



LITTLE BITS

A little knowledge can make a BIG difference to our small learners

EATON RESA EARLY ON

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AFTER A LITTLE BIT OF RELAXATION

Welcome to our April newsletter for Early On ERESA. We hope you were able to enjoy your Spring Break despite the uncooperative weather. We always look forward to continuing services after a good rest. Let's get started!



UPCOMING EVENTS IN YOUR AREA

BECOMING A LOVE & LOGIC PARENT - [REGISTER](#)
4/26/2016 TO 6/7/2016

EATON GREAT START TODDLER TIME - [MORE INFO](#)

- Charlotte: Mondays - 10 AM, ERESA gym
- Eaton Rapids: Fridays - 10 AM, Union St. Center
- Grand Ledge: Wednesdays - 10 AM, Holbrook
- Pottersville: Tuesdays - 10 AM, District Library
- ~~Vermontville: Thursdays - 11 AM, Public Library~~

OTHER LOCAL PLAY & SOCIALIZATION ACTIVITIES
- [ALIVE EVENTS](#)



SOUND BITES - [CLICK FOR SUMMARY](#)

This issue is devoted to communication. Every sound your child makes is communicating something. It is a relief, is it not, when those sounds form words to let us know what our children need or want. Until that day, it is the least fun trivia game ever played by adults. If you want to know if your child's speech is progressing normally, the above link gives you a snapshot of what is considered typical development. Read on for more helpful information.

COMEDY BITS: SOUND THE ALARM



"It's a new medical technology. Instead of crying,
we can program your choice of 200 fun ring tones!"

Our home visits are designed to help you assist your child to progress at a quicker rate and may include the following:

SPEECH INTERVENTIONS: VISUAL AND TACTILE CUES

Your provider may be asked to assist you in learning various visual and tactile cues to show your child the proper way to form sounds for making words. Read [here](#) for more information.

Here is a video for your convenience to practice daily:
<https://youtu.be/3RkeDdWBCLE>

The following article offers more suggestions on how to help your child make the proper mouth formations for various sounds:
<http://ucpinstitute.org/visual-and-tactile-cues-for-speech-sounds/>



BITE-SIZED FACTS



LANGUAGE ACQUISITION: FIRST "SIGNS" OF COMMUNICATION

CLICK FOR A DEMONSTRATION OF COMMON SIGNS

- Sign Language . . .
-
- 1. Helps babies begin talking earlier and initiates spoken vocabulary.
- 2. Offers babies & toddlers a tool to better express their wants and needs.
- 3. Reduces frustration from being misunderstood or having unmet needs.
- 4. Provides a strong foundation for early literacy.
- 5. Helps to stimulate cognitive development.

"More" is less:

The sign "more" is non-specific. A child might start signing "more" very habitually, but more what? More food? Drink? Blocks? This ambiguity does not help reduce frustration as desired. Used in a specific context, "more" is a very effective sign, but it should not be the final lesson.



[Baby Sign Language.com](http://BabySignLanguage.com) recommends the following starter signs: more, mommy, daddy (and other close family members), pets (dog, cat), milk, eat, all done, diaper, happy, book, and the sign for a favorite toy.



Happy
Spring!



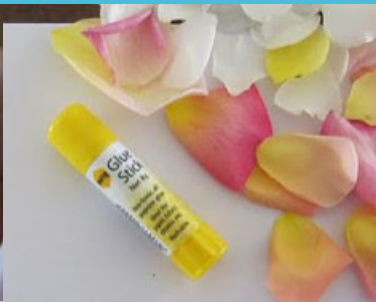
bits of fun

NATURE'S PLAYGROUND

- Nature is the perfect interactive device for developing language and other skills. It is solar-powered, packed with enough variety to meet everyone's interests, is able to accommodate any level of development, and, best of all, it is FREE!



Sound Scavenger Hunt: Gets child attuned to subtle sound variations & refines hearing.
Sensory Exploration Bucket: Utilizes various textures found in nature for tactile input.
Pictures with Petals: Encourages creativity & strengthens self-confidence.
Puddle Play: Does-it-sink-or-float game that sparks curiosity with a dose of science.
Herbal Play Dough (recipe): Non-toxic medium for creating and lifting various textures.



Learning-rich environments are not places you go to, they are experiences you create wherever you are with your child. Whether you are sharing a book, a meal, or a walk, you can make the experience richer by using all of your 5 senses to explore. Enjoy life together!



OFF TRACK

You know how, after buying a new item in a box, you are never able to get everything back the way it came? I experience this every year putting away the X-mas tree. This is how I remember the day the verbal floodgate opened for my toddlers. There are days I wish I could put some words back until they are like 20. ~ Attitudes in Small Packages

Fill this negative space with your most memorable derailed moment by submitting your 50-word story to littlebits@eatonresa.org. Smile every day!