

# Center for Early Childhood Education

## Newsletter

Our Mission: To help all children in Howard County to be successful when they enter school.

Issue 59, January 15, 2009

### Happy New Year

Welcome to the New Year and welcome to all the babies who have been born into our community.



We will start a series on baby's physical development. The information is from the Pathways Awareness Foundation. Typical speech development:  
By 3 months – Sucks and swallows well during feeding  
– Quiets or smiles in response to sound or voice – Coos or vocalizes other than crying – Turns head toward direction of sound; By 6 months – Begins to use consonant sounds in babbling e.g. “Dada” – Uses babbling to get attention  
– Begins to eat cereals and pureed foods; By 9 months  
– Increases variety of sounds and syllable combinations in babbling – Looks at familiar objects and people when named – Begins to eat junior and mashed table foods;  
By 12 months – Meaningfully uses “Mama” or “Dada”  
– Responds to simple commands, e.g. “Come here”  
– Produces long strings of gibberish (jargonizing) in social communication – Begins to use an open cup; By 15 months – Vocabulary consists of 5 to 10 words – Imitates new, less familiar words – Understands 50 words – Increases variety of coarsely chopped table foods.

Material from Pathways Awareness, (800) 955-2445, friends@pathwaysawareness.org

website: www.pathwaysawareness.org

### Survey Results

In November and December, some people who had been a part of our Totes for Tots program for a year or more were asked to complete a survey about the newsletter, The Totes, and the Activity Center. We appreciate their input, and since it was anonymous, we do not know how to get answers back to them, so we are sharing with all of you some corrections to mistaken ideas. Some people thought they could only come on the regular Activity Day which is the second Thursday of each month. However, you may

come any day of the week between the hours of 9 a.m. and 5 p.m. Someone asked if they could request more difficult things for their child's totes. Yes, please let us know any time the totes are too easy or too hard for your child. Also, if you have a special request to help your child with a skill, like knowing colors, counting, etc., write us a note and put it in your tote, or just call us. Another person asked about the cleaning of the bags. We do clean the bags before they are sent out again. We use Lysol disinfect wipes on everything in the bag. Stuffed toys are totally sprayed with Lysol and then dried completely before returning it to the bag. If an item like a stuffed animal, or the bag itself, is extremely soiled, we launder them. We received several good suggestions for articles to be put in the newsletter and we will begin doing that with this issue. One person suggested a Question and Answer column. If you would like, you can e-mail me, msskinne@iuk.edu or call me, 455-9427, with a question. I'll be glad to put it in the next newsletter and supply the answer. The responses by the families who answered the questionnaire were all very positive about the newsletter, totes, and Activity Center. We thank you all for taking the time to complete the questionnaire, and for your kind comments.

### Little Learners Child Care

Did you know that the Little Learners Child Care program on the IU Kokomo campus is open the public? The program serves toddlers (ages 1-2) and preschool children (ages 3-6). Call (765) 455-9306 or email childcare@iuk.edu for more information.



## Chocolate Finger Paint

One 4-ounce package of instant chocolate pudding & pie filling



2 cups of cold milk.

Put pudding mix and milk in a medium size bowl. Beat with electric mixer at low speed for two minutes. Let set until it thickens. Let your child eat some of it, and finger paint on white construction paper or a paper plate with some of it. Let the pudding dry for several hours. Now it's ready to hang up your child's "art work."

## Make a Touch Book

Cut cardboard into same-size pieces.

Put three holes in the left of each piece and tie together with yarn or string.

Put one thing your child likes on each page (rattle, rings, keys) or put food in baggies on each page (M&M's®'s Cheerios®, crackers,) or put things from around the house (cotton, aluminum foil, yarn) on each page.

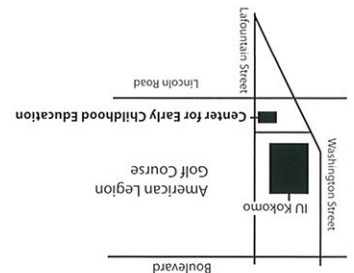
Talk about the items while your child touches them.



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