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Spring

NEWSLETTER

2023

Newsletter for Niagara County Child Care Providers, Parents & Child Advocates



March 12, 2023 @ 2:00 AM

Birth to 5 years are the most important years of a person's life. As adults, we don't always think about it but, infants and toddlers are learning so much during this time. They are learning to talk, how to feed themselves, walking, sitting/standing, developing relationships and yes, potty training. This is only just the beginning.

When a baby is born, their brains are gray matter. It's when we talk with them, play, read, that their neuro transmitters start connecting. Our actions, what we do or don't do, can make the difference between a little one achieving their milestones or being developmentally delayed.

It has been a few years, but, at my godson's baptism celebration, there was another infant present. His mom said she doesn't bother playing, talking, etc. with him. He's just a baby. During the celebration, he was lying in a crib (or whatever) like a bump on a log. A guest started to play with him. The little guy "came to life". He started smiling and getting excited, responding to the attention he was receiving.

Kids are little sponges. They absorb whatever is going on or not going on around them. By taking the time to play, talk or read to them, they're learning. They need the interaction of others to develop properly.

One side note: We may not remember an incident that happens when we're young, but our body never forgets.

It matters.

Carolyn ♥



**REDUCE
THE
RISK**



This is the American Academy of Pediatrics “Safe Sleep’ website that has a collection of tools and resources to help pediatricians and healthcare professionals provide education and guidance to parents and caregivers on infant safe sleep. <https://www.aap.org/en/patient-care/safe-sleep/>

Infant Sleep Safety Overview

Sudden Unexpected Infant Death (SUID), which includes Sudden Infant Death Syndrome (SIDS), is the leading cause of injury death in infancy. Sleep is a big challenge for families with babies, but following safe sleep recommendations can prevent many SUID fatalities. Help the families in your practice learn how their babies can sleep safely so parents can sleep soundly.

AAP Recommendations

The AAP provides evidence-based recommendations to prevent infant sleep deaths in the policy statement “Sleep-Related Infant Deaths: Updated 2022 Recommendations for Reducing Infant Deaths in the Sleep Environment.” The evidence supporting those recommendations is outlined in an accompanying technical report.

[Sleep-Related Infant Deaths: Updated 2022 Recommendations for Reducing Infant Deaths in the Sleep Environment](#) (Policy Statement)

[Evidence Base for 2022 Updated Recommendations for a Safe Infant Sleep Environment to Reduce the Risk of Sleep-Related Infant Deaths](#) (Technical Report)

Infant Safe Sleep



Baby sleeps safest alone, on their back, in a crib.

More About the Science

The rate of sleep-related infant deaths declined significantly in the 1990s after the AAP and others recommended that babies be placed on their backs to sleep. However, rates have since plateaued, and SIDS remains the leading cause of post-neonatal mortality. Black and Native American/Alaska Native infants die at rates more than double that of white babies. Pediatricians should support all families in implementing recommendations that reduce the risk of sleep-related infant death:

- Place infants on their backs for sleep in their own sleep space with no other people.
- Use a crib, bassinet, or portable play yard with a firm, flat mattress and a fitted sheet. Avoid sleep on a couch or armchair or in a seating device, like a swing or car safety seat (except while riding in the car).
- Keep loose blankets, pillows, stuffed toys, bumpers, and other soft items out of the sleep space.
- Breastfeed if possible and avoid smoking.



Kelly Janese ~ Infant & Toddler Technical Specialist



Container Baby Syndrome: How Equipment Can Hinder a Child's Development

As a parent or caretaker of an infant, you are undoubtedly aware of the numerous equipment options available for babies. Swings, bouncy seats and car seats are just a few of the products available and advertised to help babies and families. Extended time throughout the day in any or a multiple of these items may lead to issues currently referred to as ***“Container Baby Syndrome.”***

An infant container is any device that limits movement of a baby and includes:

- Infant carriers such as slings and packs
- Nursing pillows or cushions
- Floor seats, car seats and high chairs
- Jumpers or walkers
- Infant swings

Time in a container can quickly add up throughout the day if a child rides in a car seat, falls asleep in a swing, sits in a high chair then stands in a baby walker or other such equipment. Switching from one container to the next reduces the amount of time and ability for a baby to kick, turn their head side-to-side, wiggle and move as a baby is supposed to do in order to develop the needed strength and coordination to learn new skills such as rolling over, sitting up, crawling and walking.

