Vanderbilt University suggests that you start with observation to try to identify patterns relating to what precedes biting and what happens after the bite. They recommend determining when the biting occurs, where it tends to occur and who is bitten. Hopefully, it can be as simple as changing or modifying situations. Often it is not as simple as that and as mentioned before, no two children are the same.

DO I PUT MY CHILD IN TIME OUT FOR BITING?

For infants and toddlers, "time out" is not recommended. Intervention should be addressed individually, as positive as possible, and based on the child's stage of development and needs. For infants and toddlers, we want to prevent and teach appropriate behaviors rather

than reinforce and dramatize inappropriate behaviors. When removing the child who is biting from the immediate situation, it may be necessary to have the child sit next to you while the child who has been bitten is in front or on the other side. It is important to keep the child who bit in close proximity so the compassionate reaction to the bitten child is obvious. This can be a teachable moment that works for the child who is biting and the child who has been bitten. Incorporating scripted stories and visual strategies for teaching appropriate behavior and preventing inappropriate behavior is a positive and effective way of addressing biting without dramatizing and reinforcing it.


WHY IS THIS NOT HAPPENING AT HOME? (YET)

New situations, new environments and new people require adjustment. Home is probably a stable place where you know your child and your child has a comfort level that works. You may even be preventing frustrating situations and anxiety without being aware of it.

THE GOAL

The goal is to eliminate biting and incorporate appropriate choices and behaviors through teachable moments. Children need to have ways for getting attention, dealing with frustration, having their needs met and communicating. Our role, as adults in the environment is to model and demonstrate how to be calm and

in control. Prevention helps and often eliminates the problem. Appropriate responses often minimize the effect and maximize the opportunity for teaching alternative actions. This may be a time to develop an Action Plan that addresses the goal, what steps can realistically be taken, what is needed for implementing the plan and designating who is responsible.

Whether you are a parent or a child care provider, keep in mind that the most valuable component in our life is our children. The way we handle situations can be very important. We need to teach during teachable moments. We need to soothe during times of stress, frustration and anxiety. We need to find ways to prevent inappropriate behaviors and ways to reinforce appropriate ones. We need to embrace our role in all of this and make a difference in the life of a child. 

.....
References:

Responding to Your Child's Bite- CSEFEL-Vanderbilt University; csefel.vanderbilt.edu/documents/biting-parenting_tool.pdf.
G. Dunlap, L. Fox., M.L. Hemmeter, P. Strain (August 2004). The Role of Time-Out in a Comprehensive Approach for Addressing Challenging behaviors of Preschool Children. The Center on the Social and Emotional Foundations for Early Learning. Vanderbilt University.



ELCHC Photo Gallery

ELCHC is THE trusted early learning resource in Hillsborough County! Our Board and staff members are in the community advocating for and highlighting the benefits, importance and power of quality early learning!



01 Dr. Steve Knobl, CEO of the Early Learning Coalition of Hillsborough County delivers the Keynote to over 1,000 early learning professionals from across Florida during the annual conference put on by the ELC of Pasco/Hernando. Dr. Knobl's topic: The Power of Play.

02 The current Miss Florida, Sara Zeng joined the ELCHC as a celebrity reader during the ELCHC's Read for the Record® event on October 19th! Miss Florida read the book *Quackers* by Liz Wong to children from a VPK class from Kids Clubhouse.

03 Just two of the participants from the Glazer Museum's annual Toddler Takeover, sponsored this year by the Early Learning Coalition of Hillsborough County. Children and their parents engaged in full week of activities and special sessions specifically targeted to toddlers.

04 The ELCHC conducted a food drive to benefit the families served by Metropolitan Ministries this Thanksgiving season. We are happy to report that ELCHC collected over 300 pounds of food that will go to families in need. Thank you to all who donated!

05 ELCHC Board member Carlos Del Castillo, with Spectrum Communications, discusses the finer points of dinosaurs and outdoor play with an early learner during a recent visit to Children's Nest Hyde Park location.

06 Due to a wonderful donation from Support the Troops, Inc., of 800 toddler Halloween costumes, the ELCHC was able to spread the joy of imaginative play by sharing these costumes with its partners to get them to children who might not have been able to have a costume! Thanks go out to Champions for Children, United Way Suncoast and the Children's Board Family Resource Centers for helping distribute the costumes!





