



EST.



1997



EARLY CHILDHOOD COUNCIL

LOGAN - PHILLIPS - SEDGWICK

Every child can learn, play & succeed!

August 2023 Newsletter

Announcements

ECCLPS News

This month we're grateful for **Iloff Head Start, Jamie Unrein** and her incredible staff. Iloff Head Start has been in operation for 36 years, with Jamie Unrein taking over in August of 2021. They serve over 75 3 - 5 year old children each year, by a staff of 22 amazing individuals. As Jamie states, "There are many things I love about our program, but the one thing that stands out, is that our program focuses on the child and the families. We work closely with each family by providing resources, getting them involved in our program, and working together to set goals for their family and their child. Our program goes above and beyond to make sure that we are supporting the child as a whole." That is clearly evident, as Iloff Head Start is rated a Level 4 in Colorado Shines. Way to go **Iloff Head Start**, Jamie Unrein, and their entire staff!

It has been a great summer for **ECCLPS! Safe Sitter** went off really well and we were able to serve over 30 young childcare givers, in all three counties, through this program. With each student that takes this class, we are helping to insure that they are confident and capable care givers, and the children they are caring for are safe and in good hands. Again we want to thank **Angie Myers** for teaching the class, and making it an enjoyable learning experience!

We would also like to share that since the launch of **Dolly Parton's Imagination Library** in Logan county, in April of 2022, we have enrolled well over 500 children to receive free books, and over 100 have graduated the program! If you have not yet enrolled your child, you can do so by joining **ECCLPS** at **Sam & Louie's** on August 28, between 5 - 9 PM for a registration event.



amee.duncan@state.co.us

720-692-4678

Save the Date

August 15 - **Revere** First day of school grades **K-12**

August 15 - **Haxtun** First day of school grades **K-12**

August 16 - **RE-1** First day of school grades **K-12**

August 16 - **Fleming** First day of school grades **4-12**

August 18 - **Fleming** First day of school grades **K-3**

August 17 - **RE-4J** First day of school grades **K-12**

August 17 - **RE-5** First day of school grades **7-12**

August 23 - **RE-5** First day of school grades **K-6**

August 15 - **Holyoke** First day of school grades **7-12**

August 16 - **Holyoke** First day of school grades **K-6**

August 28 - **Julesburg** First day of school grades **7-12** (half day dismiss @12:30)

August 29 **Julesburg** First day of school grades **PK-12** (full day)

Adult and Pediatric First Aid/CPR/AED
NJC Knowles Hall Room 312
August 26 - 8:30 AM - 5:00 PM
Click [here](#) to register or call 970-521-6773
or email stacey.nelson@njc.edu

August 28 - **ECCLPS Mini Fundraiser**
Sam & Louie's 310 Main St. Sterling
5:00 - 9:00 PM Everyone is welcome

August 31 - **First Pre-Licensing Training**
100 Broadway, Suite 14 (ECCLPS office)
6:00 - 9:00 PM

[Logan County Events](#)
[Sedgwick County Events](#)
[Phillips County Events](#)

Licensing Tidbits

*Don't forget background checks need to be completely redone every 5 years. Don't forget to check dates and make sure that you get clearance letters in your files. If an employee or member of your household has lived out of state in the past 5 years, even college students, you will need to run a background check from that state as well. The OEC website has great information if you have questions on this topic.

*With school starting back up, things are likely changing for you. If it is new staff, newly enrolled kids, or changes in schedules, please make sure all your paperwork is up to date and in compliance.

August is **Back to School Month** across the U. S. and it seems like the summer has flown by. Here are some tips for school readiness. Whether your child is starting preschool or ready for kindergarten, there are helpful checklists to help you determine some of the things you can focus on, so that when the time comes, you are both ready.

Back to School Readiness

[Resources for Colorado Families with Young Children](#)

Caring for young children is a huge responsibility! Luckily there are high-quality, confidential, and no-cost resources to help families like yours.

