

BAYLESS EARLY CHILDHOOD CENTER

BUILDING PRIORITIES



BUILDING STRONG HANDS AND MINDS

We Are

- Strengthening fine motor skills through daily play activities like cutting, coloring, lacing, Play-Doh, and using tools such as tongs and stamps.
- Practicing pre-writing and name writing every day.
- Collecting monthly writing samples for each child to track progress.
- Meeting as a team to review data and share strategies.

We Will

- Increase the number of children who can hold a pencil correctly and write their name.
- Add new fine-motor centers and materials.
- Use student work to set goals and personalize instruction.
- Continue professional learning to ensure consistency across classrooms.

We Expect to See

- More children using age-appropriate grasp and hand control.
- Stronger pre-writing and name-writing skills across the center.

How Families Can Help

- Encourage drawing, coloring and playing with toys that build hand strength (Play-Doh, blocks, clothespins).
- Let your child practice writing their name on art, cards or notes.
- Celebrate small steps — growth takes time.

LEARNING THROUGH LANGUAGE

We Are

- Using fun rhyming games, songs and stories.
- Reviewing DIAL-4 screening data to guide instruction.
- Meeting as a team to track progress and adjust activities.
- Integrating literacy into play, art, music and story time.

We Will

- Increase the number of children meeting literacy benchmarks, especially in rhyming and sound awareness.
- Plan weekly rhyming activities in small and large groups.
- Use DIAL-4 data to personalize instruction mid-year and end-of-year.
- Continue team collaboration focused on language-rich learning.

We Expect to See

- Growth in children's ability to hear and recognize rhymes and beginning sounds.
- More children ready for kindergarten with strong early reading and communication skills.

How Families Can Help

- Read rhyming books and sing rhyming songs (Dr. Seuss is a great option).
- Play simple sound games ("What starts with the same sound as dad?")
- Visit the library and make reading a part of your daily routine.

LEARNING TOGETHER AT HOME

We Are

- Sending home literacy and activity bags with books and hands-on materials.
- Sharing information through ParentSquare, newsletters and videos.
- Tracking participation and celebrating classrooms with strong engagement.
- Preparing new themed bags each quarter.

We Will

- Ensure every family completes at least one activity or literacy bag each quarter.
- Create bags that support early literacy, math and fine motor skills.
- Share resources in multiple languages and formats.
- Celebrate participation at classroom and school-wide levels.

We Expect to See

- 100% of families participating in at least one bag each quarter.
- Stronger home-school connections that support learning at home.

How Families Can Help

- Complete the bag activity with your child — just 10-15 minutes makes a big difference.
- Send back photos or notes showing how your child used the materials.
- Reuse favorite activities throughout the year.