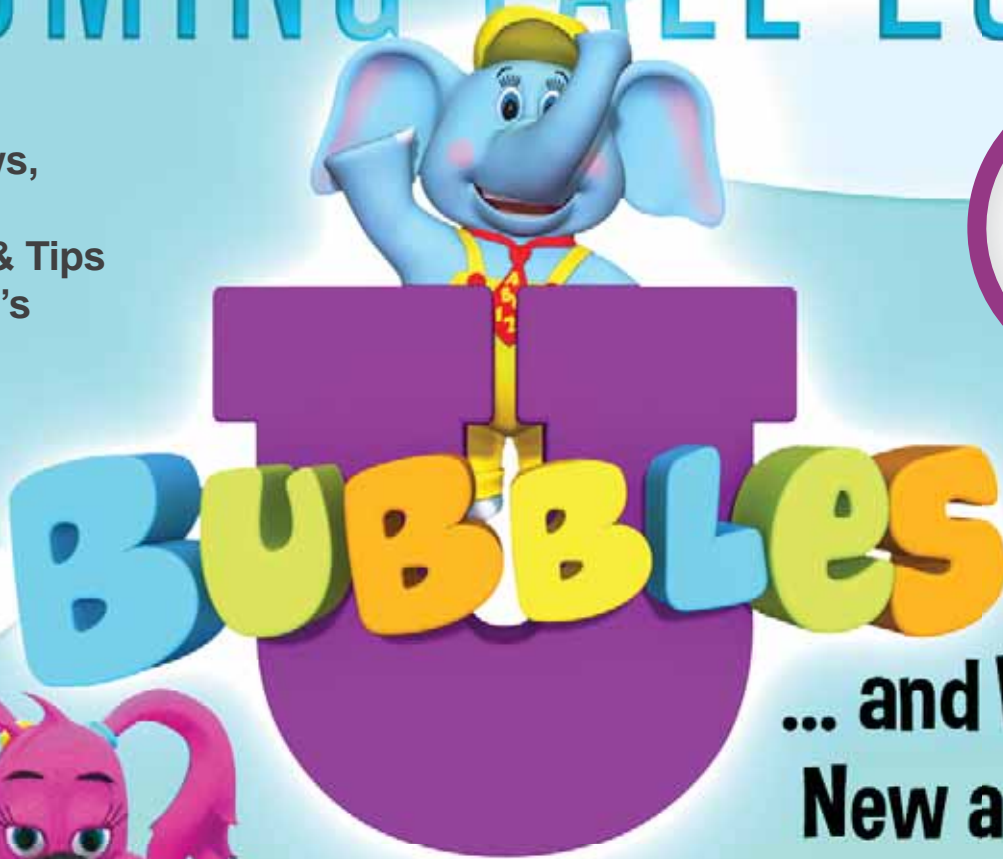
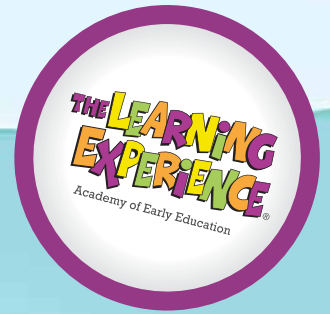


Bubbles Bugle

COMING FALL 2014

Your Source
for TLE® News,
Parenting
Information & Tips
and Children's
Activities

Volume 1, Issue 4



... and What's
New at TLE®!



explore. learn. play. grow.

Bubbles' Bugle

Contents

I. What's New at TLE®

Coming This Fall - BubblesU	4
The Bubbles Bugle Award Winners	5
What's Happening At TLE®	6
A Round Of Applause To Our Teaching Team	9
Hold Onto Your Dreams	10
Advancements In Training And Development	11
Preparing Your Child For Back To School	12
Share Your TLE® Story	13
Child Care: A Great Investment In Your Child's Future	15
Bubbles Be Safe	16
Exciting Additions to Curriculum Coming This Fall	17
The Steam To Keep Your Child On The Railway To Success	19
L.E.A.P. Interactive In Steam Education	20

II. Parenting Information and Tips

Eating Clean With Toddlers: The Ways To Embrace	21
The Benefits Of Teaching A Child A Second Language	22
Basic Parenting Advice For A Happier Household	22
Three Ways To Get Baby To Sleep	23

III. Activities

BubblesU Circle The Difference	14
The Letter B	25
Bubbles The Elephant® Mask Cut Out	27

