

Summer 2019

FOUR OAKS CENTER
Greene County Board of DD
www.greenedd.org

Newsletter



Reminders:

Four Oaks Centers will be closed the following date:

Thursday, July 4th, Independence Day

Save the Date:

Thursday, July 11th, Happy Tails Ice Cream Social

Dear Parent/Care Giver,



The Four Oaks Early Intervention quarterly newsletter is sent in two forms:

Some families have chosen to receive it via email and some via standard mail. If you would like to change your preference at any time please contact me, Stephanie Martin, at: smartin@greenedd.org or (937)562-7003.

It is our goal to provide you with the most current and useful information. Therefore, I will periodically email any invitations or reminders for special events that occur throughout the year as well. If at any time you should have a question or topic you would like covered please contact me at the email or phone number above.

Playground Safety

Children must wear well-fitted sturdy, supportive shoes without slick soles when they visit one of our centers or play on our playgrounds. This can help prevent slips, trips and injuries.

Please be sure that little girls wearing dresses or skirts have a cover over their diaper (shorts, etc.). This is necessary to provide a safe, healthy environment for all children. Your child's safety is our priority!

Thank you for your continuing support!

Sun & Heat Safety Reminders



It is that time of year when children love to play outdoors. Here are a few sun and heat safety tips to remember.

If your child becomes sick or queasy from the heat, have the child lie down in a cool, shady spot and give the child fluids (water, juice, etc.). If this doesn't help, seek medical assistance.

Children need constant fluids to avoid heat stress. Water is the best, but lemonade, fruit juices, snow cones and popsicles are also good choices. Avoid caffeinated drinks (pop, tea).

Even if you are going to be outdoors for a short period of time, you need to apply sunscreen. It doesn't take long for exposed skin to become sunburned.

Use a sunscreen specifically for children because the ingredients are less irritating. Sunscreens with the sun protection factor (SPF) of 30-40 are good for young children. Do not apply sunscreen to children under 6 months of age, unless recommended by a physician. Instead, use a sun bonnet or other ways to shade the infant's exposed skin.

(Adapted from Division of General & Community Pediatrics article Cincinnati Children's Hospital Medical Center)



HAVE A SAFE SUMMER!

Letter from the Manager's Desk

Dear Parents,

The school year is coming to an end, it's becoming green again, and summer is right around the corner! This time of year usually has me spending a lot of time doing outdoors activities like biking, gardening, and hiking. This spring has been a little different because my husband and I now have a toddler to share our interests with! It has been eye opening and wonderful at the same time being able to relate to the families in our program about parenting, concerns for your children, and just trying to do the best for them that you can.

As I have been Four Oaks Early Childhood Program Manager for the past year, I have had the privilege to serve the families of Greene County and our amazing staff. With our Primary Service Provider (PSP) evidence-based practices, every family has access to a multidisciplinary Core Team consisting of our Developmental Specialists (DS), Occupational Therapists (OT), Physical Therapists (PT), Speech and Language Pathologists (SLP) and an Early Intervention Service Coordinator. We have also been working closely with other agencies in the area to better meet specific needs such as the Deaf Community Resource Center and The Ohio State School for the Blind. In addition, we have our Program Licensed Social Worker and our Sign Language Specialist on site. I wanted to remind families that you have access to weekly core team meetings that include updates, coaching, and discussion about how to best meet family needs and how to best promote your child's learning and development. Families are welcome to attend, use Face Time, or call in during the portion of the meeting that their child and family are being discussed.

I would like to share more about what Early Intervention is in our county and what visits with your Primary Service Provider mean for your family. As a consultative model, we primarily use feedback from you to guide the visit and to provide coaching and modeling related to your child/family goals. We use natural learning environments to support parents and other caregivers in using everyday activities and the child's specific interests as the source of learning opportunities. Examples of typical activity settings for children include but are not limited to playing in the sprinkler in the back yard, eating a family meal, riding in the car alongside an older sibling who is going to school, walking or riding in a stroller to the bus stop, grocery shopping, playing with a new pet, going on a hike with family and friends, getting ready for bed, playing on a screened-in porch at Grandma's house, a daycare classroom, and the neighborhood playground. A huge portion of the intervention takes place between visits when you are able to put into place the suggestions and strategies that you develop with your primary service provider. You are the key component to your child's success and together with your Early Intervention team, your family's goals are within reach!

