



NEW BRITAIN FAMILY RESOURCE CENTER

The latest news and updates

“Sparkler” App

"SPARKLER" APP

BY: MS. NEBBY SÁNCHEZ

We want to talk to you about "Sparkler", which is a mobile app that helps families to check in on how their child is doing. The app provides fun educational activities to spark early learning. Families can also track their child's social-emotional development during their first five years. In addition, families can get tips and answers from Connecticut early childhood providers, and from the Care Coordinator at 211 Child Development, which allows you to tap into the network for advice and support. We look forward to hearing from you and providing any resources that you might find helpful. We welcome your ideas and feedback. With these thoughts in mind, please don't hesitate to get in touch with us, with a specific request or just to talk. **"Sparkler"** link <https://playsparkler.org/connecticut/> WEBSITE

HOW TO GET STARTED WITH "SPARKLER"

1. Download "Sparkler" from the Google Play Store or the Apple App Store. Or scan the QR Code with your mobile device to go straight to the right place for downloading.
2. Open the app and tap Create a New Account.
3. Enter Your Sparkler Access Code to create your account. Code: **NBFRC**
4. Set-Up (enter your email, password)
5. Create an Account (name, address, ZIP, and mobile phone number)
6. Add a Child (name, pronoun, birthday, prematurity if under 2 are required). Add one child and you can add another at the end of the process.

ADDITIONAL "SPARKLER" GUIDES AND RESOURCES

How can a family switch from English to Spanish or Spanish to English?

- If you are using English and want to see the app in Spanish, click the gear in the upper right corner to access settings. Tap on "Language" in the menu. Switch languages and confirm to see everything in the app in the other language.

Short Videos:

- Quick video for CT families describing "Sparkler", which is free for Connecticut families. Link [ON YOU TUBE](#)
- "Sparkler" registration link Link [ON YOU TUBE](#)
- "Sparkler" overview (on YouTube) [ON YOU TUBE](#)
- "Sparkler" Developmental Screening Ages & Stages Questionnaire and developmental screening. Link [ON YOU TUBE](#)
- "Sparkler" overview for families. Link [ON YOU TUBE](#)



How Colors affect Children

By: Ms. Marsha Michaud

Did you know??? Colors have a significant impact on the way children feel. Colors can play a large role in a child's development. They can affect a child's mood, behavior, and learning.

Emotions: Colors can affect a toddler's emotions and mood. Bright and warm colors such as yellow, orange, and red can promote feelings of happiness and energy, while cool colors such as blue and green can create a calming effect. Dark colors like black, gray, and deep blues can evoke negative emotions in children, such as sadness, anxiety, or even feelings of stress.

Attention and concentration: Certain colors can also affect a toddler's attention and concentration. Bright colors can be stimulating and grab a toddler's attention, while softer colors can be soothing and help them to focus.

Exploration and learning: Toddlers are in a stage of exploration and learning, and colors can play a role in this. Bright colors can encourage toddlers to explore their environment and interact with objects but can create an overstimulating effect. Different colors can be used to teach them about basic concepts such as colors, shapes, and sizes.

Personal expression: Colors can also be used as a way for toddlers to express themselves and their individuality. Encouraging toddlers to choose colors for their clothing or art projects can help them to develop a sense of personal style and creativity.

Sleep: Colors can also affect a toddler's sleep patterns. Soft, soothing colors such as blue and lavender can promote relaxation and help toddlers fall asleep more easily.

While colors can be beneficial for a child's development, it's important not to overstimulate them with too many colors.

Tips of the month

By: Mrs. Nebby Sánchez

Can They... Go Outside?

Windy days can feel much colder than the actual temperature. When deciding how long kids (and adults!) can play outdoors safely, the windchill factor is most important.

Keep this chart handy:

Green Zone: 30°F and higher

Kids can usually play outside comfortably when it's 30°F and higher — just layer their clothing and make sure they wear hats and mittens. Feel babies' hands and (if possible) feet regularly to see if they're turning icy; also watch for unexplained fussiness. It's a good idea to come inside for a quick break every 40 minutes or so, to warm back up.

