

## FALL 2008

*Northwest Regional Key*  
3823 West 12th Street, Erie PA 16505  
800-860-2281 or 814-836-5898  
[www.pakeys.org](http://www.pakeys.org)

### FALL 2008

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Keystone STARS Summer Roundtable FAQs (Insert)

PD Calendar (Insert)

#### Professional Development Days

September 13, 2008  
Pitt-Bradford Campus

September 27, 2008  
Potter Education Council Building

October 18, 2008  
Location TBA

November 1, 2008  
Fall Conference-Success by 6 Tom Ridge Center

November 8, 2008  
Tara Country Inn  
(The Focus is on School-Age Providers)

## Farewell to Darlene Hamilton

Over the past few years Darlene Hamilton has served as the Executive Director for the NW Regional Key. It is with both sorrow and joy that we said farewell to her at the end of July. Darlene has taken a position with the National Child Care Information Service (NCCIC), Child Care Bureau, as a Senior Technical Specialist for Region III. While we are sorry to see her leave the Key, we are glad that Darlene will not be far away from the work we are doing. Since Pennsylvania is within Region III, we will see her as she provides assistance to the state on matters related to early care and education.

Darlene's legacy is the strong

foundation that has been established for the NW Regional Key. Through her hard work and leadership, particularly with respect to building a great team, the NW Key has been recognized for its success in working to build the quality of early care and education—helping child care providers achieve both their professional development and quality improvement goals. To that end, we are grateful for having Darlene with us over the past few years. And, we congratulate NCCIC for acquiring such a highly qualified, reliable, and hard working Senior Technical Specialist.

Joyce Miller, CEO Northwest Institute of Research



**Our Provider Appreciation Day**



## We Hope You Felt Appreciated!!!

### Our Provider Appreciation Day on June 21, 2008

The Northwest Regional Key was proud to host a wonderful day of celebration and learning. Eighty child care providers from sixteen different counties came together in Clarion, PA to enjoy food, fun and recogni-

tion. A relaxed beach theme was evident in the table centerpieces and the music in the air as providers entered the ballroom.

The day started off with the first of two presentations by Meg Maly, a gifted comedian. Meg quickly created a relaxed atmosphere of laughter as she taught the attendees how to better manage the stress levels in their lives.

Following the presentation, the Northwest Regional Key's Executive Director, Darlene Hamilton, shared a little of the history of our Key and how far you, as providers, have come in a few short years. She also shared the story of the starfish, illustrating to the providers present that they

## Provider Appreciation Day Continued from Page 1



Meg made us laugh and she helped us understand that laughter is a very good thing!

can make a huge difference in the lives of the children they teach. Afterwards, STARS Managers gleefully took turns handing out awards to providers from facilities located in their territories. Starfish pins, Keystone STARS water bottles and Keystone STARS flags were distributed, as sites were recognized by STAR level. Vendor and sponsor donated gift baskets were also distributed.

An Italian buffet lunch was served, and providers had an opportunity to visit vendors displaying their wares. Everyone also had a chance to sign a "Thank You" poster for OCDEL and Governor Rendell. Meg came back and closed out the day with more side-splitting humor.

An overwhelmingly positive response, as shared in verbal and written feedback, tells us we should defi-

nitely do this again! Thanks again to all our sponsors: Pennsylvania Early Learning Keys to Quality, The Northwest Regional Key, Lakeshore Learning Materials, Kaplan Early Learning, Company, Sheetz, Inc, Eat'n Park, and Wal-Mart Stores, Inc. Our vendors included: Beauticontrol Spa Products, Mary Kay Cosmetics, Pampered Chef, and Thirty-One Gifts.



### Professional Development Websites

[www.pakeys.org](http://www.pakeys.org)

[www.ecels-healthychildcarepa.org](http://www.ecels-healthychildcarepa.org)  
(self learning modules available)

[www.betterkidcare.psu.edu](http://www.betterkidcare.psu.edu)  
(self learning modules available)

### How to register for Professional Development Events

Log onto [www.pakeys.org](http://www.pakeys.org). At the home page menu (column on the left) click on the last option: "Other Login Options."

