

Looking for Family Members!

Learning Is Everywhere

Background: *Learning is Everywhere* is a calendar of monthly activities to assist families in their role as educator for their children. It helps families to learn about school readiness schools and introduces the PA Early Learning Standards. It provides simple, activities that families can do at home as part of their regular routines using items which can be found in their house or in their communities. The activities are linked to specific learning areas. It encourages engagement of families both in their child's learning, as well as in advocacy for quality early education.

Purpose of the Family Participation: To provide input, suggestions, resources and feedback for the *Learning Is Everywhere* web and email information.

As a support for the *Learning is Everywhere* calendar, the PA Promise for Children website (www.papromiseforchildren.com) will provide, on a monthly basis, additional information and activities to engage children in early learning, as well as additional resources. Monthly emails will also be distributed to families who provide their contact information. The website and emails may contain information (but is not limited to) such as:

- Books for children as they relate to the monthly activities (new releases and old favorites)
- Activities for children and parents which related to the PA Early Learning Standards.
- Tips for parents of young children.
- Local resources and activities (library/community events, transition activities, etc.)
- Activities to promote advocacy for quality early childhood education (how to write a letter to a representative, etc.)
- Family highlights ("What my family did...") and/or testimonials
- Safety tips related to activities (for example, water activities would have water safety tips included)

Who is invited to participate: Parents, family members, or those who have experience or interest in the field of early childhood education (providers, teachers, school officials, etc.). Although access to the internet is not necessary, it is preferred.

Skills useful would be:

- An interest in working as part of a group of other family members and professionals.
- Knowledge and awareness of activities parents and families can do with their children, ages birth to five years.
- A creative imagination.

- Willingness to volunteer time to help create and/or review ideas and activities to be included on the website and for emails.

When participation will take place: It is anticipated that there will be conference calls held on at least a quarterly basis (four times per year) to communicate goals, activities and needs to the participants. These calls will each be approximately one hour long and be held at a time between the hours of 9:00 am and 3:00 pm, Monday through Friday. In addition, parent participants may receive emails as often as bi-weekly, depending on their level of participation.

Workgroup members will not be asked to travel, or incur expenses for the work of this group. Work on this group will be on a volunteer basis.

If you are interested in participating, please contact Mary Hall, Communications & Outreach Specialist at the PA Key at 717-213-2077 or via email at marhal@berksiu.org.