I hope to see you all this summer during our Four Oaks Special Event "Happy Tails Ice Cream Social" on Thursday, July 11th from 10am-11:30am at our Xenia Four Oaks location. You won't want to miss this as 4 Paws for Ability will be joining us and there will be ice cream! Please contact your Primary Service Provider for more information about this event.

Take care and remember that we are here for you. We will continue our commitment to offer the best quality services for your child and family.

Jennifer Frey, Early Childhood Program Manager



THURSDAY, JULY 11TH

HAPPY TAILS ICE CREAM SOCIAL

GCBDD, Four Oaks Early Intervention would like to say thank you.

The annual Happy Tails Ice Cream Social is a time to celebrate each of the Children we serve & their Families. We are truly grateful and honored that you have chosen us to walk alongside you.



July 11th

10:00-11:30

Don't miss out! 4 Paws for Ability will be joining us again!

Did we mention: There will be Ice Cream & Puppies?!

Weather permitting, the playground will be open.

We can't wait to see you there!

FOUR OAKS

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(937)562-7000

"I Hear That!"

by Dave Sindrey, M.Cl.Sc. LSLS Cert. AVT

When babies have hearing, they are born into a world of sound along with a bombardment of input from other senses. The sound of their mother's voice is experienced with the touch of mother and the smell of mother and the sight of mother. The sound of the dog drinking is paired with the sight of the dog drinking. At bath time, the woosh of the water is experienced with the feel of the water with the sight of the water. As they are experienced together they become associated. As the baby learns, the sound of his mother's voice will bring with it the memory of her touch. These bundles of associations that go with the daily experiences of a baby are learned as he starts to make sense of his world. When a baby has less hearing he may have missed some of the chances to add the all important sound that goes with these association bundles. This is especially true for babies who have severe or profound hearing loss and for those who have had to wait for their hearing aids or cochlear implants.

Now that baby has his new hearing through a listening device such as a cochlear implant or hearing aids, there is a simple tried and true technique for parents to use. This technique is designed to help your baby to notice and then to learn the sounds around him. This technique is called the "I Hear That!" cue.

You are with your baby and you notice a sound. If it is a sound that is connected to something your baby is really interested in; even better (eg. Daddy knocking on the door because he is home, the bath running, or the microwave beeping because his bottle is ready). Here are the steps you can now take with any sound you hear and want to point out to baby:

1. Put your finger to your ear and look like you are interested and concentrating.
2. Stay still. Move your eyes but look at nothing. You are pointing out "sound" to your baby. By moving your eyes but looking at nothing, we say "this is not something to look at....Listen!".
3. Say "I Hear That!"
4. Keep your finger to your ear and listen some more.
5. Imitate the sound (eg. if you hear your husband running the baby's bath say "Listen.....shhhhhhhhhhh")
6. Show the baby the source of the sound.
7. Imitate the sound again, Point to your ear and say "I hear that".

Wow....seven steps! Don't worry, they are easy to learn. There are many chances throughout the day for you to practice this with your baby. You can even create more opportunities for listening with a little creative thinking. Set your telephone answering machine to pick up after 6 or more rings. This will give you...