02



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2018 CELEBRATE LITERACY WEEK

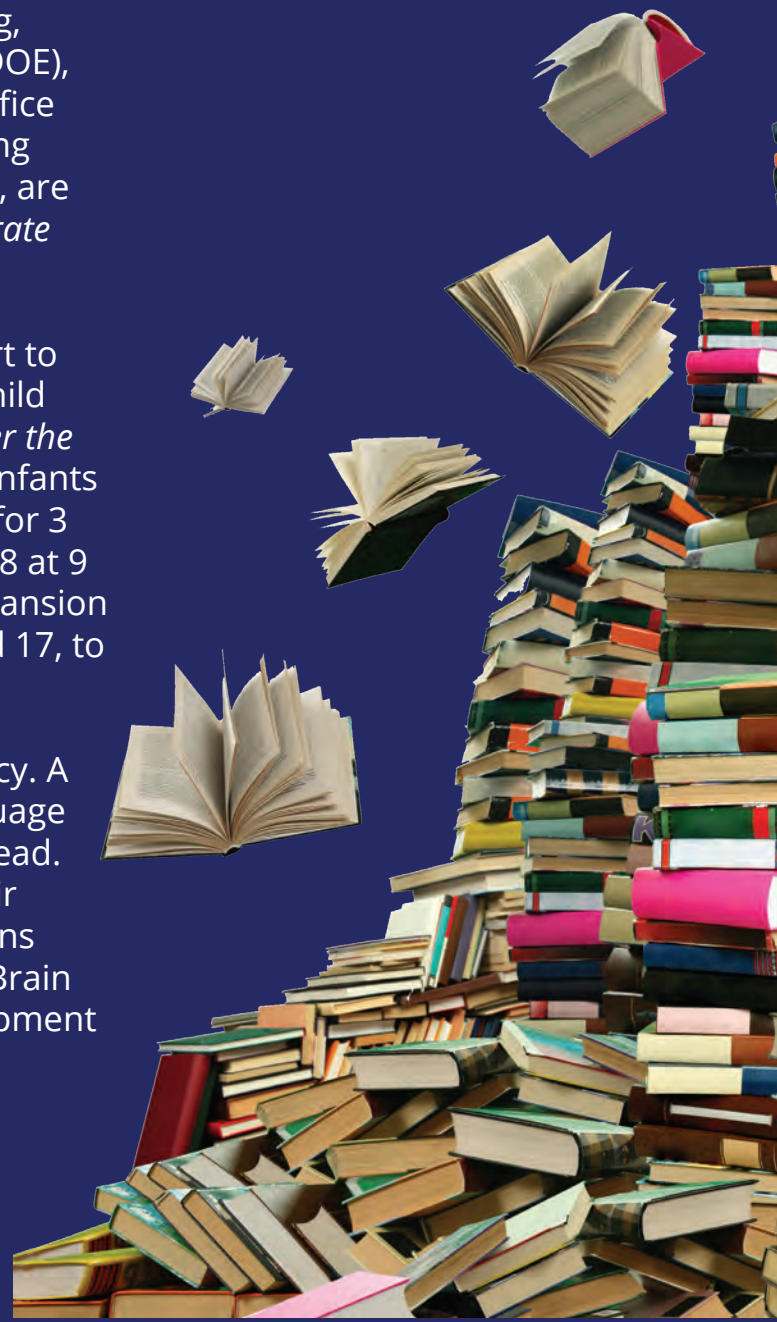
JANUARY 22 - 26, 2018

EARLY LITERACY - POTENTIAL STARTS HERE

The Just Read, Florida! Office of Early Learning, and the Florida Department of Education (FLDOE), in partnership with other FDOE offices, the Office of Early Learning, school districts, early learning coalitions and numerous other state agencies, are announcing the tenth annual statewide *Celebrate Literacy Week, Florida!*

Early learning providers can support this effort to promote literacy in their centers and family child care homes by reading the selected book, *Over the Ocean in a Coral Reef* by Marianne Berkes for infants and toddlers, and *Big Al* by Andrew Clements for 3 to 5-year-olds on Wednesday, January 24, 2018 at 9 am (EST). We encourage providers to use expansion activities, which are provided on pages 16 and 17, to enrich the experience for students.

The foundation for reading is built from infancy. A child's early experiences with books and language lay the foundation for success in learning to read. When you read, talk or play with children, their brains are stimulated and build the connections that become the building blocks for reading. Brain development research shows that the development





**CELEBRATE WITH US BY READING
ON WED., JANUARY 24TH AT 9 AM**



of language and literacy skills begins at birth and reading aloud to children every day increases their brains' capacity for language and literacy skills.

Reading a book to young children is not only one of the best activities to stimulate language and cognitive skills, but it also builds motivation for reading along with curiosity and memory. The more words parents use when speaking to their infant, the greater the size of the infant's vocabulary.