While many of these products make parents feel the baby is working on these skills by standing in an activity center or sitting in a floor seat, containers actually prevent children from sitting or standing in correct alignment and result in an inability to activate important muscles. Equipment can hinder the development of skills and place inappropriate stress on developing bones and joints - placing the child at risk for other injuries.

These issues mean that children who use containers may actually take longer to develop skills such as sitting, standing and walking. When a child is already at risk for developmental delays due to prematurity, Down syndrome, or other medical concerns, overuse of equipment can result in even greater impact and delays for the baby.

Container Baby Syndrome may be identified in a child when issues arise including:

- Delays achieving expected motor milestones such as rolling, sitting or standing
- Flat spots on the head due to lack of movement known as plagiocephaly
- Tightness in the neck from keeping the head turned or tilted to one side known as torticollis

Additionally, some of these equipment options may be unsafe for children resulting in falls or other injuries. The American Academy of Pediatrics has called for a ban on the manufacture and sale of infant walkers in the United States due to concerns for children’s safety while using this equipment.

To allow a baby to develop appropriately and safely, children should follow safe sleep practices sleeping alone, on their backs, in a crib, in a non-smoking home, but then enjoy as much awake, play time on their tummy during the day as possible.

Use of equipment is critical with a car seat when traveling in the car and helpful for a few minutes total during the day to allow a parent to perform tasks that are unsafe with baby, such as cooking at a hot stove. Speaking with a pediatrician regarding any concerns for **“Container Baby Syndrome.”** will ensure your child develops safely and appropriately. Physical therapists may also be able to help with these concerns and improve problems from **“Container Baby Syndrome.”** through stretches, activities for strengthening, and assisting with achieving motor milestones.



Lori Grisez, PT, DPT, is a board-certified pediatric clinical specialist and developmental therapist at Nationwide Children’s Hospital. As a clinical leader, Lori divides her time between patient care and leadership of staff at the main campus location. Lori provides specialty care for patients through serial casting, equipment evaluations, vestibular therapy in the developmental population and in the Myelomeningocele Clinic.



Reminder: Check all carbon monoxide detectors and smoke alarms.

- Are they in working order?
- Do the batteries need to be replaced?
- Do either of these 2 items need to be replaced?
 - Manufacturers have a recommended life span for carbon monoxide detectors and smoke alarms.

What about fire extinguishers? 



Hummus Monster Lunch for Kids

Total time **Calories**
10 min 293

Ingredients:

- 1 Mini Naan
- 2 tablespoons Hummus
- 5 slices Cucumber
- 2 Sliced Olives
- 2 Cherry Tomatoes (halved)
- $\frac{3}{4}$ cup Broccoli Pieces
- 4 Baby Carrots
- 2 wedges Apple



Sources: [Baby Goo Roo](#), [Kids Health](#), [What to Expect](#)

I wanted my toddler to do chores like on Netflix's 'Old Enough!' She now makes mundane chores fun.

insider@insider.com (Jillian Pretzel)



© Provided by INSIDER Jillian Pretzel

Every night after I put my toddler, Elle, to bed, the cleanup begins. My husband and I hurry around the house, putting toys in bins, vacuuming fruit-flavored puffs, and wiping sticky fingerprints off tables, walls, and kitchen cabinets.

But after watching "Old Enough!", the Japanese series where toddlers go on errands by themselves, I was inspired to teach my almost 2-year-old daughter to start chipping in. After all, if those Netflix-famous tots could go to grocery stores and fish markets, maybe mine could clear her plate.

As it turns out, household duties can be an important part of childhood development. The American Academy of Child and Adolescent Psychiatry has found that **chores** can promote self-esteem, teach responsibility, and teach young kids how to deal with frustrations.

So, while I'm not yet comfortable handing my toddler a flag and sending her to a store, I know that even the smallest kids can do important work.

Kids want to help

Teaching a toddler to do anything new can be challenging, so I assumed getting Elle interested in **chores** would be difficult. But kids, especially the youngest ones, are naturally interested in their caregiver's activities.

I started to do little tasks, such as putting toys away and folding laundry, and asked her to join in. "Come on, honey, let's put these blocks in the bin," I'd say. I'd show her how to do the task and sometimes gently guide her hand to get her started.

I'll admit that she isn't *always* keen on **chores**. Sometimes she decides she'd like to play with whatever toy I'm putting away. But usually, she sits down next to me when I tidy up, grabbing her blocks or dolls and tossing them into the toy box, happy to help.

