



LITTLE BITS

A little knowledge can make a **BIG** difference to our small learners

EATON RESA
EARLY ON

FOR MORE INFORMATION

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JUST IN TIME FOR THE HOLIDAYS

Welcome to our holiday edition newsletter for Early On ERESA. It is a busy time of year, but we busy adults are probably still no match for our busy little ones. If only we had their energy to propel us through the holiday season!

UPCOMING EVENTS IN YOUR AREA

9:00 AM to 11:00 AM > Children's Clothing Bank
Wednesdays at Mulliken United Methodist Church

EATON GREAT START TODDLER TIME - [MORE INFO](#)

- Charlotte: Mondays - 10 AM, Southridge, 1st St
- Eaton Rapids: Fridays - 10 AM, Union St. Center
- Grand Ledge: Wednesdays - 10 AM, Holbrook
- Pottersville: not currently active
- Vermontville: not currently active

POLISHING PARENTING SKILLS? [CLICK HERE](#)

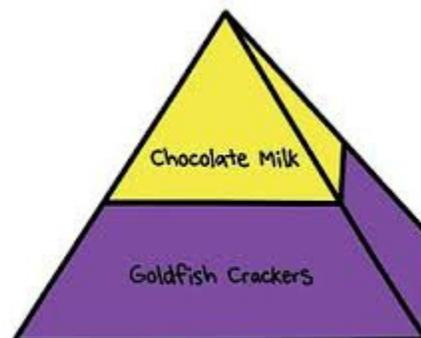
Early On Holiday Event: Southridge 12/20 @ 10:30 AM



OPEN WIDE AND TAKE A
BITE OF THIS MORSEL

Experts used to say you shouldn't give a young child eggs, fish, or peanut products because the child might develop a food allergy, but the latest research from the American Academy of Pediatrics found no evidence of this. Talk to your child's doctor if your family has a history of food allergies and you are concerned. Would you like to know more about what to feed your little ones? Click [HERE](#) for info from a great resource called babycenter.com. Eat up!

COMEDY
BITES:
NIBBLE
ON SOME
FOOD
FUNNIES



TODDLER FOOD PYRAMID

Our home visits are designed to help you help your child progress at a quicker rate and may include the following:



HEARING SCREENING



Sleigh bells ring are you listening?



BITE-SIZED FACTS



At 23 weeks gestation, a baby can respond to noises and may jerk or even begin to hiccup after hearing a loud sound. What should you look for in your child's responses to sound out of the womb? The key to progress is working on listening throughout the day to help your child move through the listening development stages. At the very early stages, the child may be alerting to a noisemaker, environmental sound, or voice (detection). Point out sounds on your shared listening journey. Does the head/eyes follow sounds? The next stage is discrimination. At this level of listening, a child is able to hear and tell when sounds are the same or different. Play matching games with different sounds and use different vocalizations to encourage imitation of different speech sounds. At the next stage, identification, the child attaches meaning to a sound by identifying what object is making the sound or attaches a word to a picture or object when given the verbal label. Take your child on a scavenger hunt, labeling items, so your child has to listen to and understand single words. The last stage is comprehension, the ability to follow single and multi-step directions, answer simple questions and questions about stories heard, as well as participate in conversational exchanges. Keep talking, introducing new vocabulary and phrases, and words with multiple meanings.

ONCE YOUR CHILD STARTS REALLY TALKING LISTEN TO THIS

Is your child accurately identifying the direction from which a sound came?
Does your child respond physically to your speech? Does he or she smile when you use a happy voice?
Does your child appear to hear the high frequency sound /s/, the low frequency sound /m/, and the final letter sound on the end of words? Is he or she babbling different sounds?
Can your child hear the difference between minimal pair words, such as white/wipe or mine/nine?
Is your child accurately identifying words through word recognition tasks ("Repeat the word I say" or "Which word did I say, white or wipe")?

Errors of identification should be shared with your child's doctor, who may refer you to an audiologist, especially if your family has a history of hearing loss or your child has had many ear infections and tubes.

Visit [the link here](#) for more information on how to keep your young one listening.

bits of fun

WHO SAID NUMBERS CAN'T BE FUN?

Fall is not complete without a trip to the apple cider mill. Try this game to tie your trip to learning numbers. You can use a foam die or make one using paper and tape, print the apple outline from the link to the right and use raisins or other small edibles as seeds to count (Goldfish can serve as pumpkin seeds for variety). Have your child roll the die, then count out the correct number of seeds. If older children want to play, try turning it into a game by taking turns to roll the die and counting out seeds. The first one to reach 20 seeds wins! Rolling the die is an attention grabbing activity and grabbing seeds is excellent fine motor practice. Don't forget to label items for practicing listening skills!



Bonus: [Apple Pie Recipe](#)

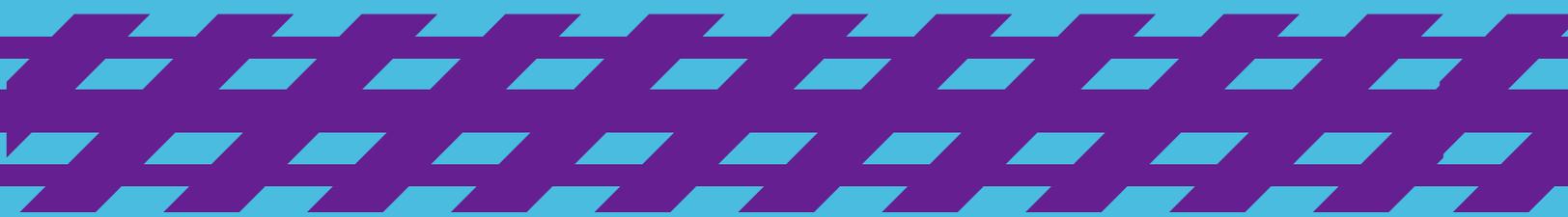
- 4 medium apples, peeled, cored and sliced
- 3/4 cup sugar
- 1/4 teaspoon nutmeg, 1/4 teaspoon cinnamon
- 1/2 stick unsalted butter, cut into bits
- 2 store-bought pie crusts

Place bottom crust in pan. Add apples, sugar, cinnamon and nutmeg. Top with butter, place top crust over and vent with a few holes poked in pastry top. Bake 375 degrees for one hour.

APPLE CHIPS: Slice apples paper thin in rings. Spread on nonstick baking sheet, and bake at 220 degrees for one hour.
~ Curtis Akins, Foodnetwork

Learning-rich environments are not places you go to, they are experiences you create wherever you are with your child. Whether you are exploring sounds or baking an apple pie, you can make learning come to life by asking questions, pointing out similarities and differences, or prompting your child to tell you about a life experience in his or her own words or to draw a picture of what they remember. Have fun exploring together. Learning opportunities are everywhere. Count on it!

Do you have a child approaching 3? Are you looking for a free preschool? [Click HERE](#) for information.



click pic to refer

OFF TRACK

Seeing the activity on this page takes me back to when all of our parents told us that if we swallowed the seeds, the fruit would sprout in our bellies. One of the friends in our group mistook his mother's pregnancy for a cantaloupe!

Fill this negative space with your most memorable derailed moment by submitting your 50-word story to littlebits@eatonresa.org. Smile every day!