[Bilateral Coordination Delays Can Lead to Trouble in the Classroom](#)

Children need to learn valuable bilateral coordination skills, and will use them in the classroom daily. Start working with your child now.

[Head Start Approach to School Readiness](#)

What young children should know and be able to do during their early years. There is A LOT of information here.

[Get Ready for Kindergarten](#)

What are some of the skills expected of a child entering kindergarten? This site gives a great comprehensive view of skills needed and a whole range of articles.

[Ready or Not Kindergarten, Here We Come!](#)

A look at the whole child and all the skills and strengths each child can develop. Be sure to browse the column on the right of this page for additional tips.

[Is Your Child Ready for Kindergarten?](#)

Prepare them with these 20 skills. These expert-approved tips will give your child a head start.

[9 Ways to Get Your Child Ready for Kindergarten](#)

Getting ready for the changes can make the transition easier.

[How to Get Your Child Ready for the First Day of Kindergarten](#)

As exciting as this time may be for some, many struggle initially with the long days, challenging curriculum and time away from loved ones.

[How to Get Your Child Ready for Kindergarten](#)

Use these tips to break down readiness skills.

[Kindergarten Readiness Checklist](#)

This one has some really great ideas that haven't really been explored in the above links.

[5 Things to do When Your Child Wails "But I Don't Want to Go to School"](#)

Experts offer their best advice for handling those inevitable mornings.

[55 Best Back-to-School Quotes to Inspire Kids Ahead of the First Day](#)

If your children are older, and have already accomplished the kindergarten routine, that doesn't mean there won't be anxiety about the new year. Here are some great websites with valuable information you may not have thought of.

[8 Tips to Prepare for the First Days of School](#)

Take the pressure and anxiety out of back-to-school season with these helpful ideas from an educator.

[Preparing Your Child for the New School Year](#)

Back to school is always a big transition.

[Routines and Mindsets to Prepare Your Kids for Back to School](#)

Re-entry into the school year can be tough on everyone. Here are some suggestions for helping your kids prepare for school that will make the transition easier on them - and you.

[How to Prepare Your Child for a New School](#)

As parents and caretakers, we can support our children as they enter the new school year.

[How Can I Prepare My Kids for Back to School? K-12 Teachers Weigh In](#)

To Prepare your kids for going back to school while ensuring they have a positive, fulfilling summer, six teachers from across the country are here to share their advice and best practices.

[Helping Children Transition Into a New School Environment](#)

The idea of having new teachers, classrooms and friends can be daunting to even the most outgoing of kids, and it will take purposeful planning on the parents' behalf to ensure that their kids know it's normal to be nervous about heading to a new learning environment.

[How to Emotionally and Mentally Prepare Children to Go Back to School](#)

How can parents support their children if they are anxious about going back to school?

[Going Back to School](#)

The first day of school is their first chance to find their way around a new school. It's a lot to learn in one day, so don't be surprised if they need a reminder or two.

[21 Exciting Back to School Activities for Kids of Different Grades](#)

Are you looking for some fun and creative activities to do with your kids as the new school year approaches? Well, you've come to the right place!



ECCLA available [scholarships](#)
Early Learning IDEA [Grant](#)
CDE [scholarships](#)
CDHE [resources](#)
COAEYC [funding](#)
PDIS [funding](#)
UC Denver [funding](#)
Daniels Fund [scholarship](#)
ECCLPS [stipend](#)
NJC [scholarships](#) - You can browse them all, or search ECE scholarships.
(***Please note - while we try to list only reputable sources, always read the fine print, and do your own research before submitting personal information.)

Coming Soon...

Medication Administration Parts 1 & 2 - Saturday, September 23, 2023. To reserve your spot, email [Stacey](#).