There are a lot of chores little hands can do

One of my biggest challenges in **chore** training was convincing myself that most jobs weren't too difficult for my toddler.

There's a lot a toddler can do. At the grocery store, I instruct her to grab groceries from low shelves and put them in the basket. When we get home, she carries light grocery bags with nothing breakable in them into the kitchen. When I want to wipe down the table, I put a damp sock on Elle's hand, and she cleans right along with me. If I hand her a cup of cat food, she'll run over to refresh our pet's bowl. She even helps out in the kitchen, standing on a toddler stool and using a wooden, child-safe slicer to cut her own apples.

As "Old Enough!" viewers likely know, toddlers aren't always 100% successful when it comes to their tasks. The kids on the show don't always bring home the right items or the right amount. And similarly, my toddler's "cleaning" doesn't always make the house tidier. Her version of wiping up spilled ice cream usually spreads rainbow sherbet around the living-room floor. Watering our house plants usually results in more water outside the pot than inside.

But I'm not encouraging my daughter to help with **chores** because I'm hoping to lighten my load. I want to get her used to doing these tasks so that she has a sense of pride in our home, develops self-esteem, and has a strong work ethic.

Doing **chores** is also great bonding time

While I used to drop my toddler in her playpen as I loaded dirty clothes into the washer, now we do the task together. I bring the hamper to the laundry room, and we take turns putting articles of clothing into the washer. Then, when the clothes are clean, I take them out of the washer, and she tosses them into the dryer.

With my daughter helping, I've found that something as mundane as laundry can be fun. Sure, **chores** with a toddler can take all day, but it's a day well spent.





Making Childhood *Memories* Your Kids Will Cherish: 30 Simple Ideas By Teresa Britton

We can create *memories* our children will take into their adulthood (and ones we'll remember too). In that spirit, we've put together 30 ways to make lasting *memories* with your child.

When you're a new parent, it feels like you have plenty of time to create a childhood full of *memories* for your little one. Ask any parent of a 10, 15, or 20-year-old, and they will tell you something quite different. The time goes way too fast. Looking back, you always wish you could recapture those precious early years. The saying, "The days are long, but the years are short," is absolutely true.

We can't stop the march of time, but we can make the time with our children count. Making childhood *memories* our little ones will take into their adulthood (and ones we'll remember, too) really isn't a matter of grand gestures or fancy vacations. In that spirit, we've put together 30 easy ways to make lasting *memories* with your child.

1. Have breakfast in bed.
2. Have an indoor picnic.
3. Do random acts of kindness.
4. Send them a surprise in the mail.
5. Camp in the backyard.
6. Have a tea party.
7. Do late-night stargazing.
8. Build and fly a kite.
9. Have a water balloon fight.
10. Set up a lemonade stand.
11. Build a teepee.
12. Take a road trip.
13. Have a midnight snack party.
14. Make time for dinners together.
15. Play hopscotch.
16. Take pictures.
17. Make a volcano.
18. Make tie-dyed shirts.
19. Cook or bake together.
20. Read together.
21. Have family game nights.
22. Get a hobby you can do together.
23. Build a fort.
24. Have a dance party.
25. Go on nature walks.
26. Run through the sprinklers.
27. Have a garage sale.
28. Keep a journal together.
29. Play hide-and-seek.
30. Create a bucket list.



Handprint FLOWER POTS

www.arrowsandapplesauce.com



MomsWhoSave



Easy Flower & Insect Puppets

(Templates included in newsletter)

With warm weather here, it's a great time to make some fun flower and bug crafts! These colorful flower and insect puppets are easy to make with the templates, and your kids will love creating their own stories starring their cute little friends.

This is the perfect project for a rainy day. Get creative, and use these templates to make a garden of flowers and whole families of colorful butterflies and other bugs.

Here are the easy instructions!