- Select Option 4 - "Sign me up!" The system will take you through the steps needed to enter your professional information. When complete, the screen will indicate: "Your login has been set up. Your password has been sent to (your email address)." Exit from the PA Keys website.
- Go to your email inbox and retrieve your password from the PA Key.
- Log back into [www.pakeys.org](http://www.pakeys.org) and this time click on "Login" and enter your name and password (assigned from the PA Key.)
- Once in the system you will be taken to a page entitled: "Welcome to the PA Keys to Quality Intranet Zone!" Click on "Calendar."
- At the "Professional Development Calendar" you may search for any event by knowledge area, date, or zip code. Click "Search Calendar" and then "Submit."
- Once you find an event you are interested in, click on the title to review the program details. If you want to register for this event, scroll to the bottom of the page and click the "Register Online For This Event" button.
- A summary page will appear giving you one last look at all the details for that particular event. Click on "Proceed with Registration" if you wish to attend.

Send your payment and a copy of the detail sheet to the appropriate PD organization. If you do not have the detail sheet, make sure to include your name, event title, and date with your payment.

**NOTE:** Check the event details 24 hours prior to attending. Events can be canceled due to low registration or inclement weather, and at times, locations and dates are changed. The Northwest Key makes every effort to contact registrants. Unfortunately, sometimes the information in the database is not complete or accurate and we cannot reach you. For this reason, we ask that you make sure your professional information in the PA Keys database is correct.

## An Announcement from our STARS Supervisor, Elana Shively

### Realigning the Regional Keys:

The Office of Child Development and Early Learning, with its partners at the Keys, has analyzed the current enrollment patterns and future growth and implementation for STARS and Keys to Quality. Four of the Regional Keys will be realigned starting July 1, 2009.

In the last year, the participation of eligible programs has grown from 42% on July 1, 2007 to 55 % on June 30, 2008. Currently, 5,000 programs are engaged in Keystone STARS. This strong participation provides OCDEL and the Regional Keys with an opportunity to realign the Regional Keys as part of the Continuous Quality Improvement of the system.

### Specifics of Changes:

Tioga, Bradford and Sullivan Counties will move into the Central Regional Key

Bucks County will move to the North East Regional Key

Chester County will move to the South Central Regional Key

The South East Regional Key (Philadelphia, Montgomery and Delaware Counties) will still remain our largest Key with approximately 30% of the state wide total of Keystone STARS participants



## Is there any reason why two experienced educators would need STAR Technical Assistance? The answer is YES

As long-time educators, the owner of The Sycamore Center and I felt comfortable with our experience so that TA was not something we felt we needed to utilize to be successful. However, last year we decided to request help before an ERS assessment. What a benefit it was for us! Since then we have taken advantage of the service before each ERS assessment. Cathy Shabtai has now been out to our center four times, and she is wonderful. She will read over past assessment scores and look for ways to improve low ratings. She has helped us arrange and rearrange classrooms to assure the highest score. Cathy has always been quick to return phone calls and e-mail messages. I guarantee that no center or director will regret using TA and Cathy Shabtai's services.

Sandy Love, Director of the Sycamore Center



## Welcoming A New STARS Manager

The addition of a new STARS Manager means we will be better able to serve our providers.

Bethany Solomon, STARS Manager (Clearfield, Potter, Cameron, and Elk Counties)

Bethany has a B.S. in Child Development/Family Relations from Indiana University of Pennsylvania. She lived in California for the last eight years where she taught children ranging from three years old to kindergarten and has also worked as a teacher for Head Start. Bethany now resides in Curwensville with her two year old son.



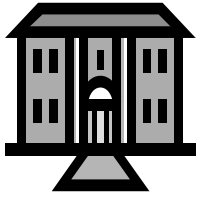
### PROVIDER'S PROSE

*We love hearing from our providers! Share a funny story, a success story or a special tip! Send Lydia a 50-150 word article to her email: [lydiac@nwir.org](mailto:lydiac@nwir.org)*

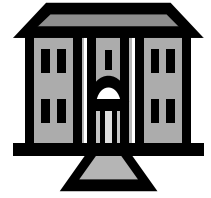


Information about the 2008-2009 Keystone STARS Grants was recently mailed out.

