



Happy Holidays

To:

You and those you hold most dear to your heart!

May you be blessed with beautiful memories.

From:

The Kentucky Training and Technical Assistance Office Staff

Zero To Three

This month Zero to Three Insider focuses on some of the earliest influences on the lives of infants and toddlers. The article below describes some frequently asked questions about children being raised speaking two (or more) languages. Brain research shows that bilingualism is not only possible for young children but can even provide some cognitive advantages.

Early Dual Language Learning

By Fred Genesee

Parents and child care personnel in English-dominant parts of the world often express misgivings about raising children bilingually. Their concerns are based on the belief that dual language learning during the infant-toddler stage confuses children, delays their development, and perhaps even results in reduced language competence. The author of this article describes some of these concerns, reviews pertinent research, and offers suggestions about dual language during the infant-toddler period. [Click here](#) to access this free article now.

Great Online Resource

On our website we have a great resource that provides information on how early language and literacy skills unfold across the first three years of life. [Click here](#) to learn more!

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: Christine Killen

[mailto: @stginternational.com](mailto:@stginternational.com)

STG International, Inc – Member of the Head Start National Training & Technical Assistance Network

Homeless Children and Youth:

Causes and Consequences

The number of homeless families with children and unaccompanied youth has increased in recent years due to the lack of the affordable housing, and compounded by the current economic recession. What are the consequences? What has to be done for better outcomes of children and youth who experience homelessness?

Read [Homeless Children and Youth: Causes and Consequences](#)

Poverty, Trauma, and Infant Mental Health

Alicia F. Lieberman and Joy D. Osofsky

Young children growing up in poverty face chronic risk factors, including abuse and neglect, severe maternal depression, parental substance abuse, harsh parenting, and family and community violence as well as greater exposure to physical risks, including substandard housing, lack of access to resources, and environmental toxins. The authors offer suggestions for raising awareness, providing education and training across systems that serve young children and their families, and developing increased capacity for those professionals in the field of infant and early childhood mental health to respond effectively.

Click here to subscribe to the Zero To Three Journal: www.zerotothree.org