Yellow Zone: About 20°F - 30°F

Be cautious. It's okay for your kids to go out, but follow the guidelines above, and expect to see signs of chill sooner — take short indoor breaks every 20 to 30 minutes. It's especially important to layer older kids' clothes, since they may take off their coats if they get sweaty.

Red Zone: Below 20°F

Stay indoors.

STAFF CORNER

BY: MRS. NEBBY SÁNCHEZ

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FAMILY ACTIVITIES FOR NOVEMBER 2025

- VISIT HUNGERFORD NATURE CENTER AND NEW BRITAIN YOUTH MUSEUM! [CLICK HERE FOR MORE INFORMATION](#) [BONFIRE LINK](#)
- CONNECTICUT SCIENCE CENTER! [CLICK HERE FOR MORE INFORMATION ON EVENTS & PROGRAMS](#)
- [NEW BRITAIN PUBLIC LIBRARY! CLICK HERE FOR MORE INFORMATION!](#)
 - ROGERS ORCHARDS [CLICK HERE FOR MORE INFORMATION!](#) ROGERSORCHARDS.COM/
 - BROWN'S HARVEST! [CLICK HERE FOR MORE INFORMATION!](#) WWW.BROWNSHARVEST.COM/EVENTS



FOR MORE RESOURCES VISIT



CSDNB - District Dispatch Newsletter

Is a monthly digital publication of the Consolidated School District of New Britain, featuring news, stories, events, spotlights, and calls to action throughout the district.

Link: <https://www.csdnb.org/district-dispatch.php>

NEW BRITAIN PUBLIC LIBRARY

[HTTPS://WWW.NBPL.INFO/KIDS.HTML](https://www.nbpl.info/kids.html)
20 HIGH ST. NEW BRITAIN, 860.224.3155
CHILDREN DEPARTMENT - TERRIFIC
TOTS - EVERY MONDAY @ 10:00 AM

"SPARKLER" App.

Is a mobile app that helps families to check in on how their child is doing.
Sparkler Access Code to create your account Code: **NBFC**

Community Health Center

Provides medical care, behavioral health, and oral health in our schools through the School-Based Health Center.

To learn more, visit at:
<https://www.sbhcl.com>

New Britain Adult Education

Various programs are offered, including English as a Second Language, GED Preparation, High School Credit Diploma, Citizenship, and National External Diploma Program.

To learn more, visit,
<https://adulthood.csdnb.org/>

NEW BRITAIN PUBLIC SCHOOLS CENTRAL REGISTRATION OFFICE (PRE-K THROUGH 8)

120 NEWINGTON AVENUE
NEW BRITAIN, CT 06051
MONDAY-FRIDAY 8:30 – 3:00 PM
PHONE #: 860-223-5501
EMAIL: REGISTRATION@CSDNB.ORG
LOGGING INTO:
WWW.CSDNB.ORG/REGISTER

THE LEGISLATION NOW STATES THAT CHILDREN MUST TURN 5 ON OR BEFORE SEPTEMBER 1, 2025. TO BE AUTOMATICALLY ELIGIBLE TO ENROLL IN KINDERGARTEN.

THE PRESCHOOL OPTIONS FOR 2024-2025 ARE AS FOLLOWS:

- PART-TIME: 9:00 - 11:30 AM OR 12:30 - 3:00 PM AT ROOSEVELT EARLY LEARNING CENTER OR GAFFNEY ELEMENTARY SCHOOL
- FULL-DAY: 9:00 AM - 3:00 PM AT ROOSEVELT EARLY LEARNING CENTER OR GAFFNEY SCHOOL

Child Care Providers Community Resources Directory

To learn more, visit
<https://www.csdnb.org/resources/community-resources>

Before and After School Programs

HRA Early Childhood PROGRAMS

School Readiness Pre-School,
Full Day and Part Day Time

Head Start Program, Toddler Program
Call 860-225-4866

Email: Eceinfo@hract.org
180 Clinton St., NB. Ct 06053

Emergency Assistance/Food Pantry
https://www.hranbct.org/Emergency_Assistance/

Klingberg Family Centers

Offers convenient school based Mental Health services. Klingberg provides individual, family, and group therapy and can offer services in person or through telehealth. To learn more, visit,
Link: <https://klingberg.org/>