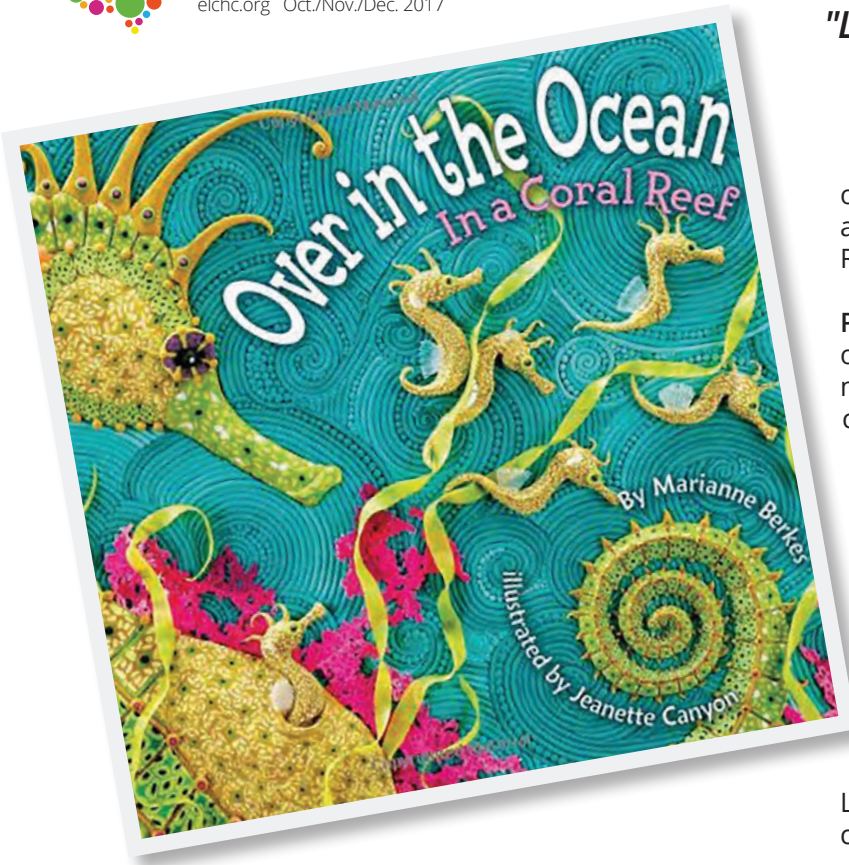
What can providers and families do to provide early literacy experiences for children.

- Hold young children on your lap or close to you. Read an age-appropriate book and engage in back-and-forth dialogue about the words and pictures.
- Engage in repeated sequences of interactions between you and the children. Point out something on the page and ask the children questions like "What's that?" "What's that kitty doing?" as well as open-ended questions.
- Allow children to respond and then provide feedback.

Continued on next page



"Literacy," continued from page 15



or wet, float or sink! (Standards: Cognitive Development and General Knowledge-Exploration and Discovery- Responds in varied ways to people and objects.)

Puppet Time! Use sea creature puppets to sing the lyrics of the story; add body movements to make it a gross motor experience. If you have enough puppets, each child can play and dance to the lyrics of the song with their puppets and learn the movement fish do in the water! (Standards: Language and Communication-Listening and Understanding-Gains meaning through listening.)

Look Around! Find real pictures of sea creatures, laminate them (if possible) and place them around the room at child eye level or on the floor for children who are crawling. Let the children explore the room and find the pictures while talking to them. Tell the children what you see: "I can see a blue fish swimming in the water!" (Standards: Approaches to Learning-Eagerness and Curiosity-Shows eagerness and curiosity as a learner.)

Infant/Toddler Selection Expansion Activities (Birth to 3-year-olds)

This year's selection for Celebrate Literacy Week is *Over in the Ocean in a Coral Reef* by Marianne Berkes.