Pre-Licensing Class (15 hours) required to become a Licensed Family Childcare Home Provider, offered at no cost by ECCLPS. Contact [Stacey](#)
August 31, September 7, 14, 21, 28 6-9 PM
(You must attend all 5 sessions.)

Adult and Pediatric First Aid/CPR/AED
(Two year Certification)
NJC Knowles Hall Room 312
Cost is \$89.00.

August 26 8:30 AM - 5:00 PM
October 28 8:30 AM - 5:00 PM
November 18 8:30 AM - 5:00 PM

Click [Here](#) to register.

Plan to bring your own lunch. Classes fill up quickly, so plan ahead. Complete online registration, or contact Stacey Nelson directly at:

970-521-6773

stacey.nelson@njc.edu

***Partner Meetings and Provider Trainings will resume in September. Mark your calendars for the fourth Monday of the month September through May.

Partner News Links

[Wildwood CACFP Newsletter](#)
[Baby Bear Hugs](#) - Scroll to bottom to subscribe
[Child Care Aware of America](#) - Scroll to bottom to subscribe
[NAEYC Newsletter](#)
[Chop-Chop Family](#)
[Early Learning Ventures](#)
[CDEC Newsletter](#)
[USDE Newsletter](#)
[Rocky Mountain Early Childhood Council](#)
[ECCLA Newsletter](#)
[CDE The SPARK Newsletters](#)
[DECC Newsletter](#) - Click to subscribe

Links to the **School Calendars**

[RE-1](#), [Fleming](#), [Merino](#), [Peetz](#), [Holyoke](#), [Haxtun](#), [Julesburg](#), [Ovid](#)



We're excited for the new **Childcare Read/Mother Read/Father Read** books we've ordered to make the sessions even more fun! Please reach out to [Mary](#) if you would like to be a part of any or all of these programs.

ECCLPS graciously accepts and appreciates your donations any time of year. Each donation made to us qualifies for the childcare tax credit. For every dollar, the donor receives the donation to lower their taxable income, and 50% as a tax credit to offset their taxes owed. You can donate anytime by clicking [Here](#) (PayPal) or [Here](#) (COGives).

If you have information you would like us to share in our newsletters, please send to [Aileen](#) prior to the month you would like it to be featured.

Please join us on **KPMX 105.7** the second Wednesday of each month at 9:00 AM to stay up to date on what's happening at ECCLPS.





[Colorado State Symbols and Emblems](#) - How many do you know?

Insignia





| | | |
|--------------|---|---|
| Coat of Arms | Coat of Arms of the State of Colorado |  The coat of arms of the State of Colorado features a shield with a red top section containing a mountain range and a green bottom section containing two crossed pickaxes. Above the shield is a banner with the motto "NIL SINE NUMINE" and the word "COLORADO" above and below the shield. |
| Flag | Flag of the State of Colorado |  The flag of the State of Colorado consists of three horizontal stripes: blue, white, and blue. A large red letter "C" is centered on the white stripe, with a yellow circle in the center of the "C". |
| Logo | Colorado State Government Logo | See Colorado State Logo |
| Motto | Nil Sine Numine "Nothing Without Providence" | Nil Sine Numine |
| Nickname | Centennial State | The Centennial State |
| Seal | Great Seal of the State of Colorado |  The Great Seal of the State of Colorado is a circular emblem. It features a red outer ring with the words "STATE OF COLORADO" and "1876". Inside the ring is a blue field with a white shield containing a mountain range and two crossed pickaxes. Above the shield is a banner with the motto "NIL SINE NUMINE". |
| Slogan | Colorful Colorado | Welcome to Colorful Colorado |

