

# Connecting the Dots....

West Virginia Birth to Three RAU-1, Catholic Charities WV—Summer Newsletter

## A Note From Our Parent Partner

Hi! My name is Ashley Morris and I am the Parent Partner for Region 1. I am a mom to three, and one of my children received Birth to Three services.

Summer is here and that means BBQs, swimming, more baseball, and camping for my family. We enjoy anything outdoors. What is your family's favorite outdoor activity?

## Share Your Story

We'd love to hear your and share your family's story. Family stories are an invaluable way to show the impact that our program makes.

If you would like to share your family's story and experience, please contact

**Ashley Morris at (304)215-5775 or  
amorris@ccwva.org**

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## Did you know anyone can make a referral?

- There are no income guidelines.
- Services are provided at no cost to our families.
- Services are provided in the child's natural environment.

### To make a referral by email or by phone:

WVBTTrau1@ccwva.org  
or call 1-800-619-5697.

### To access referral form visit:

<https://www.wvdhhr.org/birth23/referral.asp>

## Make Contact!

Ashley Morris, Parent Partner  
(304)-214-5775 or  
amorris@ccwva.org

## "Like" us on Facebook

*West Virginia Birth to Three RAU-1,  
Catholic Charities WV*  
for the latest program updates, new resources, and activities for you and your family.



## Ocean Scene Jello Toy Dig Sensory Bin

### What You Need:

1. Blue Gelatin ( 3 packs )
2. Small plastic ocean toys
3. Small plastic storage bin
4. Spoons or cups for scooping

### What To Do:

1. Make gelatin as per instructions on the box
2. Place liquid gelatin in your plastic container.
3. Add in toys and sea creatures
4. Refrigerate as per instructions on box.
5. Hand them some scoopers and let them have fun digging and exploring the ocean creatures. Let them scoop, play and even eat!



Adapted from [teachinglittles.com](http://teachinglittles.com)

**All activities require adult supervision and participation. Please be aware of small parts that could pose as a choking hazard.**



Paper Plate Flower  
[theresourcefulmama.com](http://theresourcefulmama.com)

### Paper Plate Flower

#### What You Need:

1. Small Paper Plates
2. Washable Non Toxic Markers
3. Craft Stick
4. Green Paper
5. Scissors
6. Glue

#### What To Do:

1. Adult cut small sections around perimeter of the plate.
2. Adult Cut two leaves from green paper.
3. Color craft stick green
4. Allow child to color the plate to make their flower
5. Glue Flower and leaves to craft stick

Adapted from  
[theresourcefulmama.com](http://theresourcefulmama.com)



## **Raising Infants and Toddlers into People You Like to Be With**


Babies and toddlers are natural learners. As parents, you are their biggest influence and most important teacher. You will teach your child by the behavior you model for your child.

### **Caring**

Your child will learn how to treat you and others by the way you treat them. When you respond to cries, they learn they can trust you. They learn to be caring about others as you care for them. When you touch with gentle hands, they learn to use gentle touches also. Of course, as your child grows, it is important for you to also use words to describe how you understand their feelings or how you like their gentle touches. One way you show you care about your child is by being a good listener. When they babble to you, copy their sounds. When they begin to use words, let them know that you understand what they are trying to tell you. As you take time to listen and respond, as you get down on your child's level so that you can hear what they have to share, as you are fully present, your child learns how important it is to give attention to others.

### **Respecting Others**

It is important that your child learns to feel a part of their community so they feel important to others and treats others as though they are also to be respected. Show interest in the people in your child's world. Call them by name. Help your child learn to put away their toys when finished playing, put garbage in the trash can, and in other ways follow rules that we have in our homes, classroom and community that help us to treat others with respect. Talk to your child about why we stop at traffic lights (not so we don't get in trouble with the police but so that everyone gets a turn driving safely,) why we put our things away (so everyone knows where to look for them when they want to use them,) and why we try to respect others' feelings. Your toddler might not understand everything you tell them right now but the more you talk about the community, the more they will want to be a member of it. When you show respect for your spouse, your child's teacher, a fellow driver or another young child at the center, your child sees that and learns to show respect also.