How to Make Popsicle Stick Flower & Insect Puppets

Supplies:

1. Colored craft paper
2. Craft glue
3. Popsicle sticks
4. Sharpie marker
5. Pencil
6. Scissors
7. Template (see next page)

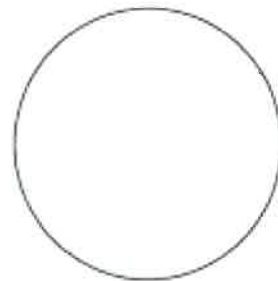
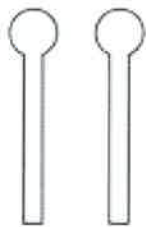
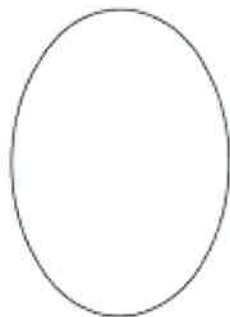


Instructions:

Step 1:

Select yellow, black, red and a few other colored craft papers for the butterfly wings. Using this template, trace the ladybug patterns on black (round base and antennas) and red (wings) paper; trace the bee patterns on yellow (body base), black (antennas) and white (wings) papers. Trace the butterfly patterns on yellow (body base and antennas) and other colored craft papers of your choice (for the wing patterns). Cut out the traced patterns.

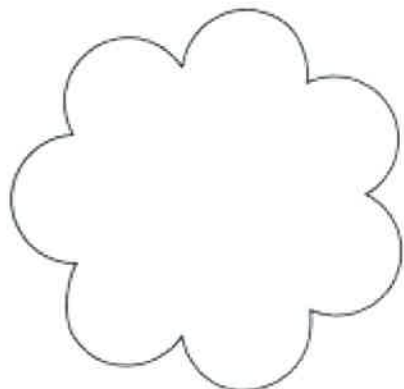
Templates:



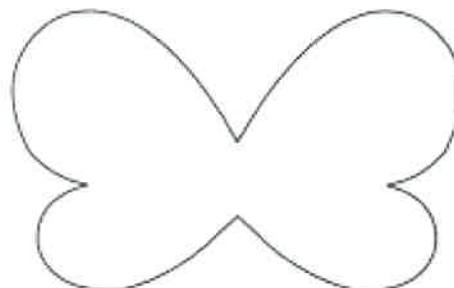
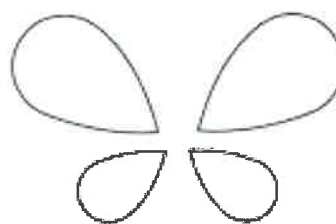
Bee



Ladybug



Flower



Butterfly



butterfly, and ladybug.

Step 2: Attach the antenna cutouts on each body cut out of the bee,



Step 3: Use a black Sharpie marker to draw horizontal lines on the bottom half of the butterfly and bee body bases. Also draw their faces on the top half of the body base.



Step 4: Use a black Sharpie to trace border lines on the bee wing cutouts. Draw black dots on the ladybug wing cutouts and add the teardrop paper cut outs on the butterfly wings.



Step 5: Attach the ladybug wing patterns to the round base. Attach the bee patterns on both sides of the body base, and attach the butterfly body base to the middle of the butterfly wing pattern.



puppets.

Step 6: Attach the paper craft insects to popsicle sticks to complete the



your choice.

Step 7: Trace and cut out flower patterns from colored craft papers of



Step 8: Attach the papercraft flowers to the popsicle sticks.



🌱 Your flower and Insect puppets are done! 🌱



BabyGaga

Safety Precautions To Take At The Playground With Toddlers

Alexandra Sakellariou

The **playground** may seem like one of the safest spaces for children. After all, it was designed with kids in mind, right? But even though it's a child-friendly space, many **playgrounds** can be hazardous if proper precautions aren't taken. According to Kids Health, more than 200,000 kids in the United States are treated in hospitals for **playground**-related injuries each year, many of which could've been prevented.



© Provided by BabyGagaSafety Precautions To Take At The **playground** With Toddlers

Below, we review the safety precautions you should take when visiting a **playground** with your toddler so you can have a safe and fun time.

Tell Your Child The Rules

Before even going to the **playground**, you should have a discussion with your toddler about the rules. Make sure to do it in an age-appropriate way, so they'll understand. The simpler the wording, the better.

- For example, make sure they understand the rules for playing nicely with other kids. This means no hitting or kicking and being open to sharing.
- Additionally, emphasize that your toddler is not to run out of mom or dad's view. You can physically show them the area they have to stay in when you arrive at the park.
- Finally, make sure your child understands how to safely use **playground** equipment. You can explain this to them as they engage with each piece. For example, only go feet-first on a slide, hold on to the railing while climbing ladders, and don't walk in front of someone riding a swing.

Talk About Stranger Danger

It's also important that your child knows the basics about 'stranger danger'. They shouldn't talk to someone they don't know. But nowadays, it's not enough to make your child weary of strangers.