If have you any questions please contact your STARS Manager.



# THE SCHOOL-AGE PAGE



Please Join Us on  
Saturday, November 8, 2008

From 8:30 am – 3:30 pm

For A Professional Development Day Focused on School-Age Care Providers

## Reaching for Quality School Age Care

At the TARA-- Country Inn

2844 Lake Road  
Clark, PA 16113  
(www.tara-inn.com)  
Lunch is Included

Your Host for this event:  
Chuck Lytle, School-Age Program Specialist

Please contact Chuck Lytle by phone (814-836-5898 ext 132) or email (chuckl@nwir.org) if you need more information about this event. We hope to see you there!

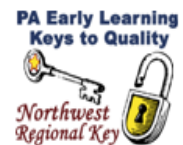
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### FOR THE NORTHWEST REGION ONLY

#### NW SCHOOL-AGE PROFESSIONAL CREDENTIAL – NOW ON LINE!

The on-line school age credential is limited to the counties located in the NW Regional Key. The Pennsylvania School-Age Professional Credential is a competency based program modeled after the Child Development Associate (CDA). It provides individuals working in school-age programs the opportunity to examine their work in relation to the Pennsylvania School-Age Care Competency Standards

Please call the NW Key for a copy of the registration form. Registration fee is \$60.00 which covers the cost of books and the use of the on-line services. We will also meet as a class four Saturdays throughout the course.



Chuck Lytle, School-Age Specialist  
Phone: 814-836-5898 ext 132  
(Please call if you need more information)  
Fax: 814-836-9615

3823 West 12th Street  
Erie, PA 16505



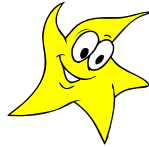
# Celebrating our newest STARS



These facilities demonstrated their commitment to quality by achieving the following STAR designations during the period February 1, 2008 through July 31, 2008

**STAR 4 Accreditation**

- Beaver County Community Services for Children, Inc. - Beaver
- Franklin Child Development Center - Venango
- Hasson Heights Child Development Center - Venango
- Kinder-Care Leaning Center #1278 - Erie
- Little Champs Child Development Center - Crawford
- Penncrest Child Development Center - Saegertown
- St. Benedict Center - Erie
- Tender Care Learning Center - Lawrence



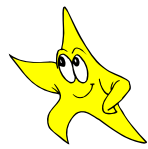
**STAR 4**

- Beaver County Head Start/Bell Tower - Beaver
- Ben Franklin Elementary School Age Program - Indiana
- Butler County Children's Center, Inc. /Bon Aire - Clearfield
- Bonnie Caldwell - Clearfield
- County YMCA - Erie
- Downtown YMCA - Erie
- Erie Homes for Children and Adults - Erie
- Grand Beginnings Children's Center - Indiana
- Head Start Child Care - Beaver Falls
- Homer Center Elementary - Indiana
- Playhouse Children's Center LLC - Jefferson
- Tiny Tot Child Development Center - Beaver
- YMCA/Sarah Hearn Presbyterian Church - Erie
- YMCA Early Learning University - Erie
- YMCA of Greater Erie/Fairview - Erie
- YMCA of Greater Erie/Elk Valley - Erie
- YMCA of Greater Erie/Edison Elementary - Erie
- YMCA of Greater Erie/Wattsburg Elementary - Erie



**STAR 3**

- Apples of Gold Child Care - Erie
- Barb's Care-A-Lot II - Erie
- BCCC Children's Creative Learning Center - Butler
- Butler County YMCA South Butler Primary Site - Butler
- Children's Aid Society in Clearfield - Clarion
- Creative Kids Learning Center - Clarion
- Early Connections City Center - Erie
- Early Connections Union City - Erie
- Forest Green Children's Center - Crawford
- Grand Beginnings Children's Center West - Indiana
- Hart to Hart Child Care Center - Beaver
- Horace Mann Elementary School-Age Program - Indiana
- Kids Korner Day Care-Alan Ave. - Mercer
- Kids Korner Day Care-Shenango St. - Mercer
- Lakeview Montessori - Erie
- Lifesteps, Inc. - Clearfield
- Mary Ann McKenrick-Passmore -Clearfield
- Meridian United Presbyterian Church Day Care Center - Butler
- Montessori Children's House of Erie, Inc. - Erie
- Noah's Ark II - Lawrence