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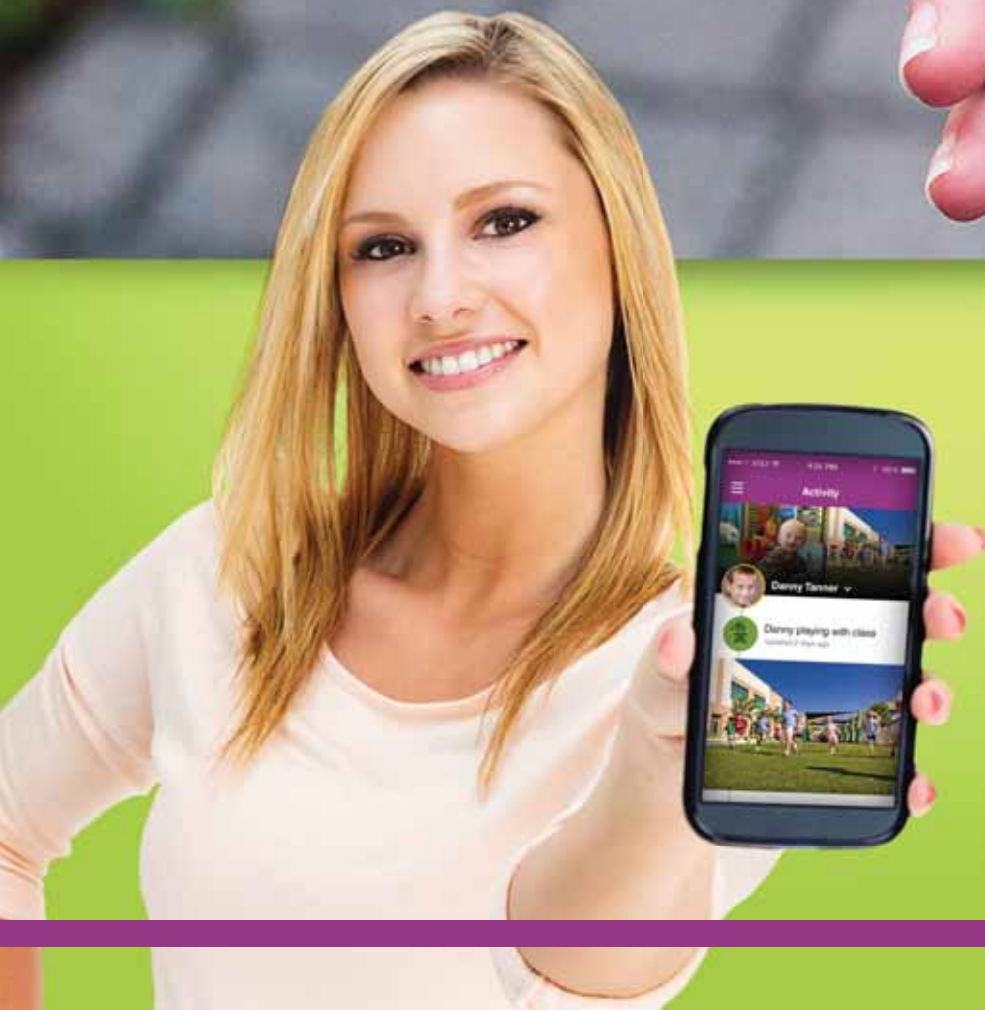
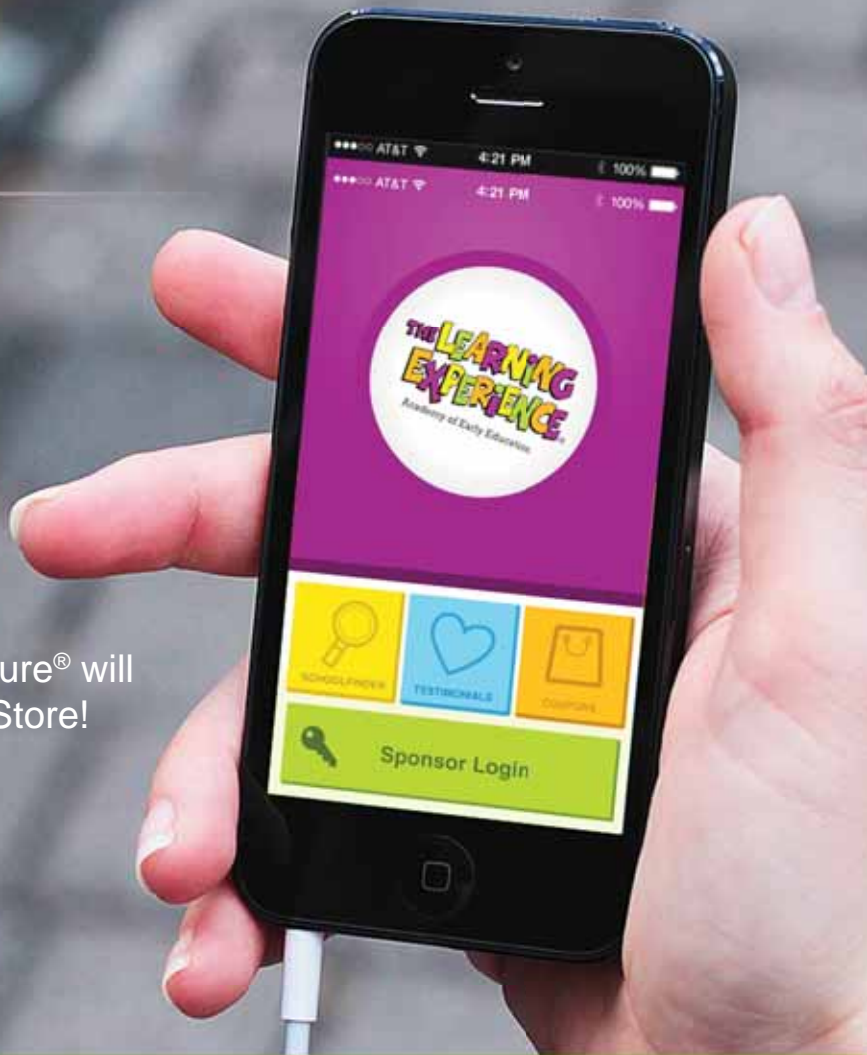
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Coming Soon!

The TLE®

Once released, Parent Safe 'N Secure® will be available for FREE in your App Store!



Now, you'll be able to:

- Create your personal profile
- View classroom and center schedules
- See the details of your child's day, including the activities they are participating in
- Have photos of your child and their class sent right to your phone
- Receive the latest exciting news directly from The Learning Experience®
- Refer friends to TLE®
- Receive coupons from TLE®
- And much, much more!

Coming this Fall



Gregory
Salsburg

CEO STIR-
communications

We are pleased to announce that this fall The Learning Experience® will unveil the next innovation and advancement in early childhood education: BubblesU! **BubblesU.com** is a multi-tiered edutainment website for young children that will provide access to interactive entertainment and learning activities for 2-6 year olds at preschool, pre-k, and kindergarten.

Combined with "BubblesU Magazine for Kids," BubblesU will incorporate elements from our award winning, proprietary LEAP curriculum and many of the recognizable characters that are part of each day's LEAP curriculum lessons at The Learning Experience.

The principle behind all of BubblesU applications is the belief that optimal learning for young children is facilitated by providing continuous learning of concepts and skill development through a combination of text, visual and auditory modes. BubblesU will meet those needs with interactive apps, ebooks, animated videos, songs, puzzles, games, art activities and printables that will engage your child in edutainment that will make learning fun outside of the classroom.

We are excited for the fall launch of BubblesU and The Learning Experience® family members can now sign up for free by visiting www.BubblesU.com. The free, non-member learning areas on the site and magazine will provide basic learning and entertainment activities that your child will be sure to love. Full access to all of the edutainment content on BubblesU.com will be made available via a membership-based monthly or yearly subscription service.



Bubbles' Bugle

Award Winners

Center of the Season

Charlotte 2 (Charlotte, NC)

Our 2nd center in Charlotte, North Carolina, is the first center to be recognized as the 'Center of the Season!' Center Director Janice Rosas brings our proprietary Philanthropy Curriculum to life by consistently giving back to the community around them and making sure children at TLE know the true value of selflessness and giving. In May, families at TLE at Charlotte 2 donated time, items and money that helped to raise \$7,534 for the Make-A-Wish Foundation to grant local wish for children with life-threatening medical conditions. Congratulations to TLE at Charlotte 2! You make us all proud!



Ms. Flanagan, a preschool teacher for five years at TLE Waldwick, NJ, is the recipient of our first 'Teacher of the Season!' She is completely dedicated to the families, children, and her co-workers. She greets each person with a smile, takes time to say to ask "how are you?" and knows the likes and dislikes of each individual child in her classroom. She leads events and is also the first to volunteer for special TLE occasions. Always a team player, Ms. Flanagan is a mentor to new staff, guides them in TLE practices, introduces them to peers and families, and helps them create lifelong bonds with TLE families. For all these reasons and more, Ms. Flanagan is our very deserving Teacher of the Season! Thank you for all that you do, Ms. Flanagan!



Teacher of the Season

Kerry Flanagan (Waldwick, NJ)

Classroom of the Season

Preschool 2

Westampton, NJ



The Preschool 2 class in TLE Westampton is super enthusiastic and make their classroom fun and exciting each and every day. The classroom is warm and welcoming and everyone is always happy. In addition to excelling in their schoolwork, they participate in very creative activities that enhance their learning experiences and even made an interactive bulletin board with the parts of the human body for the "All About Me" curriculum theme.

If you wish to nominate a center, teacher or classroom to be recognized in a future edition of The Bubbles Bugle, please send an email to bubblesbugle@tlec corp.com and indicate which award you would like to be considered for and why.

What's Happening at TLE®



Developing skills with a sensory table provides a hands-on, fun way for students to learn about the world around us. Students at TLE Montgomery, NJ enjoyed sensory play as they learned about the ocean and life under the sea!



After reading stories written by famous children's author Eric Carle, inspired Preschoolers work on their fine motor skills through painting and drawing to create their own watercolor masterpiece!



Students at The Learning Experience in Clarkston, MI learn the importance of helping others while having fun during their annual Trike-A-Thon for St. Jude Children's Hospital!



Families at TLE Independence, MI enjoyed a day of fun at their annual Trike-A-Thon to support St. Jude Children's Hospital



The Learning Experience in Simi Valley, CA received a visit from their local fire department as part of their 'Hometown Heroes' event. Families spent the afternoon exploring the fire truck while learning about fire safety and followed that up with a special story time with their new fire fighter friends!