- Emphasize that they should never accept something from someone (like food or a toy) unless mom or dad says it's okay first.
- Likewise, make sure your toddler understands not to go off with someone, even if it's a person they recognize.

With a toddler, there should never be a moment you take your eyes off them at the park. Ideally, you'll be able to see if someone is approaching your child beforehand. But it's still important for your toddler to understand the importance of being on guard.

Look For Park Guidelines

If you're visiting a park for the first time, have a look around to see if you can find any guidelines. Most parks will have rules about staying safe on the **playground** equipment.

They may even have special equipment designated for very young kids. This may include smaller steps and ladders, lower platforms, and shorter slides, which are more appropriate for toddlers as it reduces the risk of injury. Make sure your toddler sticks to age-appropriate equipment, whenever possible.

Beware Of Surfaces

Certain surfaces are going to be more dangerous to your toddler than others. Asphalt, concrete, and gravel can be harsher if your child has a fall. Try to stick to parks that have impact-absorbing surfaces, like turf, rubber, sand, or wood chips.

When this isn't possible, make sure to keep an extra close eye on your toddler and be nearby, so you can help break their fall in case they take a tumble.

Find Protection From Sun

Whenever you're going to be outside with your child, it's important to take steps to protect yourselves from the sun. When you first arrive at the park, identify a shaded area that you can put your things under. If your child needs a break, like for a snack or water, keep it underneath the shaded area.

Additionally, make sure to use an appropriate sunscreen on your toddler and reapply accordingly. Encourage your child to wear a hat, sunglasses, and layers to limit their UV exposure.

Check Your Surroundings

As a parent, it's also important that you're vigilant about your surroundings in the **playground**. When you first arrive, do a visual scan and take in everything around you.

Take note of the people around you and if there's anything left unattended (whether it's belongings or garbage). Since it's a public space, people may have left items you don't want your toddler picking up, like broken bottles.

Additionally, evaluate how the weather may be impacting the **playground**.

- If the temperature is high, the equipment may be too hot for your child. Test out slides and swings with your hand before letting your child sit down.
- Similarly, if it just rained, surfaces may be wet and slippery.
- Caution your toddler to go slow, so they don't accidentally fall.

Keep Your Eyes On Your Kid

Finally, one of the most important things that you should do as a parent at the **playground** is to keep a close watch on your child. For toddlers, it's safest to stand beside or near them as they use the **playground** equipment. This ensures you can offer assistance when needed and prevent a fall before it happens.

Additionally, it also ensures your child is safe from strangers. Remember, a **playground** is a public area, and it can take mere minutes for someone to interfere with your child. Never take your eyes off them.

Common Ways Parents Confuse Toddlers With Their Own Behavior



Parents want to teach their toddlers the rules of how to be respectful to others. Sometimes those methods can actually backfire, however, this is because parents may tell their toddlers to do one thing while their behavior is completely opposite of what that ask is. And due to toddlers learning by example versus what they are told to do, this can be confusing. A confusion that can lead to perceived misbehavior when in reality, toddlers are just mirroring what they see their parents do.

Toddlers learn behavior best when they are both asked to do something and witness their parents practice that behavior. Confusion comes when parents practice the "Do as I say, not as I do" approach to parenting. It is not only a parenting style that can lead to the opposite behavior parents want, but behavior that is hard to change. As such, practicing what parents preach is a much better tactic when trying to instill good behavior in toddlers. And much less confusing to boot.

Here are common ways that parents confuse toddlers with their own behavior.

Changing Screen Time Rules

There are days when parents have a lot to do and find it easiest to put their toddlers in front of a screen for a while to hold their attention. As such, toddlers think that they should be able to be on screens when they like. So, when parents tell them "No," it can be confusing.

By having straightforward times that toddlers are allowed on screens, there is no confusion about when television, tablets, or the like can be used. Toddlers may not like being told "no", but they at least recognize there are times when screens can be used. Something that makes for no confusion.

Giving Empty Threats

Empty threats are a way to not only confuse toddlers, but also make them recognize that when parents say they are going to be consequences, there usually are not any. And this can be confusing when discipline does not materialize.

If parents are going to make a threat of consequences, they need to follow through. This will keep their authority intact and let toddlers know that, if they do not do as asked, there will be appropriate consequences.