**STAR 3-Cont'd**

- O'Connors Family Day Care I - Lawrence
- O'Connors Family Day Care II - Lawrence
- O'Connors Family Day Care III - Lawrence
- St. Paul's Child Development Center - Erie
- Supenia's Childcare - Clearfield
- The Sycamore Center - Mercer
- Timber Ridge Child Care Center - Crawford
- Julia Toy - Jefferson
- Trinity School-Age Program - Clearfield
- Linda D. Woodling - Clearfield
- Zion Community Learning Center - Mercer



**STAR 2**

- A Child's World Day Care and Learning Center - Erie
- ABC Fun, Inc. - Indiana
- Angel M. Brenner Family Day Care Home - Indiana
- Bonnie's Babies - Crawford
- Brenda Yingling - Clearfield
- Bright Beginnings Child Learning Center - Erie
- Butler County Family YMCA Center Township Elementary School - Butler
- Butler County Family YMCA Infant Center - Butler
- Children's Aid Society Elementary Care - Clearfield
- Children's Aid Society of Mercer Co. Child Care Center - Mercer
- Children's Center of Mercer Co. - Mercer
- Children's Patch Learning Center, Inc. - Butler
- Children's Patch Learning Center, Inc. - Mercer
- Cinderella's Castle for Kids - Venango
- Cornerstone Child Care, Inc. - Crawford
- Crayon Castle Child Care Center, Inc. - Jefferson
- Crayon Club Child Care & Learning Center - Erie
- Cyndi Schloder's Child Care - Elk
- Dr. Gertrude A. Barber Child Development Center - Erie
- Erin N. Cameron - Clearfield
- Ellen Fleming - Clearfield
- Marguerite Hanes - Elk
- Heidi S. Collins - Clearfield
- Heidi's Day Care & Preschool - Lawrence
- Heidi's Day Care Site II - Lawrence
- Holly Krug Day Care - Jefferson
- Jeannie Peoples Childcare - Clearfield
- Jennifer D. Pusey - Clearfield
- Joette Gibbs Day Care - Mercer
- Lisa Jordan - Warren
- K.I.D.S. - McKean
- Kelly Rydborn's Kare-A-Lot - Clearfield
- Keystone SMILES Community Child Care Center - Clarion
- Kiddie Korner Child Dev. Center, Inc. Beaver Site - Beaver
- Kids Choice Community Learning Center - Forest
- Kingdom Kids Nazarene Day Care - Venango



# Celebrating our newest STARS Cont'd

## STAR 2-Cont'd

Linda K. Halfast Family Day Care Home - Crawford  
 Lisa M. Buchwitz Family Day Care Home - Clarion  
 Little Treasures Day Care - Mercer  
 Julia Llvvergood - Clearfield  
 Lollipop U Day Care - Erie  
 Mari Long - Clarion  
 Lora A. Lammers - Crawford  
 Nichole Mattivi - Elk  
 Meadville Children's Center - Crawford  
 Miz Mavis Shannon Daycare - Mercer  
 Gerorgiana Myers - Clearfield  
 Noah's Ark - Beaver  
 Patricia K. Stebbins - Potter  
 Eve Penhollow - Clearfield  
 Ridgway YMCA Child Care - Elk  
 Sandy Luke's Family Day Care - Jefferson  
 Schlosser's Red Balloon-McKean - Erie  
 Schlosser's Red Balloon-McKean Elem. Program Just Ask - Erie  
 Sunshine Kids - Crawford  
 St. Vincent Child Care Center - Erie  
 Charlotte Switzer - Mercer  
 The Learning Tree Preschool/Daycare - Lawrence  
 The Sycamore Center at Fatima - Mercer  
 Titusville Area School District Day Care Center - Crawford  
 Wee Care Child Care - Beaver  
 YMCA Daycare of Corry - Erie  
 YMCA Learning Center - Venango  
 YMCA of Beaver County Child Care - Beaver  
 YMCA/Neason Hill - Crawford  
 Young Environment Learning Center - Erie