Mother's Day at TLE Doylestown, PA!



TLE Crest Hill, IL enjoyed seeing Bubbles the Elephant at their Egg Hunt!



Over \$300.00 was raised by TLE Heathrow during their Earth Day plant sale! All proceeds were donated to the Hands-On Orlando organization! Way to go TLE Heathrow, FL!



Spiderman visits TLE Concord, MA during Teacher Appreciation Week!



As part of April's 'Going Green' curriculum, toddlers at TLE Jacksonville learn the importance of keeping the earth clean while planting seeds in their TLE garden!



Bubbles made a special visit to TLE Schaumburg, IL for their preschool graduation!



Twaddlers at TLE Jackson, NJ are practicing letter recognition with our hands-on alphabet mat!



Bubbles visits Chapel Hill, NC for their Grand Opening Celebration!



The Learning Experience's May Curriculum revolves around some of the greatest inventions dating from the 1700's to present day. Students at TLE Rocky Point, NY enjoyed drawing up the plans for their own inventions!



TLE celebrates Teacher Appreciation Week and our TLE teachers who truly are the best role models! Staff at TLE Wake Forest, NC spent their weekend promoting The Learning Experience's Philanthropy curriculum, volunteering at their local Habitat for Humanity!



Preschoolers at TLE Waldorf, MD use recycled materials to make colorful pieces of artwork!



Suddenly Science at The Learning Experience in Hillsborough, NJ! Preschoolers are making ice cream!



We know children love our TLE characters like Bubbles the Elephant, Flexi Flamingo and Tito Toro. Now, children can talk to them! The Learning Experience is pleased to announce 'Bubbles and Friends Pen Pal Program' that allows children to write letters to their favorite TLE characters and receive a personalized letter in return. See our centers for more details!



Kindergarteners at TLE Parsippany, NJ celebrates 'The Week of the Young Child' by creating Wild Thing crafts to be displayed in the lobby!



Students at The Learning Experience in Princeton, NJ are taking advantage of their beautiful weather by having fun outdoors while utilizing their fine motor skills with this hula hoop activity!



A special parent at The Learning Experience in Huntersville, NC created 'superhero' shirts for everyone to celebrate Teacher Appreciation Week!

TLE[®] has gone social...

www.facebook.com/TLEChildCareCenters

www.pinterest.com/TLEChildCare

www.twitter.com/TheLearningExp



www.instagram.com/TheLearningExperience

What's NEW at TLE

A Round of Applause to our Teaching Teams



**Patrick
Campolo**

Executive
Vice President

As we begin another school year I would like to thank our teachers for their time, dedication, and passion. As a parent, I remember what it was like to drop my children off at school. Some days were easier than others, but the most rewarding part was when I would pick them up at the end of the day and they were so excited to tell me everything they did. It was because of their teacher that their days were fun and exciting. It was because of their

teacher that they were safe and learning. It was because of their teacher that they had a good foundation for the next year in school. As a parent, you too can empathize with this sentiment.

Although I no longer have young children in childcare, I can still see the effect that our TLE® teachers have had on them. In a world of technology, we are able to share experiences almost instantaneously. I am able to see the creative ways in which our curriculum is being delivered to our students through our social media pages (Facebook, Instagram, Pinterest, and Twitter). Post after post illustrates another exciting learning experience because of a teacher. At our corporate office, I often spend time with our Curriculum Department and they share e-mails and photos with me that they receive from our centers. These e-mails and photos are of learning taking place due to the efforts of a teacher. I witness letters being received in response to Bubbles® & Friends Penpals. The children are so excited to write to their favorite character; a character that has come to life because of a teacher. I also read the stories that many of our families have posted to the www.ShareYourTLEStory.com website, in which they share their experiences and praise for a teacher.

Our teachers deserve praise and recognition EACH and EVERY day for all that they do to make learning fun and exciting. As we begin another school year, please join me in wishing all of our teachers a wonderful year filled with memories made, celebrations had, and stories shared.



Hold onto Your Dreams



Linda Weissman

Co-Founder and
Sr. VP Marketing

In the beginning, we had visions of becoming the most state-of-the-art preschool with offerings that surpassed anything ever before in this business. We dreamed of one day being able to have a preschool educational TV program starring our beloved characters and envisioned children all over the country knowing Bubbles the Elephant as well as they knew Mickey Mouse and Barney. Our passion remains today and that is why TLE has taken on a shape that knows no boundaries. There has never been a year that we have remained stagnant. We have expanded our horizons, widened our purpose and been a leader in every way.

As Co-Founder of The Learning Experience® way back in 1980, I am so proud of the diverse and rich curriculum that has evolved over the past thirty-four years. We have been fortunate to have amazingly dedicated teams that demonstrate the same passion and creativity that we, the founders, had and continue to have. Our philosophy has always been that learning can and should be presented in a fun way and that children will learn just about anything if they enjoy the process.

That is why TLE has been the first to introduce so many energizing, cutting edge offerings. From Manners Matters® to Philanthropy and from Super Soccer® to Yippee for Yoga®, TLE is light years ahead of the competition in our industry. From LEAP Interactive® to Fun With Phonics®, from American Sign Language to Mandarin and from Simply Science® to Marvelous Math®, TLE offers a diverse and comprehensive curriculum for infants on up. During TLE's long history we have developed so many proprietary elements that include not only our 89 beloved characters, but also books and an audio library of more than 200 songs that aid in the learning process. Joining with all of our proprietary TLE characters, our children learn in the most interactive, amusing fashion. And, in the new school year 2014-2015, we are so excited to add Dancing Feet® to our enrichment lineup with kangaroos Hop, Bop and Baby Tap to lead the dance classes.

Our digital content learning via our L.E.A.P. Interactive boards, combined with the application of our proprietary curriculum, was recently introduced as the first of its kind. Preschoolers have already enthusiastically engaged in its digital content.

As if all of this is not exciting enough, I am feeling so energized by our newest endeavor which will once again place TLE at the forefront of our industry. No other preschool has ever come close to this latest and most sensational TLE initiative. It is the fall 2014 launching of Bubbles U!® Bubbles U® includes educational driven apps, videos, e-books, activities, ringtones, music and music videos starring our beloved Bubbles the Elephant and all of our adored TLE characters. Bubbles U® is based on our proprietary TLE curriculum.

After thirty-five years, I am savoring all of the initiatives that TLE offers to our children with the knowledge that it has such a positive impact on their lives. I feel as if I am swinging from a star, in sheer delight, as all of our dreams and aspirations for TLE are morphing into the most exceptional "learning experiences" for our children. Next school year, with Bubbles U at the forefront, TLE will be engaging children at so many levels and through a multitude of media. What has brought us to this point at TLE is that we know no boundaries; we have followed our dreams and grabbed ahold of our destiny. We knew in the beginning, as we continue to know today, that TLE could be a force for change. And now we can savor the positive energy and creativity that has brought us to the next generation of growth for TLE.

It has been an honor and a privilege to grow this company with our amazing teams of extraordinary people, all of whom hold a very special place in my heart. I look forward to what the future holds for TLE as we continue to shape the lives of young children.

So, dear reader, the moral of my story is to hold on to your dreams, as you have the power to make positive changes. It starts with a glimmer in your eye, a flicker of an idea, and you can ignite it as you power up your rocket to the stars. See you as we swing together, you from your star and me from mine!