Providing Empty Bribes

Bribing toddlers to do things or have a particular behavior and then not following through on those bribes will make toddlers not trust parents. And when trust is gone, it is hard to rebuild it.

Empty bribes may work a time or two on toddlers. But, when they do not receive anything for doing what was asked, there is no incentive to behave when asked. As such, toddlers will do what they like and may even have worse behavior when empty bribes are presented consistently.

Expecting Respect But Not Showing It

If parents want to get respect from their toddlers, they need to provide the same to them. After all, regardless of age, if respect is not consistent on one side of the relationship, it will not be given on the other.

According to *Villa di Montessori*, when **respect is given to toddlers, there is trust built**. The trust allows toddlers to see that they are valued. And because of this, toddlers will begin to mirror the same behavior back to their parents.

Lying While Telling Toddlers To Be Truthful

Toddlers may begin to lie around the age of two years of age, according to *Scholastic*. The reasons that they lie vary. But, regardless of whether they are told to stop lying or not, if they witness their parents lying, the behavior will continue.

It does not matter if white lies or big whoppers are told. If toddlers witness what is being said to another individual by their parents as something that is not the truth, they will begin to believe that is proper behavior. When this happens, toddlers will lie more. And as a result, it can become hard to know when toddlers are lying or when they are being truthful.

Tell Toddlers To Be Active But Not Be Active With Them

Staying active is healthy for all members of the family. But when toddlers are told to burn off some energy and parents are unwilling to participate, there is no motivation to do so.

By being active, toddlers will see that it is just a normal part of daily life. As such, parents may not even have to tell their toddlers to go outside and run around as it has become a learned behavior. A behavior that will be hard to teach if all parents do is sit on the sofa and watch television.

Expecting Toddlers Not To Yell When Yelling At Spouse

For spouses that communicate by yelling, toddlers will witness the behavior and see it as normal. As such, when they yell and are told not to, confusion will ensue.

According to *Healthline*, when parents yell, it makes kids more prone to **aggression, anxiety, and depression**. As such, when communicating with a spouse or toddlers, yelling should not be done. It only confuses toddlers and perhaps frightens them, all while teaching them a behavior parents do not want them to do.

Telling Toddlers Not To Hit But Parents Spank Them

Spanking is a hot-button topic of conversation. Some parents swear by it, while others call it abuse. Regardless of which side of the coin parents fall on, what is true is that telling toddlers not to hit but spanking them confuses them about hitting.

According to *Parenting*, when trying to teach toddlers not to hit, **spanking them only reinforces that being physical with hands is the way to resolve situations**. And because parents do not want their toddlers to hit, they may want to reconsider spanking as a form of punishment.

Interrupting Toddlers When They Talk

Teaching toddlers not to interrupt is a process that can last into later childhood years. And a surefire way to make teaching the lesson to not interrupt longer than it needs to take is to interrupt toddlers as they speak.

To instill that waiting to speak until someone is done is polite, parents should not interrupt toddlers when they talk. Instead, they should let toddlers complete their thoughts before saying what they need to say. Something that may be difficult to do but necessary nonetheless.

Expecting Toddlers To Listen But Not Listening To Them

Parents want their toddlers to pay attention to them when they speak. But if they do not listen when toddlers speak to them, toddlers have no incentive to do what is asked of them.

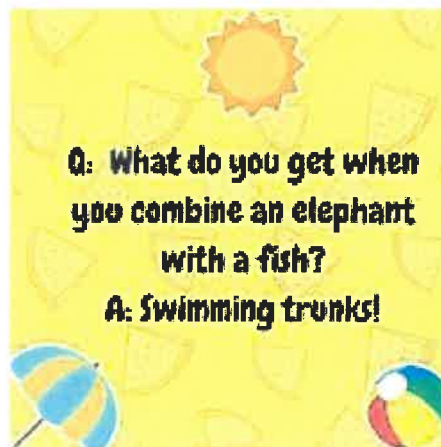
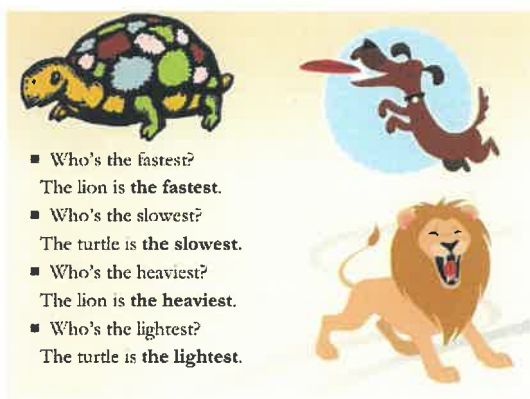
By listening to toddlers when they speak, parents are showing respect to toddlers by giving them their full attention. **A behavior that when modeled consistently, will teach toddlers to do the same.**

Source: [Villa di Montessori](#), [Scholastic](#), [Parenting](#), [Healthline](#)



"No fair! — Emily's finding Easter eggs with a GPS!"