Living Symbols

| | | |
|-----------|--|--|
| Amphibian | <u>Western Tiger Salamander</u> |  A Western Tiger Salamander with black and yellow stripes is shown in a rocky stream bed near a wooden structure. |
| Bird | <u>Lark Bunting</u> |  A Lark Bunting with brown and white streaked plumage is perched on a rocky ground with some green vegetation. |
| Cactus | <u>Claret Cup Cactus</u> |  A Claret Cup Cactus with several bright red, cup-shaped flowers is shown against a background of green grass. |
| Fish | <u>Greenback Cutthroat Trout</u> |  A Greenback Cutthroat Trout is being held by a person's hands, showing its characteristic green back and white belly. |
| Flower | <u>Rocky Mountain Columbine</u> |  A Rocky Mountain Columbine flower with five white petals and a yellow center is shown in a close-up shot. |

| | | |
|---------|--|--|
| Grass | <u>Blue Grama Grass</u> |  A photograph of a dense patch of vibrant green grass. In the bottom right corner, there is a small black rectangular label with white text that reads "Boutelou gracilis Blue Grama". |
| Insect | <u>Colorado Hairstreak Butterfly</u> |  A photograph of a Colorado Hairstreak Butterfly with its wings spread. The wings are a deep, iridescent purple with dark brown borders and several small orange spots near the tips. |
| Mammal | <u>Rocky Mountain Bighorn Sheep</u> |  A photograph of a Rocky Mountain Bighorn Sheep standing on a light-colored, rocky or snowy slope. The sheep has thick, greyish-brown fur and large, curved horns. |
| Reptile | <u>Western Painted Turtle</u> |  A photograph of a Western Painted Turtle resting on a rock. The turtle has a dark shell with bright yellow-orange markings on its sides and a yellowish-orange plastron. |
| Tree | <u>Colorado Blue Spruce</u> |  A photograph of a tall, slender Colorado Blue Spruce tree with dense, dark green needles, set against a blue sky with scattered white clouds. |

Earth Symbols

| | | |
|----------|-------------------------------|--|
| Fossil | Stegosaurus |  |
| Gemstone | Aquamarine |  |
| Mineral | Rhodochrosite |  |
| Rock | Yule Marble |  |
| Soil | Seitz Soil |  |

Cultural Symbols

| | | |
|---------------|---|--|
| Folk Dance | Square Dance |  |
| Songs | "Where the Columbines Grow" "Rocky Mountain High" | "Where the Columbines Grow" "Rocky Mountain High" |
| Summer Sport | Pack Burro Racing |  |
| Tartan | Colorado State Tartan |  |
| Winter Sports | Skiing and Snowboarding |  |

Holidays and Special Occasions in August

August 1 - [Colorado Day](#)

August 1 - [World Wide Web Day](#)

August 3 - [National Watermelon Day](#)

August 4 - [Hooray for Kids Day](#)

August 6 - [American Family Day](#)

August 6 - [Farmworker Appreciation Day](#)

August 9 - [Annual Perseid Meteor Shower Peak Night](#)

August 9 - [National Book Lovers Day](#)

August 17 - [National Nonprofit Day](#)

August 18 - [Never Give Up Day](#)

August 19 - [World Honey Bee Day](#)

August 21 - [National Senior Citizens Day](#)

August 24 - [National Burger Day](#)

August 6 - 12 - [Exercise With Your Child Week](#)

August 12 - 20 - [National Science Week](#)

August 25 - 31 - [Be Kind to Humankind Week](#)

August is [Back to School Month](#)



Interesting Facts About Prairie Dogs: They are often considered pests and in some places, they have nearly been eradicated. There are 5 species of Prairie Dogs: Black-tailed, Gunnison's, Mexican, White-tailed, and Utah prairie dog. They are actually a rodent, and are believed to have begun in North America with the earliest fossil evidence dating as far back as 40 million years ago. They are considered a keystone species because about 150 other species of animals use their tunnels. They live in "dog towns" and the largest town ever discovered was 25,000 square miles large with about 400 million inhabitants. Prairie dog communication is quite complex. Animals raised in captivity do not share the large volume of vocalizations as those in the wild. Humans are the biggest threat to them, but other predators include ferrets, foxes, badgers, coyotes, eagles, and hawks. They feed on roots, grasses, buds, seeds, flowers, and insects. They generally weigh about 1-4 pounds and reach 12-16 inches. The females are sexually available for a very short time (perhaps as little as an hour) every year. Gestation is about one month, they produce a litter of 3-8 pups and only about half of them will survive their first year. They are typically weaned at 1-2 months. Age of sexual maturity is 1 year. Average lifespan is about 3-4 years. Learn more about them [here](#).