Advancements in Training & Development



Amanda Beers

VP of Training & Quality Assurance

The Learning Experience® prides itself on its proprietary curriculum, a curriculum that is unparalleled in the industry. While the curriculum is created by a team of educators in our corporate office, it is the teachers in the classroom who truly make “learning experiences” happen. The Training Department understands and recognizes the correlation between training and development and these “learning experiences.” In order for our teachers to fully execute the curriculum and programming, we must create excitement through knowledge, model the correct implementation, and provide clear expectations.

The Training Department is excited to share innovations and advancements that have been made to increase the resources available to our teaching teams. We have built a studio within our corporate office to create high-level training videos for our teams, centers, and staff. Through Brainshark, a cloud-based platform, these training videos can be viewed on-demand, sharing knowledge, implementation, and expectations directly from our corporate office to each center and teacher. Over the past year we have worked hard to build a video library, a resource to always learn something new. Centers and staff will have the ability to watch, review, replay, and participate in trainings that are relevant, innovative, and engaging. Currently available trainings will begin with safety, programming, and the TLE® family story. We recognize that levels of experience vary from center to center and classroom to classroom. For this reason, future projects in development will include continued training and development opportunities beyond the introductory concepts.

On a monthly basis the Training Department will collaborate with other internal departments to create a guide and content for monthly staff trainings. Content on Brainshark can be viewed individually or as a group, providing each center and teaching team the same knowledge, implementation, and expectations for all of our centers. We are confident that this new training platform will create creative ideas and innovation in the classrooms. We are confident that this new resource will inspire our teachers to continue to create countless more “learning experiences.”



Preparing Your Child for Back to School



Tara Montenaro

Regional Director

It's hard to believe that while we find ourselves in the middle of summer and are enjoying fun in the sun activities, we really need to turn our attention to the fall and the back-to-school season. The start of the new school year, even at the preschool level, is a very busy time for all of us. The Center Director and Business Managers are preparing the school for the new year by completing maintenance projects, ordering new equipment and supplies, and hiring and training needed staff for the

influx of new students. The teachers are getting their rooms ready for the first day by cleaning and sprucing up the classroom decorations and making new cubby tags for all of the children. Even parents start to prep for the new school year by encouraging their children and talking about all the fun things that will take place when going back to school.

As the busy summer comes to a close, our teachers, managers and centers move swiftly toward one of the busiest days of the entire year: the first day of school! Upon entering the center, you will find the teaching staff and administration to be welcoming and enthusiastic to see your family! The classrooms are refreshed, and the countdown for how many days we have been in school says "1." The thrill of going back to school can be a little scary for your child too. Whether your child is eager or reluctant to go to school, we make sure that our teachers are ready with a smile to help with the transfer from your care to our classroom when arriving. Children need time to adjust to the new room, new teacher and new routines. The most exciting thing for your child is seeing old friends and meeting new classmates!

Preparing your child for back to school is only half the challenge; you, as parents, need to be ready too. A parent needs to know the name of his or her child's teacher. Make sure that you have the school's phone number with you, update your child's file with any changes to phone number, address and/or contact/ work information. This is also a good time to make sure that your center management is aware of any personal things happening at home that might be new or may cause your child to behave differently than before. Finally, it is imperative to inform management and your child's teacher of any new medications or allergies that have come up over the summer. Organization, positive thinking, and a little sensitivity will be the keys to getting ready for school and helping your child make a smooth transition for the new school year. Listed below are some simple tips that will help you and your child adjust for this fun, busy and exciting time:

- Get into a solid bed-time routine a couple of weeks before starting full-time at school as it will make the first week run so much smoother if your child is not over tired or stressed.
- Make sure to bring a change of clothes to leave at the school as accidents do happen!
- Be ready for tears, but stay positive; smile, be happy and remain calm. If you start to panic, then your child will too.
- Stay in touch with your child's day; ask questions of both the teacher and your child. The more involved you are, the faster your child will settle into the new school year.
- Meet new friends at school and schedule some play dates with new friends which will help your child adjust more quickly.

The Learning Experience has an open door policy, so stop by the first week and take a peek into your child's classroom window or view your child from our monitors in the Center Director's office. Together we can all Learn, Play, and Grow into having a successful back to school!



Share Your TLE Story!



Scott Breault
VP of Marketing

One of the many traits that all TLE® employees share is the desire to make a positive impact on the lives of children and families. Each and every day we strive to provide the best possible experience for your children and hope that they take their experiences home with them as they continue to learn, play and grow beyond their years at The Learning Experience®.

The wonderful teachers and staff at our centers are really what help make these 'learning experiences' possible and, far too often, they go unnoticed for all of the hard work and hours that they put into improving the lives of children and families. So, we want to hear from you about how our centers, teachers and staff are making a difference in your children's lives and how we're making The Learning Experience® a home away from home.

Please visit

ShareYour**TLE**Story.com

to let us know how we're doing!



BubblesU Circle the Difference

There are five differences between these two photos. Find all of them!



Answers: Lenny & Lucy, Lionstein's nose, Miss Chevious' bow, Flowers, Cloud

Child Care: A Great Investment in Your Child's Future



**Deb
O'Byrne**
VP of Operations

When a parent looks for a quality child care environment, they usually think about finding a place where their child is safe. A place where he or she will learn, make friends and have loving providers looking after them while they are at work. In actuality, a quality child care environment is a tremendous long-term investment in their child's future that can have positive lifelong affects that for the child and for society as a whole.

When a child is an infant, parents are not often thinking about how that child will impact the workforce 20 or 30 years down the road. However, early education is the most cost effective way to decrease the number of unskilled adults in the future. A longitudinal study conducted in Chicago preschools actually showed that those children who attended high quality childcare, demonstrated increased tax revenue from higher earnings, as well as reduced costs to society for remedial education and crime. (1) To simplify matters to an economic equation, one study came to the conclusion that for every one dollar invested in a high quality child care program, the direct and indirect economic benefits to the public totaled \$7.16. (2)

Often parents get upset when their seemingly healthy child is in a program and suddenly starts to come down with colds, sore throats, and ear infections. The standard, but very true, answer to this is that children need to develop antibodies within their system for these common childhood illnesses. While you are experiencing this, it can be distressing for both the child and the family. However, children who are attending high quality childcare end up being healthier adults. One study done on children that attended high quality childcare found, after tracking them over a 30 year period, that they had significantly lower risk of experiencing a combination of both obesity and hypertension and none exhibited the cluster of conditions known as "metabolic syndrome," which is associated with greater risk of heart disease, stroke and diabetes. (3)

Finally, when parents drop off their child for a day of fun activities and pre-K learning experiences, they aren't often projecting what success rate their child might have in high school or college. Children that are enrolled in quality child care are up to 4 ½ times more likely to have higher cognitive academic achievement at age 15. (4) Higher achievement during the high school years can lead to a positive experience in higher education, which ultimately circles back to the positive impact on the future workforce for those same children.

In short, a report issued by the Committee for Economic Development cited research showing that when children are better educated, they are more productive as adults, likely to be healthier, pay more taxes and are less likely to require welfare and other forms of public assistance. (5)

(1) D'Amico, C., Judy, R.W. (1997) *Workforce 2020: Work and Workers in the 21st Century*. The Hudson Institute.

(2) Barnett, W.S. (1996). *Lives in the Balance: Age- 27 benefit-cost analysis of the High/Scope Perry Preschool Program*.

(3) Campbell, F.A., (2014). *High- Quality Early Education and Care Bring Health Benefits 30 Years Later*.