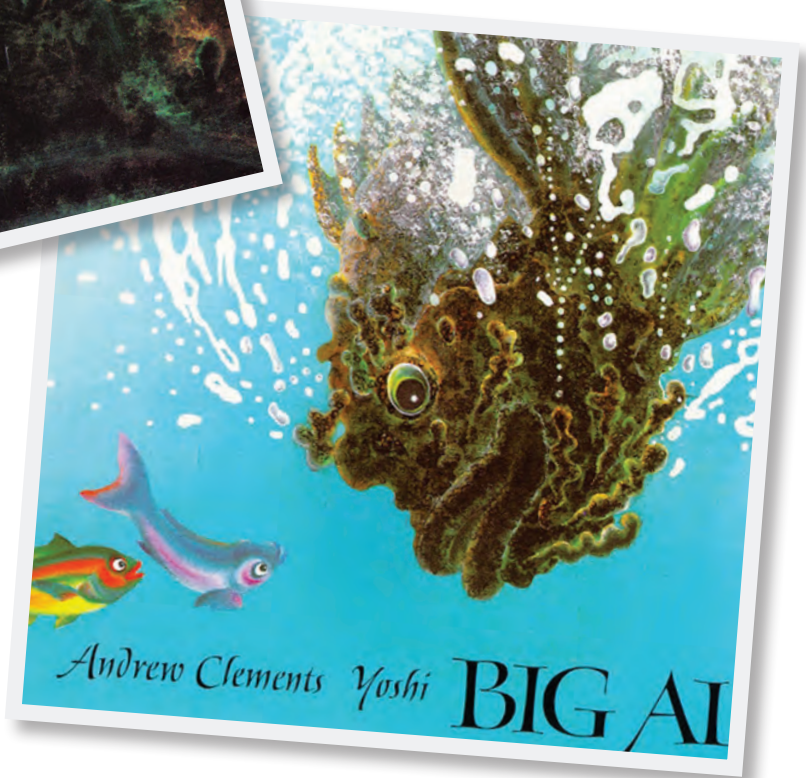
Learning Words! After reading the story and learning about the sea creatures in the book you can play Hide and Seek with toy sea creatures. Hide the toys around the room and encourage the children to look for the creatures and name them each time they find a creature: "You found a fish! You found a seahorse! Tell me what creature you found!" With older children you can use the name of the creatures in the book; "You found a Puffer Fish!" (Standards: Language and Communication-Early Reading-Builds and uses vocabulary with language pictures and books.)

Water Play! Using a container for water play, add water to half of the container, add plastic sea creatures and let the children enjoy the feeling of playing with the toys in the water. This is also a good opportunity to talk about the sensory experience and learn vocabulary and concepts like dry

This coral reef is a marine nursery, teeming with parents and babies! In the age-old way of kids and fish, children will count and sing to the rhythm of "Over in the Meadow" while pufferfish "puff," gruntfish "grunt" and seahorses "flutter."

Note: Words can be sung to the children's song, "Over in the Meadow."





Preschool Selection Expansion Activities (3 to 5-year-olds)

This year's selection for Celebrate Literacy Week is *Big AI* by Andrew Clements.

Draw AI! Read the story to children the first time without showing the illustrations. After reading, ask children to draw/color a picture of what they think AI looks like based on the story. When the children have finished their drawings, show the pictures of AI in the book. Ask the children how their drawings are the same and different. (Standards: Creative Expression through the Arts-Creates visual arts to communicate an idea Language and Communication-Emergent Reading: Demonstrates comprehension of text read aloud.)

Let's Measure! Provide books about different kinds of fish and the ocean. Talk about the different fish and how big they are. Have rope/string available so children can measure how long the fish are. For example, how big is a shark compared to the guppy in the classroom fish tank? Ask the children how big they think Big AI was. Have them use the rope/string to show how big he was. What about the other fish that Big AI wanted to be friends with—how big were they? (Standards: Mathematical Thinking-Measurement-Engages in activities that explore measurement.)

Let's Share! Share with children that the class is a "family of friends" having similarities and differences. Highlight similarities and differences within the class by using a graph for yes and no answers. Graph the following: 1. Family Differences - Who has brothers and sisters? 2. Food Preference Differences - Who likes pizza? (Could be another food), etc. Discuss graphing results. (Standards: Mathematical Thinking-Measurement-Represents and analyzes data. Social and Emotional Development-Shows increasing confidence in their own abilities.)

Big AI is a fish who wants to make friends! He tries everything he can think of to make friends, but nothing seems to work! The other fish are afraid of him because he is different. They all think that Big AI is very big and very scary! When Big AI comes to the rescue of the other fish when they get caught in a fisherman's net, they realize what a great friend he really is!





* Update from Hillsborough Child Care Licensing

In October, 2017, the Florida Department of Children and Families, Office of Child Care Licensing adopted new regulation into the Florida Administrative Code 65C-22, and 65C-20., for child care facilities, family child care homes, and large family child care homes. The Hillsborough County Child Care Licensing Office must adopt these regulations into our local Ordinances. Providers can be assured that your local licensing office will be emailing and mailing out a complete summary of all the new regulations in the very near future. In addition, a recent email was sent to all child care providers alerting them to these changes and advising them of upcoming workshops in December for providers to orient them to the new requirements. Providers will also be receiving technical assistance during their upcoming inspections on these new regulations starting in January 2018 and will begin enforcing them during the following inspection.