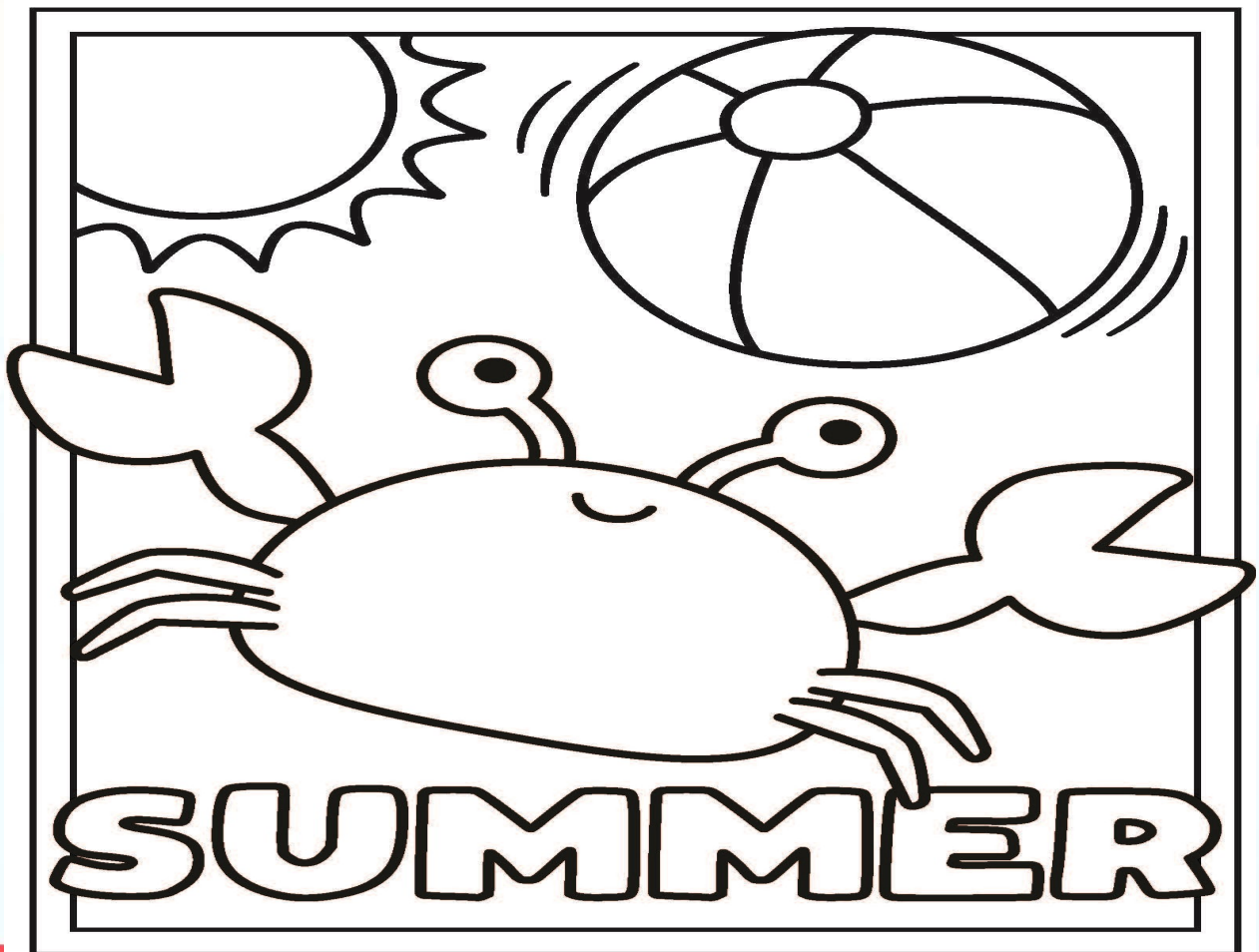


## Self-Confidence

Children learn to be confident in their abilities as they try to do new things in new ways. Failure is often part of the equation. They won't suddenly walk without sometimes falling, won't suddenly talk without some mishaps with pronouncing words. As a parent, you encourage. If you hear a word spoken incorrectly, you accept it but make sure you say it correctly when you use it. If they try a task that you realize is not impossible, don't do it for them but, if needed, show them what might help reach the goal. As we allow our toddlers to become independent, they feel proud of their abilities, and they want to learn more skills. Our job is not to keep them dependent on us but to help them to enter the world with skills that prepare them to deal with people and situations safely.

Our job is to help them be the kind of people we like to be around by being that person ourselves.

Adapted from: Schroeder, C. (n.d.). Raising infants and toddlers into people you like to be with. Retrieved from <https://www.chhs.niu.edu/child-center/resources/articles/raising-infants-toddlers.shtml>.



DID YOU KNOW?!?

You can now make referrals online!?

Scan the QR Code below to get started



## Contact us!

West Virginia Birth To Three RAU-One  
2000 Main Street, Suite 222  
Wheeling, WV 26003  
(304) 214-5775

Is your child moving, hearing, seeing, learning and talking like other children their age?

If you have any questions, please give us a call!

**1-800-619-5697**

[www.wvdhhr.org/birth23](http://www.wvdhhr.org/birth23)

Proudly serving Hancock, Brooke, Ohio, Marshall, Wetzel, Tyler, Marion, and Monongalia counties.

For local resources visit  
Family Resource Network at  
[www.wvfrn/counties/](http://www.wvfrn/counties/)

Find resources available  
in your county.



WV Birth to Three services and supports are provided under Part C of the Individuals with Disabilities Act (IDEA) and administered through the West Virginia Department of Health, Office of Maternal, Child and Family Health. WVBTT RAU One is a program of