(4) Galinsky, E. (2010). *What is the Lasting Impact of Child Care as Children Grow?* Huffington Post.

(5) Committee for Economic Development. (2002) *Preschool for All: Investing in a Productive and Just Society*. Statement by the Research and Policy Committee of the Committee for Economic Development.

Bubbles Be Safe



**Jennifer
Murray**

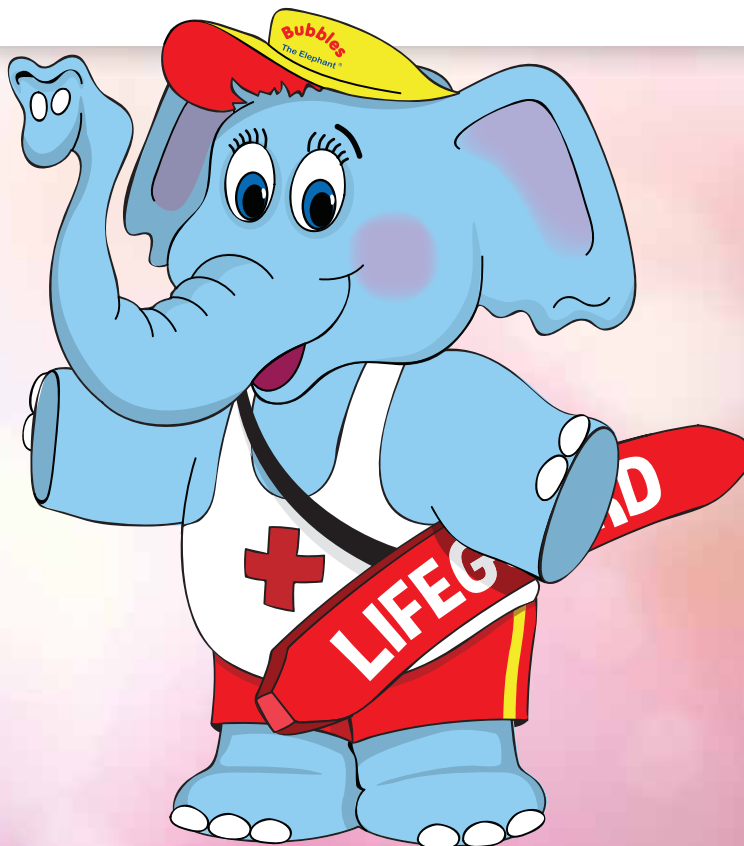
VP of Center
Operations

Welcome to Bubbles' 'Be Safe' Corner! As we embark on an adventurous summer, Bubbles wants to remind you of a few helpful safety tips:

- Always remember Sunscreen! Leave labeled sunscreen at the center for your child. Complete a Sunscreen Authorization Form to ensure application. Apply sunscreen to your child before leaving your home in the morning. It will be re-applied before afternoon outside play. Don't forget to bring in a sun hat if your little one is especially little!
- Summer is a fun time for water play. Make sure that your child comes to school with well-fitted water shoes. The playground can get slippery, so safe water shoes are crucial!
- Crocs and open-toed sandals are dangerous when it comes to summer fun at school. Please have your child wear closed toed shoes to protect their little feet!
- Make sure that your child is appropriately dressed for the outside weather but also has a sweatshirt in their cubby in case they get cold during inside time.
- Back to School is quickly approaching so make sure that your child's immunizations and physicals are needed. If applicable, update your Special Health Care plans and on-site medications.

**Summer is a
magical time
of good old
fashioned fun.**

**Let's stay safe
with Bubbles. Be
Safe!**



Exciting Additions to Curriculum Coming this fall



**Monica
Nolasco**

Asst. VP of
Corporate
Operations

Over the past year, we have been developing many new and exciting additions to our curriculum that will be unveiled this upcoming school year. We are once again expanding our LEAP Interactive® program to now include a Prepper curriculum. This September, the world of LEAP Interactive® will enter our Prepper classrooms all over the country. Our Preppers will march right into the new school year with September's curriculum theme of America the Beautiful. The Preppers will use the Normal-Pen tool to trace over the first letter of the alphabet, watch real-

time videos of U.S. soldiers marching, and complete interactive activities, such as color sorting, by using the touch technology tools.

Every month when your child brings home their student workbook, look for the BLUE sticker that says "I completed this activity on the LEAP Interactive® board." Ask your child what they did when they participated in the lesson. If you look at the bottom of each page in the student workbook, it has details of the activity that was completed on the board. This information will help you gain a better understanding of what they were learning this month, bridging the home-school connection.

Another great addition that will be coming in September to all LEAP Interactive boards is L.E.A.P. into Foreign Languages. For the first time, our Spanish and Mandarin programs will be accessible through L.E.A.P. Interactive®. The components that will be available on the starboards are the small readers, the posters, as well as our proprietary music and vocabulary. Ping the Panda and Tito Toro cannot wait to guide the children along this incredible journey.

Our manners and etiquette coach, Penny Polite®, wanted me to share that this September she will be introducing her first series of Manners Matter® books. In "An Elbow Please If You Sneeze," "Meet Penny Polite," "Tummy to the Table," and others, Penny will teach the children proper etiquette through child friendly stories. Grace the Greyhound and Charity Chihuahua, our Philanthropy mascots, were so excited when they heard about this new series of books that they thought it was important to create their own series of books that teach the children all about philanthropy. From "Philanthropy" to "Donate," and "Hope," Grace and Charity teach our children all about doing good deeds. Like Grace and Charity say, "It doesn't matter how big or small you are. It's the size of your heart that matters."

When you drop off and pick up your child each day, take a moment to look around the classroom and you will see all the wonderful things that your child experiences each and every day when they attend The Learning Experience®. The Curriculum department is always researching and developing new and enlightening programs to add to our extraordinary curriculum so that we continue to be the leader in the early childhood field.

The TLE® family is looking forward to this upcoming school year with the many new and exciting additions to our curriculum and we wish everyone a happy and safe summer!



