

EAGLE MONTHLY NEWSLETTER
EXPLORING AVENUES OF GETTING LITERATE EARLY
AN EMPOWERMENT PROJECT OF FLOYD, MITCHELL AND
CHICKASAW COUNTIES

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*EAGLE is a Literacy Resource Program for individuals working with 0 – 5 year old children.
Its focus is to provide age-appropriate programming for this age group to enhance school readiness skills.*



Did you know that when a baby comes into the world, her brain is a jumble of neurons?

Some of the main circuits have been hard-wired to command basic life-giving functions such as breathing, heartbeat, reflexes, etc. But many trillions more have no direction and await further guidance to make the finer connections within the brain. Each childhood experience, from a tickle on the tummy to a lullaby before bed, wires the circuits of the brain. “Early experiences are so powerful that they can completely change the way a person turns out,” says pediatric neurologist Harry Chugani of Wayne State University. A baby’s brain is a work in progress, trillions of neurons waiting to be wired into a mind...and it is up to parents to finish the electrical work. So what can we do to help hard-wire those circuits?

Spend time with your baby, toddler, or young child. Make eye contact, talk, play, read, and sing. Musical activities stimulate development in every area of the brain. Kindermusik is an activity parents and children do together to provide musical experiences covering all developmental domains – cognitive, physical, emotional, language, and social. Music in and of itself has so many benefits to a child’s growth and development. According to Don Campbell, internationally known educator and author of *The Mozart Effect for Children*, “music enhances intelligence, coordination, emotional expression, creativity, and socialization skills.”

It helps prepare children for math, science, and language. Early exposure and experience with music translates into study skills, communication skills, and cognitive skills that contribute to all parts of life. So spend some time reading and playing with your child, dancing and singing “Ring Around the Rosey.” Not only will you be doing electrical work in your child’s brain, but you’ll have fun doing it.


Kindermusik with Amy Sauke offers classes for ages birth to 3 at the NIACC Charles City Center. To find out more call 641-228-2973 or go online to www.kindermusik.com.



Schedule of Events

**Parents – please post this on your refrigerator as a reminder of these upcoming events.

Key: (TYPE OF EVENT) P/C = Parent & Child C = Child P = Parent DC= Day Care Providers

Floyd County	Mitchell County	Chickasaw County
<p>Tuesday, January 9 at 6:00 PM Family Night at Floyd County Head Start in Charles City. EAGLE will present The Lion and The Mouse. (P/C)</p> <p>Thursday, January 11 Registered Daycare Provider Crate Rotations in Floyd County(DC)</p> <p>Tuesday, January 23 at 5:30-7 PM Our Kids Count meeting at Trinity United Methodist Church in Charles City. EAGLE will present <i>It's Mine!</i></p> <p>Saturday, January 13 at 10-11 AM Nature Tales Program at the Nora Springs Library, presented by Naturalist, Heidi Reams. The topic will be "Tracks." Pre-registration is appreciated for this free program. For more information, please call Heidi at 641-756-3490. (P/C)</p>	<p>Wednesday, January 10 Registered Daycare Provider Crate Rotations in Mitchell County (DC)</p> 	<p>Monday, January 8 Registered Daycare Provider Crate Rotations in Chickasaw County (DC)</p> <p>Wednesday, January 17 at 9:00-5:00 Book distribution at Chickasaw County WIC Clinic in New Hampton (P/C)</p>

Our Kids Count Sponsors EAGLE Literacy Program

EAGLE will present *It's Mine!* at the Tuesday, January 23 meeting of Our Kids Count at Trinity United Methodist Church, 601 Milwaukee Street in Charles City. *It's Mine!* is a story about some frog friends who learn an important message about sharing. Children and parents will participate in movement activities, craft activities, and games in addition to hearing the story. This program and activities are designed for children ages 3-5 and their parents; however, childcare will be provided for younger siblings attending. Each child in the targeted age group will receive a free copy of the book *It's Mine!* for their personal collections. Supper will be provided and pre-registration is requested. To register, call CC Chamber at 228-4234 or Central Preschool at 228-6803. Our Kids Count is an informational support group that meets on the 2nd and 4th Tuesday of each month from 5:30-7 PM at Trinity United Methodist Church in Charles City.



EAGLE Spring Library Programs will be previewed in the February EAGLE newsletter!!