



Quality Infant and Toddler Programs Foster Partnerships with Parents

Parents are the most significant people in their children's lives and serve as first and foremost teachers (Brazelton & Cramer, 1990; Brazelton, 1992). As teachers, we should incorporate frequent communications with parents. A good start is a written system to support clear communication, particularly if parents and teachers do not see each other at the beginning or end of each day. The system should include notes to the teacher about the child's time at home, space for special instruction from parents to teachers, places to record eating, sleeping, diapering, and play behavior, and space to record developmental notes or observations. Teachers have numerous other ways to connect with parents as well.

Parents can be invited into the classroom through pictures, audio tapes, and parent participation activities (Gestwicki, 1996). Teachers can share the day with parents through photographs of children taken during the day and by frequent and regular parent conferences. Telephones and e-mail have simplified communication because teachers and parents can use these technologies to increase communication when they have time during the day.

http://www.earlychildhoodnews.com/earlychildhood/article_view.aspx?ArticleID=206



Tips for Camping with Infants and Toddlers

Parents often hesitate to take infants or toddlers camping but with a little bit of planning and some flexibility, camping is a wonderful experience to have as a family. ♦♦♦♦

Camping is a wonderful, affordable family activity that creates wonderful memories and offers a variety of new experiences for infants and toddlers. Parents are often reluctant to take young children camping but with a little bit of advanced planning, camping can be a special experience that toddlers will love. Camping will encourage a love of the outdoors in toddlers and contribute to a more active and healthier lifestyle in the long term.

Read more at Suite101: [Tips for Camping with Toddlers: Summer Activities for Young Children](http://suite101.com/article/tips-for-camping-with-toddlers-summer-activities-for-young-children)

http://infanttoddlerplay.suite101.com/article.cfm/tips_for_camping_with_toddlers#ixzz0stRleuEb



Recommendations to Promote the Health and Safety of Infants and Toddlers in Child Care

As they develop from birth to age 3, young children rely on the adults who care for them to keep them clean, dry, fed, and safe from harm. As part of its Charting Progress for Babies in Child Care project, CLASP recommends that states promote the health and safety of infants and toddlers in child care. New resources on this recommendation are now available. Users can access a wide range of information, including research to "make the case" for promoting infant/toddler health and safety; a research bibliography; policy ideas for states; state examples; and online resources.

For more on promoting health and safety for infants and toddlers visit CLASP:

<http://www.clasp.org/babiesinchildcare/recommendations?id=0008>

Our Pledge: The KY T/TA State Office pledges to provide timely, current, and interesting monthly newsletters for the Head Start and Early Head Start communities and others interested in the field. In keeping with our mission to be more "green," we will provide our easy to read newsletter via email. We would like to hear from you and encourage your suggestions for newsletter content. Contact the editor: **Joyce Roach**

Mailto: joyce.roach@stginternational.com

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