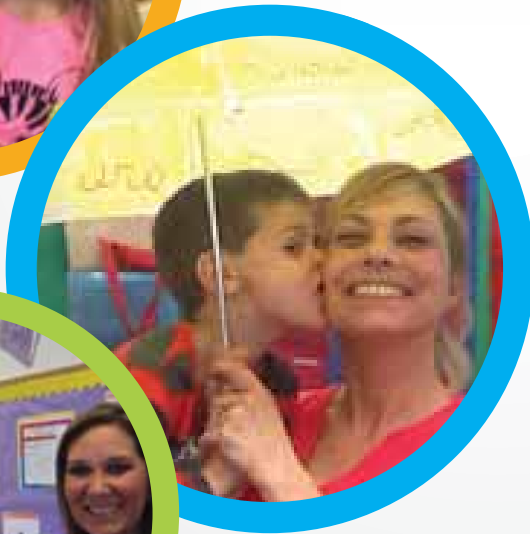
ShareYourTLE[®]Story.com

**THE LEARNING
EXPERIENCE[®]**

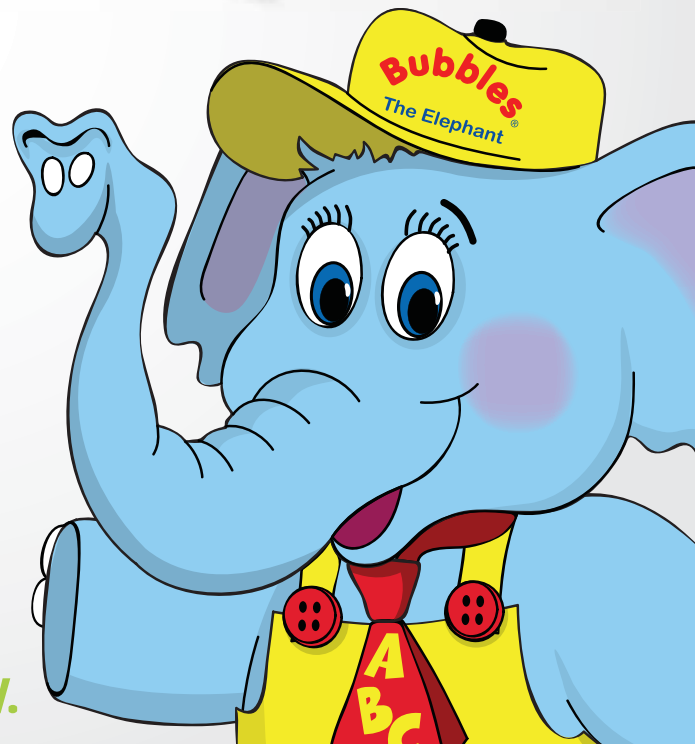
Academy of Early Education

The Learning Experience[®] Academies of Early Education are places where children and families have been coming to learn, play and grow for more than a decade. **ShareYourTLEStory.com** is a place for families to share their own experiences at TLE. We want to hear how we're making an impact on your family!

Please go to
ShareYourTLEStory.com
to let us know what you love about
The Learning Experience[®]!



learn. play. grow.



The STEAM to keep your child on the railway to success



Meghan Kelly

Enrichment
Education
Coordinator

How many of you are familiar with the term STEAM? No, not what comes out of an engine but as it relates to your child's learning? Let's first start off with what STEAM stands for. STEAM stands for Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts, and Math. This educational model was developed originally as STEM with the purpose of educating and preparing today's youth to pursue careers in STEM-related fields to keep America competitive in scientific innovation. Later, Arts was added in by RISD (The Rhode Island School of Design), as it was determined that individuals must also be adept in their critical thinking

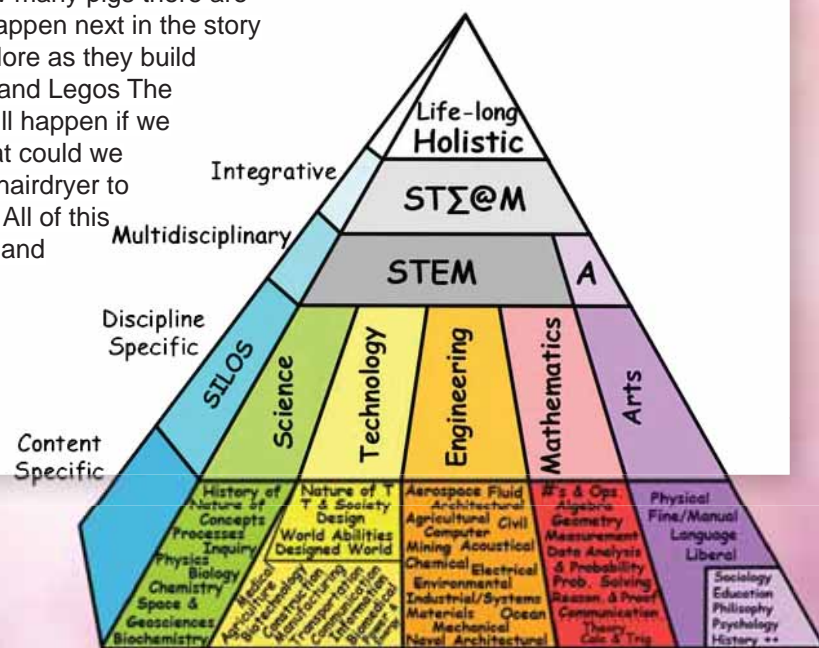
skills, which are best developed through exposure to the arts. The idea of incorporating this educational model into instruction is with the purpose to create the youngest of innovators. The great part about STEAM is that it supports various learning theories, such as scaffolding and multiple intelligences, which allow the teachings to suit the needs of various types of learners. And, as we say here at The Learning Experience®, no two children will ever learn the same way.

One of the first credited with teaching STEAM is none other than Mr. Rogers himself. He was frequently known for incorporating all of these academic areas into his show. Mr. Rogers would bring meaningful context into his teachings by showing an object or invention while asking the children questions about it. Mr. Rogers understood that young learners are little scientists who want to explore EVERYTHING. They want to understand how things work and why. One of the episodes that stick out in my mind discusses how crayons are made. Mr. Rogers is first shown using crayons and asking his viewers how they think the crayons came to be before they watch a video of how this actually happens in a crayon factory. Did you know that this same video was used as part of TLE's L.E.A.P. Interactive curriculum just last summer?

So why is STEAM important to early childhood and our young learners? STEAM can be found throughout our classrooms, that's why. It is found all around us in the early childhood setting from the playground, to centers, story time, and more. Although you may not see it in black and white when you step into your child's classroom, it is all around you. When the teacher reads a story that has numbers in it and incorporates mathematical logic, this is STEAM. And when the children plant seeds, and continue to chart the seeds progress, this is STEAM!

In early childhood, with the application of STEAM, the story of the "Three Little Pigs" is no longer just a story. The story is read and the children are asked to count how many pigs there are. They are then asked to predict what they think will happen next in the story and have an open discussion. They continue to explore as they build the three little pigs houses using real straw, pencils, and Legos. The teacher then asks the children to think about what will happen if we try and blow the houses down? Did that work? What could we use that has a stronger force? She then brings in a hairdryer to blow the houses down and continue the experiment. All of this encourages the children to use critical thinking skills and apply their very own theories.

The next time that you drop your child off, take a look around and look for the STEAM. And then think of the invaluable tools your child is gaining.



"Often when you think you're at the end of something, you're at the beginning of something else."

- Fred Rogers

L.E.A.P. Interactive® in STEAM Education



Nicole
Fugelo

Enrichment
Education
Coordinator

America is once again turning to innovation as the way to ensure a successful future. We at TLE strive to educate our children in all facets of learning, as they are the nation's future. For them to prosper in the times that are ahead, we work to provide the children a variety of opportunities in STEAM fields: science, technology, engineering, art, and math. Within the STEAM framework are a variety of ways for children to learn in a fun and rewarding manner, and that is why L.E.A.P. Interactive is a key component of our next-generation of

curriculum. The L.E.A.P. Interactive lessons allow the children to see how a variety of thematic based subjects can relate to one another, from the colors and shapes within math, to the engineering process of recycling an aluminum can.

Within the L.E.A.P. Interactive program, we work to establish STEAM focused activities, lessons, and overall curricula that support classroom teachings as well as learning during the out-of-school experiences. The curriculum gives the children a holistic picture within a theme or subject; they are not only challenged to further investigate a subject, but also to participate and to teach others what they know. When the children are learning about the invention of the hot air balloon through a real time video and activity, they not only learn about the colors, structure, and use of the invention, but also about the history and mechanics of the hot air rising into the balloon.

The summer programs; TLE has the cure for Summertime Blues and Summertime Challenge each provide daily L.E.A.P. Interactive lessons. Within the nine thematic weeks of these summer programs, there are specialty lessons in culinary, construction, and philanthropy, each providing the children with a more holistic and well-rounded range of understanding of the world they live in. During the Philanthropy lessons, the children get to see which charities that children just like them have started on their own. They will then use the Pen tool to sign a volunteer letter.

