



early
childhood
council
of BOULDER COUNTY

NEWS!

From the Quality Support Program

VOLUME 4, ISSUE 2

MAR / APR 2020

CONGRATS ON
YOUR COLORADO
SHINES RATING!

LEVEL 5
Aspen Center for Child
Development
Longmont

LEVEL 4
Active Louisville Kids
Louisville

DATES TO
REMEMBER

April is Child Abuse
Prevention Month



Visit co4kids.org to
learn more and their
[Prevention Toolkit](#) for
English & Spanish
resources

April 4th
Early Childhood Spring
Provider Symposium
POSTPONED to
October 10

April 11-17, 2020
Week of the Young Child

News

The Week of the Young Child

Established in 1971, the Week of the Young Child is an annual celebration sponsored by the National Association for the Education of Young Children (NAEYC). The purpose is to focus public attention on the needs of young children and their families and to recognize the early childhood programs and services that meet those needs. Here are some themes you can also use to celebrate during the week:

- **Music Monday-** Through music, children develop math, language, and literacy skills while having fun and being active!
- **Tasty Tuesday-** Cooking together connects math with literacy skills, science, and more.
-

- **Work Together Wednesday-** When children build together they explore math and science concepts and develop their social and early literacy skills.
- **Artsy Thursday-** Children develop creativity, social skills and fine motor skills with open-ended art projects where they can make choices, use their imaginations, and create with their hands.
- **Family Friday-** Engaging and celebrating families is at the heart of supporting our youngest learners.

Diverse BookFinder

Do you feel it's important to have a diverse collection of children's books, but don't always know where to start? [Diverse BookFinder](#) is a comprehensive collection of children's picture books featuring BIPOC characters (Black and Indigenous people and People of Color).

Use the [Diverse BookFinder search tool](#) to find and explore children's picture books featuring BIPOC characters. The tool allows users to search by race/culture, gender, religion, immigrant/migrant and more.

Quality Support Opportunities

The Value of Classroom Assessment

March 28 **WEBINAR** or April 25 Boulder
9:00—11:00 am

This FREE training will introduce you to the newly updated version of the ERS tools and explain the theory behind them. The ERS observation tool is used in the Colorado Shines rating process and can be an amazing tool for guiding teachers, staff, and parents toward understanding what high-quality care is.

To register: Visit

<https://form.jotform.com/93176879804170>

Supporting Young Children's Creative Thinking Using Problems They Care About: Engineering Design In ECE

Learn how to support design thinking for children ages 3 through 8 in this dynamic webinar presented by STEM experts

FREE 1.5 hour webinar - can earn 0.2 CEUs for
\$15

Visit [Early Childhood Webinars](#) to register.

Materials Corner: Inspiring Artistic Expression

Preschool 3+ years

Material: paper towel rolls, cloths scraps, textured paper, clay, pipe cleaners, plastic eggs

ECERS-R: pg. 40, 20. **Art - 5.1** Many and varied art materials accessible a substantial portion of the day. * See pg. 7 for explanation of "substantial portion of the day."

ELDG: Fine Motor Skills - 4. Fine Motor Skills: The control of small muscles for such purposes as using utensils, self-car, and exploring.

Toddler 12 months -3 years

Material: finger paints, crayons, variety of brushes

ITERS-R: pg. 38, **Art - 5.2** Individual expression encouraged (Ex. Expectations based on children's abilities; coloring books and ditto pages not used).

ELDG: Emotional Development - 3. Recognition of Ability: The developing understanding that the child can take action to influence the environment.



Family Child Care

FCCERS-R: 17. Art Types of art materials: drawing materials, paints, three-dimensional materials, tools

How Process-Focused Art Experiences Support Preschoolers

Excerpts from NAEYC magazine *Teaching Young Children* by Laurel Bongiorno. [Click here for the full article](#)

Is your goal to encourage children's creativity through developmentally appropriate art experiences? Review the differences between process- and product-focused art to help you get started.

Tips for leading process-focused art

- Approach art like open-ended play - for example, provide a variety of materials and see what happens as the child leads the art experience

- Make art a joyful experience. Let children use more paint, more colors, and make more and more artwork
- Provide plenty of time for children to carry out their plans and explorations
- Let children come and go from their art at will
- Notice and comment objectively on what you see: Look at all the yellow dots you painted
- Say YES to children's ideas
- Offer new and interesting materials
- Play music in the background
- Take art materials outside in the natural light
- Display children's books with artful illustrations, such as those by Eric Carle, Lois Ehlert, and Javaka Steptoe.

The Quality Support Team

Jessica Bennett Knight, MS
Programs Director

720-548-3980

jknight@eccbouldercounty.org

Nicole Wells, AA
Early Childhood Coach

720-548-3986

nwells@eccbouldercounty.org

Nicole Malone, AA
Sr. Quality Support Navigator

720-548-3985

nmalone@eccbouldercounty.org

Tracy Youngdahl, MA
Early Childhood Coach

720-548-3986

tyoungdahl@eccbouldercounty.org

Boulder County CCAP:
ccap@bouldercounty.org
303-678-6014

Office of Early Childhood:
cdhs_oec_communications@state.co.us
800-799-5876

Colorado Shines Support:
cdhs_coshines@state.co.us
pdishelp@cde.state.co.us
844-447-4441
M-F 8:30am-5pm