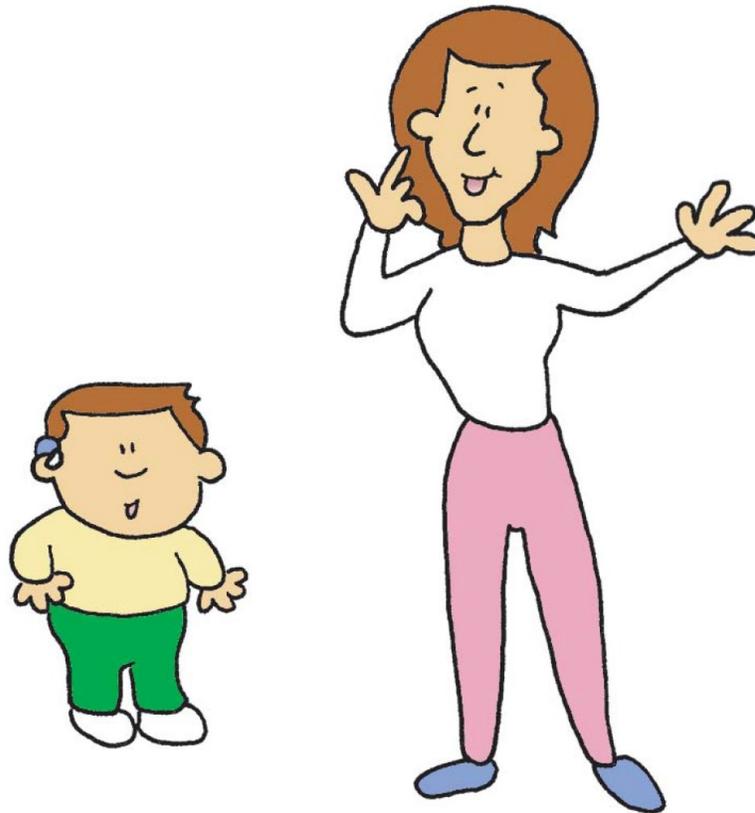
Advanced Bionics

crib notes: 12 to 18 months

continued...

enough time to point out the phone's ring, imitate the ring, take the baby to the phone and to pick up and say "Hello!". The baby's bottle is an important thing to him, so it's a great thing to listen for the microwave "beep beep beep". Some microwaves beep only once and then wait for too long to remind you with a beep later. You can help your baby to notice by putting the bottle in the microwave together and then waiting together in the kitchen together. Don't look at the microwave. This is better because it will keep ringing until you go to it, point out the sound to baby, and show him that the sound means his bottle is ready. When Daddy comes home, he can knock on the door or ring the door bell and wait for Mommy to use the "I Hear That!" cue to help baby find him. It might be even better to come just inside the door and stay there while calling your baby's name. These are just a few ideas. I'm sure you can think of more ideas that will work with your particular home and family.

As your baby learns that sound is connected to meaningful things around him, he will start to listen. He will use sound to understand what is going on. At this point your baby will feel **DIS**connected when his hearing aids need a new battery, or his cochlear implant transmitter falls off. This is an important milestone. Hearing and listening become an important way for your child to connect, through sound, to the world around him.



Advanced Bionics

crib notes: 12 to 18 months

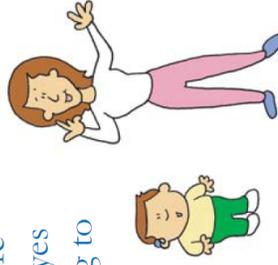
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Cut this crib note out and put it on your fridge as a reminder of what was discussed in this handout....

Crib Notes

STEPS FOR THE "I HEAR THAT!" CUE

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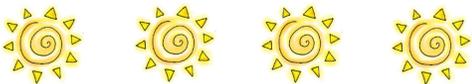
Advanced Bionics

Here are a couple fun recipes to make and play with as a family.
I hope you all enjoy getting messy and making memories.



I LOVE SUMMER!

Cloud Dough Ingredients:
1/4 cup Baby Oil
2 cups Flour



It is suggested that you do both of these activities outdoors as the cloud dough can be as messy as the bubbles.



Super Bubble Ingredients:

1 cup Light Corn Syrup
2 cup Joy Dish Soap (If using ultra concentrated detergent only use 1 1/3cup)