Art is a movement that spurs our economy forward, along with the science and technology of the 21st century. That is why, within the lessons of the L.E.A.P. Interactive program, each month there are additional art based activities provided to the children. For example, the Blank Drawing page is a free canvas for the children to use a variety of art tools to create whatever inspires them using tools such as the Fill tool, Swatch properties icon, and Pen tool.

Our nation's future economic prosperity is closely linked with student success in the STEAM fields and L.E.A.P. Interactive strongly supports our children's role in that future.



Parenting Information & Tips

Eating Clean With Toddlers: The Ways To Embrace

“Clean Eating” is an activity that people, particularly moms and dads are using up to guarantee a healthy life for themselves and their children. What better way exists to introduce a correct eating practice for children than really starting it early? The trouble is toddlers are already fussy eaters, and getting them to be accustomed with such foods can be a mammoth task. Then how do you pull that off? We have actually figured out a couple of ways to make your efforts for clean consuming a success.

Begin with yourself

House is the best school for kids, and moms and dads are the best educators. So, if you are preparing to teach them something, make certain you do that very first. Kids follow their moms and dads even more than anybody. That is why; they will follow you, too, if you are consuming clean yourself. If you are well dedicated to your objective, and are delighted about it,

your children will feel the ambiance and follow your footprints. For toddlers, it might be a bit hard to get their attention at the start. Make certain to stay with your motto no matter how adamant they appear. Also, do not overdo in attempting and pushing them to consume the ideal food. It might backfire, and they might begin resenting mealtime.

Be Creative with Appearance

Everyone consumes with their eyes initially, and for children, a well provided plate can be the trick to win their hunger. Be imaginative, and introduce new and interesting ways to provide the food to your young child. You can simply search the net for some cute and funny concepts for food art that moms and dads nationwide have already attempted, or you can work something up on your own. If you are offering your young child with fruits, you can cut those into sizes that they can hold on to. Finger foods can be arranged in many adorable ways that even the fussiest young child will wish to intake even the last crumb out of the plate.

Get them a Food Pocket Bib

A food pocket bib is an infant bib that captures food spills when chaotic toddlers are enjoying their meals. Why getting

such a bib, you might question. Experienced moms and dads have actually informed that with the vibrant, versatile bibs on, children take pleasure in the mealtime better, and eventually grow keen on their food. It is since that they find the bibs as a plaything, and the whole dinnertime relies on a fun activity to them. When having food ends up being such a pleasurable thing to do, with such cute props on, kids quickly take that up as a routine. Thus your children can begin consuming clean, without triggering much trouble for you!

Nita Kirbeck

The Benefits of Teaching a Child a Second Language

One of the most popular pieces of advice people get on how to set themselves apart from their peers is to learn a second language. Being bilingual means advantages in the workplace, including higher pay and opportunities to travel. Although these benefits are not seen until later in life, it doesn't mean that learning a second language as a child is not beneficial. In fact, there are many reasons why your child should begin learning a second language early on.

At one time, it was thought that teaching a child a second language would lead to language confusion and the possibility of cognitive deficit with the child. According to more recent studies that were done through the Cornell Language Acquisition Lab (CLAL), a child who is able to learn a second language is actually in a better position for maintaining attention despite distractions when compared with a child that is only familiar with one language.

Along with improving the cognitive abilities of children, allowing them to learn a second language at a young age may also provide additional benefits. It has also been recognized that teaching a child a second language plays a significant role in their preparedness for academic success in a school setting. This is true, even when there are distractions and outside stimuli which tend to hold the attention of children who do not know a second language.

If you are interested in providing these benefits for your child, there are some effective methods that can be used in order to teach your child such a language. Perhaps one of the most important things to do is to immerse the child in the second language by putting them in situations where it is spoken regularly. It is interesting that this will not affect their ability to learn their native language but rather, it will likely increase their proficiency in speaking it.

One method that many parents have found to be of benefit is tying in the secondary language with outside activities, such as day camps or summer camps. In researching various summer

camps, we saw a great deal of classes and camps that offer second language courses along with other activities help to increase the vocabulary of the child. By providing an interactive and enjoyable activity for the child in both languages, it helps them to learn the language much more quickly.

Your attitude toward the secondary language is also something that can have an effect on your child's ability to learn it. Be sure to maintain a positive outlook, not only on the language but also on the culture that is associated with the language.

Finally, make sure that the child has the opportunity to be in multilingual settings. If they are able to spend time and play with children who speak the second language, as well as their native language, it is much more likely that they will learn to be proficient in both. The same is also true with reading and storytelling, as it should be done in multiple languages as well.

The world certainly is becoming a smaller place and learning a second language can help to open up opportunities for your child later in life. By teaching them a second language in their tender years, you offer them something that will benefit them now and will stick with them for a lifetime.

Susan Butler

Basic Parenting Advice For A Happier Household

The process of providing for a child's physical, mental, emotional and social needs is no easy task and the more education you have about developmentally appropriate behavior, the better equipped you will be as a parent. Although there are different types of parenting styles, research indicates that parents will ideally approach their role with consistency and affection. The following article will help you to be more informed about appropriate behavior and how to achieve the best results for your child or children.

For men who are fathers, it is important that they spend as much time with their children as the mother does. Children end up succeeding more in life when they have had both of their parents around. Taking them out to a park for a few hours or taking them to a ball game are two great ideas.

If you have multiple children, keeping up with all of their prescriptions can be quite a challenge. Walgreens and other chain pharmacies offer iPhone and smart phone apps that allow you to scan the bar code on your child's prescription medication and access information on fill dates, directions and refill status.

Invest in a great nursing pillow for breastfeeding twins. A pillow will make your breastfeeding go much more smoothly. You will be able to use it to feed both at the same time. Make sure you

remember to switch sides during the feedings as they will have different sucking patterns.

Look into the latest in baby monitors for your little one. You can program these new gadgets to call your smart phone whenever there is any kind of noise in your baby's room. It is a great way to get a bit of work done while you baby naps, and get the alert that your baby wants you when she wakes.

Be friends with your child on any social media sites to help you monitor their other friends and activities. While some kids may complain about their parent being able to see everything they post, remind them that social media accounts are a privilege and not a right. Being friends on-line is a non-intrusive way to keep an eye on their activities.

Parenting practices vary widely in the United States, and while some of these suggestions may not be immediately relevant to your particular situation, we trust that many of the ideas that you have read here will help you in your quest to further develop and strengthen your parenting skills.

Kimverly Sevilla

Three Ways to Get Baby to Sleep

Nothing is more frustrating for a new parent than hearing your baby cry and being unable to soothe him. As a parent you want only the best for your baby and it is so important to get your baby sleep, sleep your baby needs to be rested, calm and happy.

Here are three ways to get baby to sleep fast:

1. Calm yourself first. Babies are highly intuitive and pick up on their parents moods and vibrations. If you are anxious, nervous or upset, your baby will be cranky and restless. Take a warm bath, listen to music or take a time out and go for a walk before attempting to comfort your baby when he or she is very cranky and won't sleep. Your baby will feel the change in your mood and start calming down immediately.