## STAR 1

A Child's World Day Care and Learning Center, Inc. - Erie  
 A Mother's Touch Center for Child Development - Mercer  
 Almost Home Day Care - Indiana  
 Almost Home Day Care 2 - Indiana  
 Almost Home Day Care 4 - Indiana  
 Almost Home Day Care 1 - Indiana  
 Always Bettering Children Day Care - Elk  
 Around the Clock Child Care 2 - Erie  
 Betty E. Roseberry Family Day Care Home - Clearfield  
 Betty Polenik - Indiana  
 Blessing From Above Quality Child Care & Preschool - Lawrence  
 Brenda D. Hickman Family Day Care Home - Clearfield  
 Brenda Hotchkiss Miss Brett's In Home Day Care - Erie  
 Bundle of Care - Crawford  
 Children's Enrichment Center, Inc. - Butler  
 Community Christian Day Care - Venango  
 Lori Condon - Clarion  
 Conneaut Lake Child Care Center - Crawford  
 Corry Alliance Childcare and Learning Center - Erie  
 Darlene J. Palmer - Indiana  
 Davies' Developmental Day Care LLC - Beaver  
 Deborah A. Rend Family Day Care Home - Indiana  
 Destini L. McCahan - Clearfield

## STAR 1-Cont'd

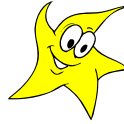
Tammy L. Dixon - Clearfield  
 Dougherty's Daycare - Lawrence  
 Dr. Gertrude A. Barber Center, Inc. Corry Satellite - Erie  
 Dr. Gertrude A. Barber Center-Child Care Center - Erie  
 Dubois Area YMCA - Clearfield  
 Bridget R. Fleming - Clearfield  
 French Creek Valley Christina Child Care - Crawford  
 Gretchen Frye - Clarion  
 Gankosky Family Day Care - Jefferson  
 JoAnn Gazdak - Warren  
 Girard United Methodist Day Care Center - Erie  
 Grove City YMCA - Mercer  
 Heather McFeaters Family Day Care - Mercer  
 Heatherdale and Dorely Daycare - Erie  
 Julie Heitman - Erie  
 Nicole Imbrogno - Elk  
 Jenn's Play Care - Armstrong  
 Kerry Slother Family Child Care Home - Clearfield  
 Kid's Clubhouse Learning Center - Clearfield  
 Kimberly L. Pope - Beaver  
 Rhonda King-Wilder - Mercer  
 Leesa Knight - Clarion  
 Sabrina Krineski - Clearfield  
 Linda Santa Children's Center - Butler  
 Little Dreamer's Daycare LLC - Jefferson  
 Little Hand's Child Care, Inc. - Clearfield  
 Lori Adamson Family Child Care Home - Clearfield  
 Maria K. Yeager - Forest  
 Melinda Finlay Family Child Care Home - Clearfield  
 Melissa Farmery Family Child Care Home - Clearfield  
 Montessori in the Woods - Erie  
 New Castle Community Y Day Care - Lawrence  
 North East Alliance Christian Child Care Center - Erie  
 Partridge Family Day Care Home - Crawford  
 Rhyming Thyme - Beaver  
 Roberta N. Harvey - Indiana  
 Rolling Fields, Inc. - Crawford  
 Ruth M. Smith Day Care Center - Warren  
 Sandra L. Benedict Family Day Care Home - Warren  
 Sands Quality Child Care, Inc. - Beaver  
 Sewickley Valley YMCA State Street Elementary - Beaver  
 Sharon Hallman Group Home - Clearfield  
 Paula Sharrar - Clarion  
 Cheryl Smith - Crawford  
 Somewhere Over the Rainbow - Butler  
 Spark's Imagination - Erie  
 Squiggles and Giggles - Clarion  
 St. Mark Community Day Care, Inc. - Cameron  
 Stay N' Play Day Care - Indiana  
 Stay N' Play Day Care - Indiana  
 Joyce E. Stubbs - Clearfield  
 Sunshine Palace - McKean  
 Supenia's Childcare Center - Clearfield  
 Swartzfager Child Care Center - Clarion  
 Tara Delourmels Little Learners Day Care - Beaver