WHAT DID THE ZERO SAY TO THE 8?



LUNCH BOX Fruit Jokes

Make lunch extra special!

Why was the strawberry so upset?



Because it was

Why did the banana go to the doctor?

Because it wasn't 'peeling' well!



What do you give a lemon that has been hurt?



Lemon-Aid!

What kind of fruit can fix your sink?



A Plum-ber!

Why did the orange stop half-way across the road?



Because it ran out of juice!

Why did the orange go out with the prune?



Because he couldn't find a date!

What do you call an apple that plays the trumpet?



A Tooty Fruity!

What are twins' favorite fruit?

Pears!





Niagara Community Action Program, Inc.



Do you need help paying for heating **OIL**?

For households which are responsible to pay for their home heating **OIL**, there is funding available to help you with the cost.



For more information or to make an appointment, please contact:

Jaquinda Smith
716-282-4375

Documentation needed:

- Oil bill
- Proof of Income
- Identification



Poverty Guidelines:

- Guidelines are for heating oil assistance only.
- Funding is available through May 31, 2023.

Household/ Family Size	200% Poverty Guidelines
1	\$29,160
2	\$39,440
3	\$49,720
4	\$60,000
5	\$70,280
6	\$80,560
7	\$90,840
8	\$101,120
9	\$111,400
10	\$121,680
11	\$131,960
12	\$142,240
13	\$152,520
14	\$162,800



Niagara Community Action

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Infant & Toddler Specialist:	Kelly Janese
Infant Toddler Mental Health Consultant:	Jameelah Masaed
Legally Exempt:	Debbie Perricelli Donna Striffler
CC Referrals:	Carolyn Jacobs
Technical Assistance/Legally Exempt/ CC Supply Specialist/Referral Counselor:	Chatanna Black

Mission Statement:

Niagara Community Action Program, Inc. is a countywide agency dedicated to reducing poverty in a collaborative effort by initiating and conducting programs of self-sufficiency. Our ultimate goal is to empower individuals and families to reach their fullest potential.

Office Closings:

- April 7
- May 29

Contact Information:

Community Child Care
Clearinghouse of Niagara
1521 Main Street
Niagara Falls, NY 14305

Phone: 716-285-8572
Toll Free: 1-800-701-4KID (4543)
Fax: 716-285-9693
E-mail: ccrniagara@niagaracap.org
Web: www.childcareofniagara.com

Facebook:

<https://www.facebook.com/CCRandR/>



DO YOU HAVE:

- a screaming child,
- a disgruntled parent, or
- a curriculum which isn't working for you?

We're here to help if you have a curriculum which isn't working for you, a disgruntled parent or a screaming child.

We know these are just a sample of the issues you may face as a child care provider. If you would like help with these or any other problems in your child care program, contact:

- ❖ For children ages 6 weeks up to 3 years, contact Kelly Janese at 716-285-8572 option 7
- ❖ For children ages 3-12 years, contact our office at 716-285-8572

We will come into your program to observe and assess. We then will help you by providing technical support, trainings and create a quality improvement plan.



Provider Update Forms

Provider update forms were mailed in February. If you have not returned yours, please do so as soon as possible. If you need another update form sent to you, please let me (Carolyn) know. A voice message or e-mail is sufficient.

Available child care slots throughout Niagara County have not changed. So, please keep our office informed of any openings you may have.

If you know of anyone interested in becoming a child care provider, please refer them to our office. There is a required video to be viewed which may be done online or in our office. (The need for child care is state-wide. If you know of someone outside Niagara County that is interested, refer them to our office. We have the contact information statewide.)

A voice message which is available for calls after hours or e-mail is usually sufficient. So, yes, you can call our office at 3:00 AM. 🍀

Phone: 716-285-8572 ext. 109 or option 2
or toll free at 1-800-701-4543

E-mail: ccrniagara@niagaracap.org