2. Establish a bedtime routine. It does not matter if your baby is very young, it is never too early to get your baby into a routine to get baby sleep. This also means making sure your baby is on a feeding schedule. One of the worst mistakes parents make is letting their baby "graze" and eat whenever they want. A good rule of thumb for young babies who are breast fed is nursing every one and half to two hours and for formula fed babies, every three to four hours. If baby becomes cranky before those times, it is probably because he has gas or needs a diaper change. If you make sure your baby is nursing 10 to 15 minutes on each breast at a feeding or taking in the required amount of formula for his age, he should be able to last until the next feeding.

3. Play Lullabies. Music is proven to soothe and calm babies. In fact, hospital nurseries, especially the neonatal units, play music to calm babies. a fast way to get baby to sleep is to put on a collection of lullabies without vocals that uses classic music. I have composed my own lullabies in my CD, Good Night Lullabies, and you can get two free lullabies to try by going to www.goodnightlullaby.com

Here is a very little known method to get baby sleep that you won't read about in most baby books. Only experienced mothers are familiar with this trick. You will need a pacifier. Now, do not be concerned that your baby will develop nipple confusion, buck teeth or have a binky in his mouth until he is 5 years old. A pacifier is perfect fine to use if taken away by 6-9 months old. For this technique to be successful, you should offer your baby a pacifier early on so that he won't reject it later.

Here is the trick:

During the night, when you hear your baby starting to fuss, immediately go to him and offer a pacifier instead of feeding him. He will suck for a while and then will most likely spit it out and start fussing again. Go back in and offer it again. The goal is to prolong the time between nightly feedings and help your baby fall back into a deep sleep. Each night, the time between feedings should be increased until you eventually have a baby who sleeps through the night.

Caution: *This should only be used with babies who are at the age and weight to sleep through the night. Do not use on a small baby who needs the night time calories.*

Patrice Cosier

Child Safety is always the Top Priority at The Learning Experience®



**THE LEARNING
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Here's a list of resources that you can refer to for the latest product and manufacturer recalls that will keep your child safe at home.

www.toysrusinc.com/safety/recalls/

www.cpsc.gov/en/Recalls/

www.safekids.org/product-recalls

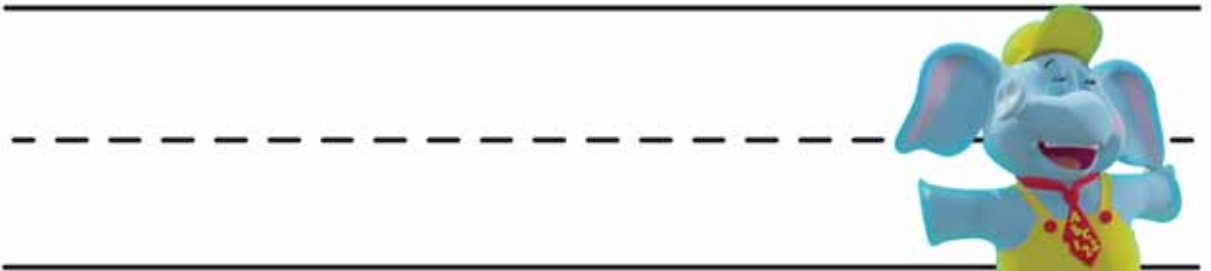
www.parents.com/baby/safety/toy/kid-toys/

learn. play. grow.



The letter **B**

Let's practice writing the uppercase and lowercase letter **B** by tracing over the lines. When you're ready to write the letter **B** on your own, use the blank lines to give it a try.



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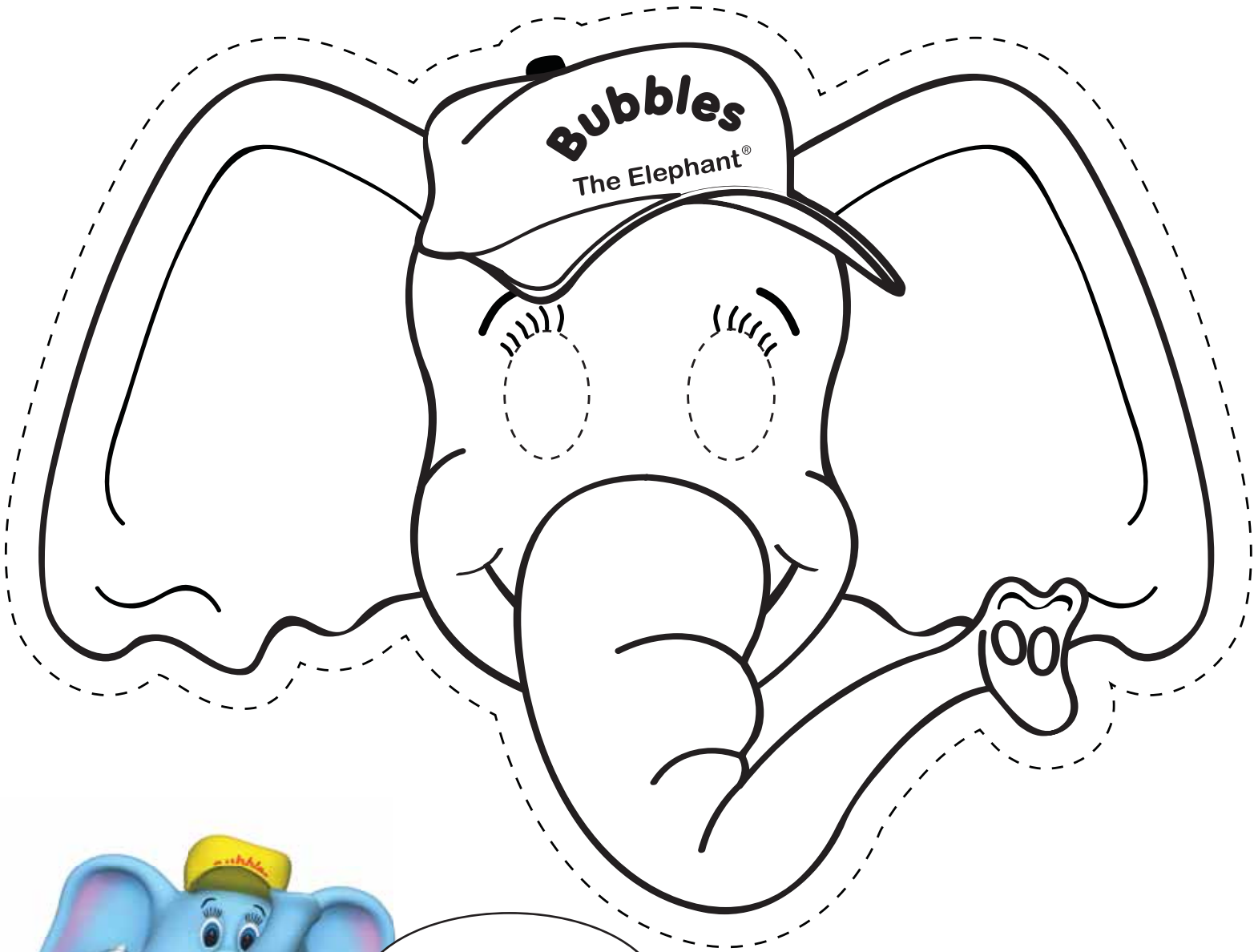
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Mask Cut Out



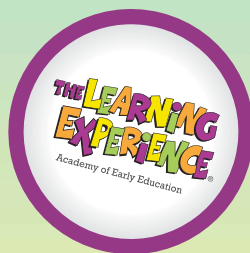
Remember, make sure
an adult helps you cut
the mask out!

1. Color and decorate your mask
2. Cut out the mask
3. Have fun!

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