# Celebrating our newest STARS Cont'd



## STAR 1-Cont'd

- Tender Years Child Care - Beaver
- Vision Early Childhood Center 1 - Butler
- Vision Early Childhood Center Inc. II - Butler
- Weakland's Wee Care - McKean
- Wee Care Child Care Center - Clarion
- Judith Wells - Jefferson
- YMCA Day Care of Clearfield - Clearfield
- YMCA Learning and Caring Center - Jefferson

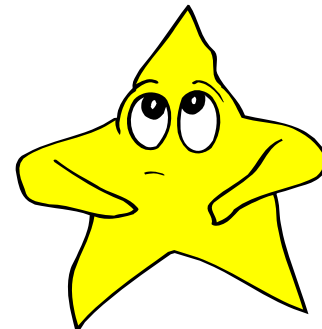
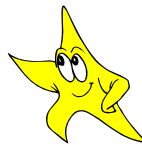


## Start With STARS

- 356 Day Care - Butler
- A Place to Grow, Inc. - Clearfield
- Amanda's Place...Daycare - Clearfield
- Angela D. Broskin Family Child Care Home - Indiana
- Asbury Child Development - Erie
- Beatrice Johnson Family Childcare Home - Erie
- Beaver County YMCA Before/After School Care at Rochester - Beaver
- Belinda Flemings Family Childcare Home - Erie
- Belle Valley Child Development - Erie
- Bright Morning Star - Erie
- Butler YMCA St. Luke's Site - Butler
- Carla J. MacClymont - McKean
- Carlene M. Caban Family Day Care Home - Erie
- Carol A. Maas Family Childcare Home - Erie
- Carrie Jo Fox Family Child Care Home - Venango
- Chestnut Hill Child Development - Erie
- Childhood Treasures of Baden - Beaver
- Children's Imagination at Work - Beaver
- Creative Care West - Erie
- Darlene M. Dickens Family Day Care Home - Erie
- Deborah A. Roberson Family Day Care - Erie
- Debra L. Pierson Family Day Care - Erie
- Della M. Hubbart Family Day Care - Erie
- Dianne M. Irwin Family Day Care Home - Crawford
- Dioanne Crute's Family Childcare - Beaver
- Donna Eicher's Day Care - Mercer
- Dorris G. Walters Family Day Care - Erie
- Early Connections Harbor Homes Early Learning Center - Erie
- Elizabeth A. Pape - Jefferson
- Footprints in the Sand - Beaver
- Forbes Child Care - Beaver
- Goodwine Family Day Care - Erie
- Grandview Child Development - Erie
- Grove City YMCA Child Care - Mercer
- Harbor Care West - Erie
- Jacqueline L. Dorsey's Little People Day Care - Erie
- Jacqueline M. Dipko Family Child Care Home - Clearfield
- Janet L. Nichols Pennies from Heaven - Mercer
- Kelley M. Saulsgiver - Warren
- Michele Kennedy - Clearfield
- Kerrinique M. Easter Family Child Care Home - Erie
- Kingdom Kids Child Care, Inc. - Erie
- Lauren Brady Family Day Care - Erie
- Learn and Play Getaway, LLC - Indiana
- Lifesteps, Inc. - Butler

