

Volume 7 | Issue 6 | December 21, 2023



Sidewalk Chalk

OUR VISION

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

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"I can't change the direction of the wind, but I can adjust my sails to always reach my destination."

—Jimmy Dean

The Basics Principles: Unlocking the Power of Shared Book Reading



This month, we're embarking on a journey into the enchanting world of shared reading, exploring its profound impact on children's early development. Whether you have an infant or a preschooler, there's something magical in store for every age group.

Starting with Infants: Building Foundations

Shared book reading is a precious opportunity to introduce your little one to the world of words and images. Early exposure to books lays the groundwork for language development that will shape their future communication skills.

Imagine cuddling up with your baby, flipping through colorful pages, and describing the captivating pictures. It's a simple act that fosters a lifelong love for books and language.

For Curious Toddlers: Nurturing Imagination

Toddlers are natural explorers, and shared reading fuels their inquisitiveness. It's a chance to open doors to new worlds, spark their creativity, and expand their vocabulary.

Beyond words on pages, it's about fostering their imagination. As you dive into stories together, you're igniting their creativity and encouraging them to share their imaginative tales.

Preschoolers: Adventure into Learning

Preschoolers thrive on imaginative adventures. Reading with them isn't just about stories; it's a journey into critical thinking. Ask questions about the plot, characters, and their thoughts, nurturing their problem-solving skills.

Through Read and Discuss Stories, you're providing quality time, nurturing bonds that will last a lifetime. These moments are where laughter and learning intersect.

Unlocking Their Potential

No matter the age, shared reading opens doors to a world of potential. It strengthens the parent-child connection, fosters language development, nurtures critical thinking, and sparks a lifelong passion for books.

For more information see the video below.



So, dive into books with your little ones, discuss stories, and let their imaginations soar.

These principles are stepping stones into the wonderful interactions between child and caregiver that strengthen their bonds. For more information about The Basics Randolph, please click below. If you would like to learn how your organization can help support The Basics Randolph please email [Kim Radcliffe](mailto:Kim.Radcliffe@basicsrandolph.org).

[Visit The Basics Randolph website](#)

The NC Pre-K Application for the 2024-25 School Year is Coming



NC Pre-K application for the 2024-25 school year will open sometime in mid-January.

What is NC Pre-K?

The North Carolina Pre-Kindergarten Program (NC Pre-K) is a preschool program for children who may otherwise not have access to the preschool experience. The program provides preschoolers with curriculum-based, age-appropriate programming that enhances cognitive, social and emotional growth in preparation for elementary school, at no cost to the family. To qualify for the program a child must be 4 years old by August 31 and meet one of the following criteria:

- Family income is at or below 75% of the State Median Income (SMI)
- Child diagnosed with a special need
- Parent actively serving in the military and called to active duty within the past 18 months or who was seriously injured or killed while on active duty

Where Can I Apply?

There are three ways to apply:

1. Apply online.

[Online Application](#)

2. Download and complete a paper application and bring, mail or email it to:
Randolph Partnership for Children
349 Sunset Ave.

Asheboro, NC 27203
hsemmler@randolphkids.org

Application (English)

Solicitud (Español)

3. Pick up an application at one of these three sites and submit it to the site:

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

Early Childhood Development Center
1738 N. Fayetteville St.
Asheboro, NC 27203
336-672-6636

RCS Head Start
118 Virginia Ave./PO Box 487
Randleman, NC 27317
336-672-5570

What Do I Need to Apply?

You must provide the following documentation listed below for your application to be processed.

- Child's Birth Certificate
- Child's Updated Immunization
- Record Verification of Income (4 consecutive pay stubs from both parents in the home or provide 1040 tax forms-ONLY if self-employed for current year)
- Parent photo ID
- 2 bills (water, electric, or cell bill) with your name, address, and showing a current date for proof of residency or your rental/lease agreement
- Child's Medicaid Card (if applicable)
- Guardianship papers (if applicable)
- Child's IEP papers (if applicable)

Without copies of these documents, your application cannot be considered.

If you have any questions, please visit [our NC Pre-K page](#) or reach out to [Heather Semler](#) for more information.

**Community Resource Spotlight:
Randolph County Family Crisis Center**



The Randolph County Family Crisis Center serves people in crisis from domestic and family violence, sexual assault, rape, child abuse, and human trafficking while working to eliminate these issues in our community. The services available included temporary emergency shelter, 24-hour crisis lines, advocacy services, counseling, and much more. All crisis services are free and voluntary.

[Learn more about Randolph County Family Crisis Center](#)

We strive to connect our community members with vital resources. Remember to check out the Family Resource Guide on the Randolph Partnership for Children's website for more valuable information and support.

[**Visit Our Online Resource Guide**](#)

Donation Opportunity:

Turn Your Decluttering Into a Gift of Comfort and Learning!



As the New Year approaches, it's the perfect time to reorganize and make space in our homes. But what to do with those gently loved children's books and cuddly stuffed animals? We have a heartwarming solution!

We're inviting you to bring your gently used children's books to us. Throughout the year, we'll share these treasures with little readers through our Little Free Libraries and at various public outreach events. It's a wonderful way to ignite a love for reading and share the joy of stories with others in our community.

But that's not all! In collaboration with the Kiwanis Club of Asheboro, we're also collecting new and gently used stuffed animals. These comforting friends will be donated to emergency responders, who'll use them to bring solace to children during times of crisis.

Where to Donate?

Drop off your donations at the Partnership office:
349 Sunset Ave
Asheboro, NC 27203

We're accepting donations all year round!

Together, let's transform the act of decluttering into an act of kindness and community support. Your contributions will not only clear up space in your home but also bring smiles and comfort to many young faces.

Happy Holidays



Staff Highlight: Kristy Umfleet



Why Early Care and Education? Well, I'll start by saying I come from a family full of educators. My Dad, Step-Mom, Aunt, Uncle, and Cousin all work or have retired from teaching. I grew up around children and teenagers who were positively impacted by the work that one of my family members was doing. There were always 'students' around! It was just part of my life and experiences growing up.

[Read More at Our Blog](#)

2023: A Year of Working for Children & Families

2023 was a busy year that flew by! Join us in looking back on our accomplishments.



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Penciled In

- **December 26-January 1:** Office Closed to the Public



Visit our Calendar

Help us put kids first in

Randolph County!

Donate



New & gently used books are used for placement in Little Free Libraries and given out at events.

Donations can be dropped off at the Partnership office at 349 Sunset Ave, Asheboro.



New infant blankets are given to families of newborns at Randolph Health Hospital.

Donations can be dropped off at the front desk at Randolph Health Hospital.

[Visit our website](#)

Randolph Partnership for Children | 349 Sunset Avenue, Asheboro, NC 27203

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