In addition, the child care community is watching two bills, SB 486 and HB 305, the Child Safety Alarm Act, filed in the Legislature. This act would require alarm systems to be installed in vehicles used by child care facilities and large family child care homes to transport children in care. The purpose is to prevent any child from being left behind in vehicles. In an effort to be proactive, Hillsborough County Child Care Licensing is conducting research into the cost of the alarm systems as well as the installation in the event that the act is passed. Please stay tuned for information from Licensing on this matter.

Hillsborough Child Care Licensing
3152 Clay Mangum Lane
Tampa, FL 33618
(813) 264-3925

Angela Chowning, Manager



EARLY LEARNING

COALITION OF HILLSBOROUGH COUNTY

PROVIDER MEETING

Saturday, January 06, 2018
9:00 am to 12:00 pm

Agenda

- I. Welcome - Karen Perkins, COO
- II. Introduction to the **NEW** Statewide (OEL) Portal: How the New Portal Impacts You!
 - A. Contracts
 - B. Monitoring
 - C. CCR&R
 - D. Finance (Reimbursement & Attendance)
 - E. Ages & Stages Questionnaire (ASQ)
- III. Quality Counts! Updates
- IV. IECP Updates
- V. Special Presentation: MyOn
- VI. ELCHC Communications Update
- VI. Questions & Answers

Special Notes

- In-Service Training Certificates will be given for attendance at this meeting. In order to receive the training hours, attendees must arrive no later than 9:15 am and be in attendance for the entire meeting. Certificates of Completion will be available in the ELCHC online Learning Management System.
- Spanish translation will be available during the meeting. Due to the limited number of translation headsets available, they will be distributed on a first come - first serve basis.
- In order to receive your In-Service Training Certificate, you must register to attend through ELCHC's Learning Management System:
www.elchc.talentlms.com

DRAFT

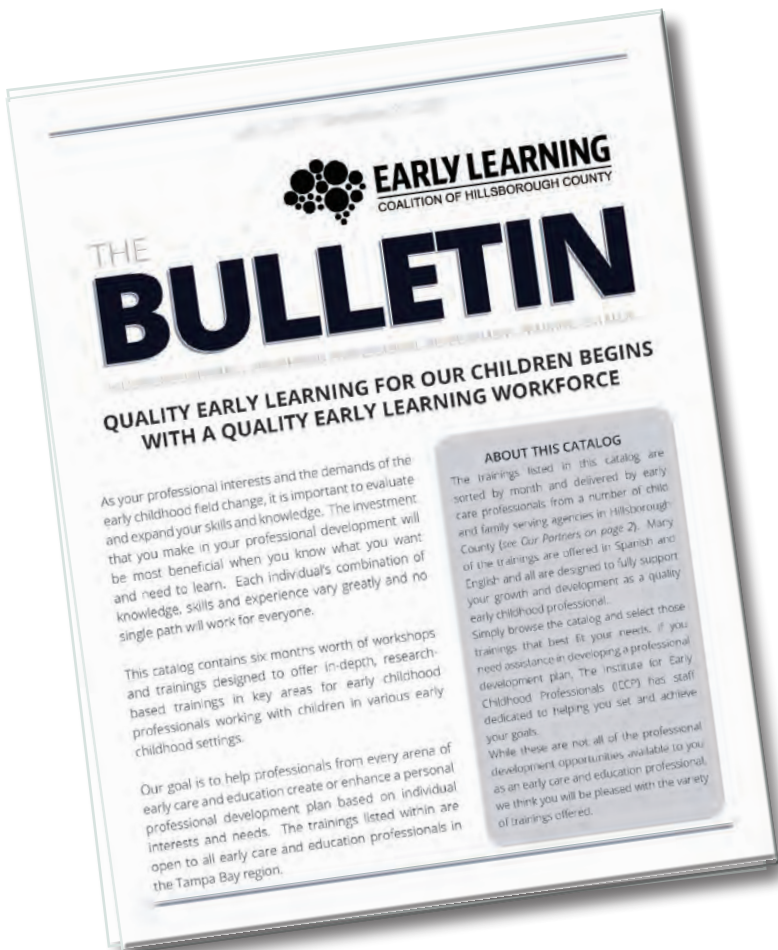


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Stay connected on all our social media channels



The Early Learning Coalition of Hillsborough County has released its training catalogue for the period of January 1 - July 30, 2018!

Be sure to take a look at as you plan your professional development endeavours for the first half of 2018! You can access the listing online or pick up a printed copy from the IECP, your provider specialist or an ELCHC community partner!

#potentialstartshere