



# Sidewalk Chalk

## Monthly e-newsletter

### OUR VISION

All children in Randolph County enter kindergarten healthy & ready to succeed in school and life.

#### In this month's issue:

- Inspirations
- Book Drop
- Racism & Child Development
- Only You by Dan Coppersmith
- Thank You



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"It is the child in man that is the source of his uniqueness and creativeness, and the playground is the optimal milieu for the unfolding of his capacities and talents."

—Eric Hoffer

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## Inspirations

The festive albeit chaotic holiday season can be a perfect time to help young children, even toddlers and preschoolers, learn about their culture. And they're not too young for us to expand these teachable moments to embrace other cultures and the uniqueness that makes us all special.

Children, even at very young ages, carry their culture with them wherever they go—to the child care center, preschool, or kindergarten, for example. Like us, they don't leave their culture or language at home. They take with them all of the unique cultural skills, tools, and knowledge the family has taught them during the early years of life.



That's why it's so important to take a moment here and there during the holidays to talk to your child about why you are celebrating the way you are, or decorating the way you are, or eating the foods you are eating. Share how and when your family began these traditions. Talk about how old you were when you first ate the foods that are now part of every holiday dinner.

Speaking of eating, young children learn best through their senses. Being able to speak, touch, taste, see, and feel their culture makes it that much more real. In addition to talking about the history of a decades-old yam recipe, invite the children to hold an uncooked yam, stir the mixture, see it before and after baking, and taste the finished product.

Then go that extra mile. Help your child “see” and “hear” different cultures and languages in the home by labeling objects in your home in different languages—your native language and one your family may be interested in learning together. What is the word for Christmas tree in Spanish? Or the French word for stocking? Or the Urdu word for snow? Try a recipe or make a craft from another holiday tradition or culture.

Perhaps the easiest way to embrace different cultures and traditions is to take time during the holidays to pause and read a book or two that can help our little ones to start thinking about being part of their own cultures, part of the world, part of humanity! A few good examples of books that are readily available include *We're Different, We're The Same*, a Sesame Street book, *Whoever You Are* by Mem Fox, and *All the Colors of the Earth* by Sheila Hamanaka.

*Lisa Kayworth*

Executive Director  
Randolph Partnership for Children

## Book Drop!



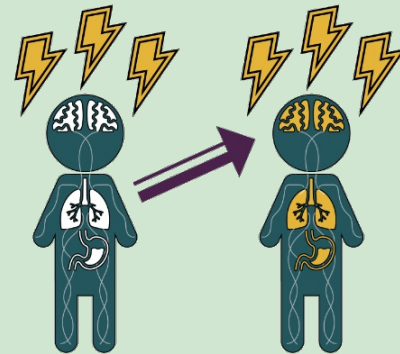
Books are a great way to introduce cultures, places, traditions, and unique stories to children. That's why this month, the Partnership's Child Care Services staff created book bundles for each of Randolph County's child care providers. The holiday treats also included produce bags.

*Pictured from left are Joy Johnson, Scarlet Welborn, Andee Edelson, Meredith Shields, and Patty Sullivan.*

## Racism & Child Development

We know that when stress response systems are activated for prolonged periods of time ([Toxic Stress](#)), a child's longterm health and wellness is compromised.

Researchers at Harvard University's Center on the Developing Child show in a newly released infographic how dealing with institutional racism and structural bias can act as toxic stress, setting up our children for a lifetime of chronic health issues.



As we move forward into 2021, the Partnership will be working to support the efforts of child care providers and our community to eliminate racism and bias. Let's work together to embrace the uniqueness of every child, ensuring they all receive every opportunity to meet their full potential!

[FULL INFOGRAPHIC](#)

Only You

No one on Earth  
Exists quite like you  
And no one is able  
To do what you do

The person you are  
The talents you bear  
Gifts that only  
You can share

Only you have learned  
From the things you've done  
Gaining perspective  
From the battles you've won

Times when you've lost  
Have been priceless too  
The lessons contribute  
To what makes you you

The rest of the world  
Can't see through your eyes  
Which is why your insight  
Is such a prize

Because you are you  
There are lives you affect  
Much more than you  
Would ever expect

The things you do  
The things you say  
Send ripples throughout  
The Milky Way

You're unique, amazing  
Like no one else  
You have the exclusive  
On being yourself.

~ Dan Coppersmith

**Thank You!**



# Together we gave.

## Thank you!

GIVING  
TUESDAY



Your donations & volunteer interest help ensure Randolph County's children enter kindergarten ready to succeed in school and life.

*Thank you for believing in our work.  
Thank you for believing in our children.*

December 1, 2020



## Penciled In

- **Wed., Dec. 16, 11 am:** Family Engagement & Leadership Coalition
- **Thurs., Dec. 24-Mon. Dec. 28:** Holiday/Closed
- **Fri., Jan. 1:** Holiday/Closed
- **Tues. Jan. 5, 1 pm:** Grant Review Committee
- **Tues., Jan. 19, 8:15 am:** Board of Directors
- **Wed., Jan. 20, 11 am:** Family Engagement & Leadership Coalition
- **Mon. Jan. 25 1 pm:** NC Pre-K Committee



[Visit our Calendar](#)

*Help us put kids first in*

## *Randolph County!*

### **Donate**

new & gently used books  
new infant blankets  
diapers

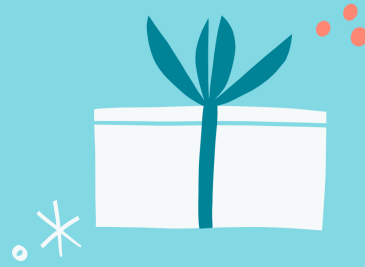
### **Shop**

We're connected with [Amazon Smile](#), so when you shop and select Randolph County Partnership for Children, you're helping to raise money for literacy programs, parent support, early childhood professional development and NC Pre-K right here in Randolph County!

### **Help bring joy this season**

Buy your gifts at AmazonSmile and Amazon donates

**amazonsmile**



**SHOP NOW**

Randolph Partnership for Children | 349 Sunset Ave., Asheboro, NC 27203 | 336-629-2128

**Visit our website**