ECCLPS FAMILY CHILD CARE HOME PRE-LICENSING TRAINING (IN PERSON) BECOME A LICENSED FAMILY CHILD CARE HOME PROVIDER



WHEN

**August 31, September 7, 14, 21, 28,
6pm - 9pm
(You must attend all 5 sessions.)**

WHERE

ECCLPS

**100 Broadway ~ Suite 14
Sterling, Colorado**

This 15 hour training is required by the State of Colorado to become a licensed family child care home provider!

This training is provided at no cost to residents in Logan, Phillips, & Sedgwick Counties.

TRAINING MODULES

- *Intro to Family Child Care Home Pre-Licensing
- *Colorado State Rules & Regulations
- *Business Practices that Support Safe & Responsive Care
- *Communication in Family Child Care Homes
- *Designing Spaces that Support Safe & Responsive Care
- *Guidance that Supports Safe & Responsive Care
- *Health, Safety & Nutrition
- *Materials & Activities that Support Safe & Responsive Care

FOR MORE INFORMATION OR TO REGISTER:

Contact Stacey Zink
ecclps.zink@gmail.com
970-526-2440

Register By August 25th

TRAINING FUNDED BY:

**Early Childhood Council
Logan, Phillips, Sedgwick**

Buell Foundation

**Department of Human
Services: Logan, Phillips,
Sedgwick**

**Colorado Department of
Early Childhood**



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Every child can learn, play & succeed!

Join ECCLPS at
Sam & Louie's
August 28, 2023
5:00 - 9:00 PM



Dolly Parton's
Imagination Library
registration event

A percentage of sales that night will be donated to ECCLPS to help support our Early Childhood Champions, and continue to bring FREE BOOKS to kids under age 5 in Logan county, through the Imagination Library.

310 Main Street
Sterling, CO
970-526-2550



Bring your family, friends,
and appetite.

Mondays are buy one pizza,
get the second at half price!

Learn more about ECCLPS
and meet our Team

Want to donate but
can't be here? Use the
code below to donate
with PayPal



Any Time is a Great Time to Give Where You Live

ECCLPS

Accepts and appreciates donations through out the year!

If you would like to donate, please go to:

[ECCLPS Colorado Gives](#)

~ECCLPS TEAM~

| | | |
|---|--|---|
| <p>Stephanie Swenson Quality Support Coach <u>ecclps.edwards@gmail.com</u></p> | <p>Stacey Zink Coordinator <u>ecclps.zink@gmail.com</u></p> | <p>Michelle Sharp Executive Director <u>ecclps.sharp@gmail.com</u></p> |
| <p>Aileen Miranda Program Assistant <u>ecclps.miranda@gmail.com</u></p> | <p>Bailee Jones UPK Coordinator <u>ecclps.jones@gmail.com</u></p> | <p>Mary Pennock Child Read Coordinator <u>ecclps.pennock@gmail.com</u></p> |

GENERAL INFORMATION

Office Hours

Tuesday - Friday 8:30 - 5:00

ECCLPS Partner Meetings

4th Monday of the Month (September - May)

11:50 AM - 12:50 PM

ECCLPS Professional Development Trainings

4th Monday of the Month (September - May)

6:30 PM - 8:30 PM

Early Childhood Council Logan, Phillips, Sedgwick

100 Broadway Suite 14

P.O. Box 802

Sterling, CO 80751

970-526-2440

www.ecclps.org

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