## Start With STARS Cont'd

- Lil Dreams Day Care - Mercer
- Lisa Peters Family Child Care Home - Clearfield
- Little House Learning Center - Butler
- Little Lambs Fold - Beaver
- Lori Leonetti Family Day Care Home - Erie
- Lorna M. Renforth - Butler
- Lots-A-Lovin Daycare - Crawford
- Lucinda L. Benner Family Child Care Home - Warren
- Maegan L. Matthews Family Day Care - Mercer
- McCullum Family Day Care - Erie
- McLaurin's Fun Time Family Daycare - Erie
- Melanie J. Theiss Family Day Care - Clarion
- Miss Ashley's Just Like Home Day Care - Erie
- Mt. Pleasant U.P. Church Child Day Care Center - Beaver
- Nadine M. Leach Family Day Care Home - Erie
- Nellis Family Child Care Home - Cameron
- Odom Family Daycare - Erie
- Patricia Lee Mick Family Child Care Home - Clearfield
- Peekaboo Playhouse, Inc. - Butler
- Rhonda C. Johnson Family Child Care Home - Erie
- Ridgefield Child Development - Erie
- Roberta J. Green Family Child Care Home - McKean
- Robyn M. Allen Family Day Care Home - Mercer
- Sara D. Johnson Family Day Care Home - Armstrong
- Shannon Shields GDCH - Indiana
- Sharen Hicks Daycare - Erie
- Sheryl Buffington's Day Care and Preschool Palace - Butler
- Stone UMC Children's Center - Crawford
- Tashanna M. Hathaway Family Day Care Home - Erie
- The Learning Village Early Childhood Development Center - Butler
- Tiny Treasures Day Care, Inc. - Beaver
- Vicki Quick Group Home - Clearfield
- Victoria A. Schleicher - Erie
- Walnut Creek Infant and Toddler Child Development - Erie
- Walnut Creek Infant and Toddler Child Development - Erie
- Wendie J. Schreck Family Child Care Home - Venango
- Wolfgang Child Care - Crawford
- YMCA of Beaver County @ Hopewell Memorial Jr. High School - Beaver



## Early Childhood Resources at Pennsylvania's Public Libraries

### *Welcome to your public library!*

You are invited to visit your local library in person or online to explore the many educational, enriching and useful materials and information free to parents, educators, and children.

Many of these distinctive, quality services for early childhood education (birth through pre-K) will be available:

**Books & Audiovisual Materials** including a wide assortment of board books, big books, music, audiobooks, DVDs, computer programs, and more.

**The POWER Library** will take you to online databases & websites where you will find ideas, activities, and research from professional literature available to you 24/7 from any Internet computer.

[Novelist K-8](#) enables you to find titles, reviews, and synopses of age appropriate books on a variety of themes by subject, author, title, or keyword that can be saved on personalized lists.

[DartClix](#) links you to high quality websites on early childhood education.

The [Professional Development Collection](#) and [ERIC](#) offer a fabulous array of information and materials for early childhood practitioners' education.

**Story Times** at your library offer preschoolers an engaging experience with books.

**The Pennsylvania One Book Every Young Child** program selects a pre-literacy book every April that young children across the Commonwealth read. This national award winning program prompts child care centers, pre-schools and libraries to plan events and activities related to the theme of the selected children's book. Part of the "One Book" experience includes interactive, hands-on activities from a traveling trunk that align with Pennsylvania Learning Standards for Early Education.

**Parent and Teacher Resources** are available in book and DVD formats on any number of topics, concerns, and ideas sure to be helpful to parents and early childhood educators alike.

**Brochures** like those listed below are available as well. Just go to your library or online at [www.statelibrary.state.pa.us](http://www.statelibrary.state.pa.us). Click on "Resources for PA Libraries" then "Resources for Public Libraries."

*It's Never too Early: Great Books to Share with Infants and Toddlers*

*101 Great Picture Books for Preschoolers*

*Healthy Bodies: Promoting Good Nutrition and Movement with Preschoolers Through Picture Books*

*Easy things you can do at home to raise readers ...and raise writers*

**Family Place Libraries** have specially designed spaces, programs and resources for children and offer professionally taught parent/child workshops. For locations visit [www.familyplacelibraries.org](http://www.familyplacelibraries.org).

**Teacher Cards or Institutional Cards** extend special borrowing privileges to help meet the unique needs of educators at many libraries.

**Ask** if you don't find what you want.

Public libraries can borrow materials for you from other libraries through interlibrary loan.

Take advantage of the Statewide Library Card program where your library card becomes a passport to other public libraries throughout Pennsylvania.

**Pennsylvania Libraries: Learning Starts Here**

"Your Key to the STARS" is published quarterly by the Northwest Institute of Research.  
NWIR is a nonprofit organization located at 3823 West 12th Street, Erie, PA.