



Early ACCESS  
Wednesday Wonders  
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Welcome to the Early ACCESS (EA) Wednesday Wonders! The purpose of this newsletter is to have a consistent, predictable way for EA stakeholders to stay current on happenings as well as share information with other stakeholders such as practical advice, training announcements, video clips, and/or success stories. It is a newsletter for stakeholders, by stakeholders. Please let me know if you have something you would like to contribute or have suggestions or comments at: [melissa.schnurr@iowa.gov](mailto:melissa.schnurr@iowa.gov)

To view archived Wednesday Wonders, visit the Iowa Family Support Network [website](#).

*Never, never, never give up.* – Winston Churchill

## Wondering about FGRBI?

### Regional Implementation Teams Celebrated & Prepped for Coming Year:

On June 24, 2019, representatives from the regional implementation teams from 8 Area Education Agencies (AEAs) and Des Moines Public Schools came together to celebrate successes from the last six years of [family guided routines based intervention \(FGRBI\) and caregiver coaching](#) implementation. Some of the accomplishments they noted from their work over the last six years included: home visits have moved beyond the living room floor (i.e. providers are coaching families in multiple daily routines), providers are using video for self-reflection, and providers are no longer taking toy bags on home visits (i.e. they are using the families' materials and activities). Teams also spent time planning for the coming year, which centers on supporting Early ACCESS providers in their regions to become internal coaches, to build local capacity to sustain FGRBI practices with fidelity.

## Wondering about Service Coordination?

### Funding Available for Families for Hearing Aids/Audiological Services:

The Iowa Department of Public Health has funding for children in need of hearing aids and/or audiological services for fiscal year 2019-2020 (funding was made possible through an appropriation by the Legislature during the last session). Claims will be processed on a first come, first serve basis – please assist families in completing the paperwork to apply for funds. Visit the [website](#) for complete details.



## In case you were wondering....

### Using Visual Supports with Infants and Toddlers – A Resource for Providers:

Because infants and toddlers may find it difficult to communicate using words, visual supports can provide them with a system for communication while also teaching them important daily activities and routines. Visual supports provide supplemental information, cues, and directions to children who may communicate through their behavior or are unable

*Early ACCESS Vision: Every infant and toddler with or at risk for a developmental delay and their families will be supported and included in their communities so that the children will be healthy and successful.*

to read. [This newsletter](#) describes visual supports that have been used successfully in childcare centers and preschools and shows how they can also be used in the home with younger children.

### **Tip Sheets on Supporting the Development of Self-Regulation in Infants and Toddlers:**

Explore these evidence-based opportunities for caregivers to use co-regulation to support development of self-regulation skills in [infants](#) and [toddlers](#).

### **Is Story Time Better With Print Than E-Books?**

Picking what book to read isn't the only choice families now make at story time -- they must also decide between the print or electronic version. [New research](#) finds that caregivers and children talk and interact less with electronic books compared to print books.

## **Something wonderful is happening....**

### **FREE Webinar – Using Embedded Learning Opportunities to Support Infants/Toddlers:**

The [National Center on Early Childhood Development, Teaching and Learning](#) is hosting a webinar on Tuesday, July 16 from 2-3pm (CDT) about embedding learning opportunities for infants and toddlers with disabilities or developmental delays. It can be a challenge for education staff to provide quality learning opportunities for all children, including infants and toddlers with disabilities or suspected delays. Research shows that embedded learning can be a powerful way to meet this challenge. It is a strategy where early childhood educators, parents, and caregivers provide learning opportunities within activities, routines, and transitions. In this webinar, explore recent research on the effectiveness of using embedded learning to support all infants and toddlers. Register [here](#).

### **Registration Open – Early Learning Fall Institute:**

Registration for the 2019 Iowa Early Learning Fall Institute, *Workforce Behind the Workforce*, is [now open](#)! Join the Iowa Association for the Education of Young Children on October 4-5, 2019 (pre-institute workshops: October 3) in Altoona, Iowa. Visit the [website](#) for additional information and click [here](#) to access the full registration booklet. **Members, review page 12 of the [registration booklet](#) or visit the website for full instructions on how to access your discounted member rate.** Contact Anne Geiger, 515-331-8000 ext. 122 or [anne@iowaaeyc.org](mailto:anne@iowaaeyc.org) with any questions!

For more information about Early Childhood Iowa, visit: <https://earlychildhood.iowa.gov>

For more information about Early ACCESS, visit: [www.iafamilysupportnetwork.org](http://www.iafamilysupportnetwork.org) or contact:

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