



EST.



1997



EARLY CHILDHOOD COUNCIL

LOGAN - PHILLIPS - SEDGWICK

Every child can learn, play & succeed!

August 2025 Newsletter

Announcements ECCLPS News

To wrap up summer, our featured Child Care Family Home is **Joyce Lively** of **Joyce Lively Daycare**. Joyce's Family Child Care Home has been in operation for 24 years!

When asked what made her decide to get licensed and go into business for herself, her response was, "Our family child care provider, and another provider I had known for years, talked me into getting licensed, which allowed me to stay home with my own children." (That is one of the most amazing perks of having a child care business in your own home!)

She serves five families each year, with children from two months old up to 12 years old.

When asked about one of her favorite things about her child care program, her answer was, "I'm always so happy and also humbled when one of the children, who are now adults, are happy to see me, and want to stop by to see if the child care looks the same as when they were children and here everyday."

Indeed, those must be wonderfully happy moments, both for Joyce, and the former participants of her program. Thank you Joyce, for all you do!

Noteworthy Items

******You can use the QR Code below to enroll a child under 5 in the program, and also to donate to our program at any time. Or click www.imaginationlibrary.com



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**.

[Logan County Events](#)
[Sedgwick County Events](#)
[Phillips County Events](#)
[KPMX 105.7](#)
[Media Logic Radio Events](#)

If you have information you would like us to share in our newsletters, please send to [Aileen](#). You can view past issues of our newsletters [HERE](#)

Here's a friendly reminder that our Lending Library is available for your Family Child Care Home. Check out all the great things we have to offer!
[ECCLPS Lending Library](#)

[Potty Training Q&A](#)

If you have a child who's getting ready to start kindergarten, here are some helpful hints to getting them ready for the school year, if they aren't already potty trained.

[How to Teach Your Child to Wipe](#)

Following suit, here is **THE** most critical "kindergarten readiness" skill your child needs to possess!

Save the Date

August 9, 23 - Plains Community Market
Cedar Street & 2nd Stretesky Pavilion
8:00 AM - Noon

August 12 - First Day of School - **Holyoke**
7th - 12th grades

August 13 - First Day of School - **Holyoke**
Kindergarten - 6th grade - [Calendar](#)

August 12 - First Day of School - **Haxtun**
7th - 12th grades

August 14 - First Day of School - **Haxtun**
Kindergarten - 6th grades - [Calendar](#)

August 13 - First Day of School - **Revere**
All grades - [Calendar](#)

August 13 - First Day of School - **RE-1 Valley**
Kindergarten - 12th grades - [Calendar](#)

August 13 - First Day of School - **Fleming**
4th - 12th grades

August 15 - First Day of School - **Fleming**
Kindergarten - 3rd grades - [Calendar](#)

August 13 - First day of School - **Plateau**
3rd - 12th grades

August 14 - First Day of School - **Plateau**
Kindergarten - 2nd grades - [Calendar](#)

August 26 - First Day of School - **Plateau**
Preschool - [Calendar](#)

August 14 - First Day of School - **Buffalo**
All Grades - [Calendar](#) (online)

August 25 - First Day of School - **Julesburg**
All grades including Preschool - [Calendar](#)

Missing Merino!!!

Phillips and Sedgwick County Duck Drop info is coming!

Learning & Development

Organization Printables to Share with Your Students' Families

Some students (and families) have difficulty staying organized. These printables might be helpful.

14 Classroom Designs Elements that Support Young Children's Development

This list of essential classroom design elements can help teachers create the best possible spaces for young children.

The Power of Purposeful Preschool Environments

The better the environment is set up the less time the teacher needs to devote to the safety of the students.

Narrating Positive Behavior: Talking to Students vs. Talking About Students

This follows suit with Conscious Discipline's "noticing" and a great introduction to helping children build self-esteem.

Why Children Need Physical Activity

One of the reasons kids display so many behavioral challenges is the lack of physical activity. The skills essential to building a foundation for academics, are developed from physical movement.

The Project Approach for All Children

Engaging all children in interesting, motivating, and educational ways can be challenging in ECE classrooms. This is a wonderful, inclusive way to engage everyone.

Pyramid Model Practice Guide

This guide is to support those working directly with children. It is not intended to replace trainings.

Sesame Workshop Professional Development

Many resources to choose from in the comfort of your home!

Partner News Links

Chop-Chop Family

Baby Bear Hugs - Scroll to bottom to subscribe

Child Care Aware of America - Scroll to bottom to subscribe

DECC Newsletter - Click to subscribe

Green Child Magazine - Click to subscribe

Our Voice - Subscribe

CDE The SPARK Newsletters

ELV Newsletter

Colorado Shines - Subscribe

Healthy Child Care Colorado - Scroll to bottom to subscribe

RMPBS - subscribe

The Scoop - New and past issues online (weekly publication)

CDEC - subscribe or view online

PDIS - Petey's PDIS Newsletter

Mealtime Memos from CACFP

\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$

ECCLA grants and scholarships

CDE scholarships

CDHE resources

COAEYC funding

PDIS funding

UC Denver funding

Daniels Fund scholarship

NJC scholarships T-PREP

CDEC new grants see if you qualify - Applications open now

CDEC Stimulus Matrix

Preschool Development Grant 0-5

FFN Grant

Family Support and Education

5 Reasons Kids Still Need to Learn Handwriting

There are a number of important reasons why handwriting will still be taught – and still needs to be taught – in schools.

Why Daddy Should Read the Bedtime Story

A 2015 study from Harvard University suggests that children might benefit more from having their father reading them bedtime stories than their mother. If you find it a struggle to read to your child, try this article for fun, helpful hints for reading to your child [How to Read to Your Child](#).

Unlock the Magic: Easy Ways to Promote Play at Every Age

Sometimes, play is just what the doctor ordered. Children need different kinds of play at different times. When you engage in Parent-Child play, it can open up a completely new way of bonding with your child.

If I Let My Kids Play Outside, They'll Be Bullied!

This includes eight points for when hesitant parents pose the bully statement. (And if you're a little hesitant yourself, these should provide you some peace of mind, too!)

Matrescence: Losing Yourself in Motherhood isn't the Problem, it's the Point

"Losing yourself" in motherhood is NOT the worst thing to happen when you have a baby, it's part of the process of becoming who you will be.

Prevent Meltdowns by Expectation Kids Can Understand

When children don't know what to expect, it can lead to tantrums, frustration, and power struggles. Try these recommendations to help them understand.

The Benefits of Boredom

Being bored during the summer doesn't have to spark arguments, it can be a great way to get children to explore interests deeper, or try something new.

Confessions from Two Child Development Experts

Remember we are ALL human, and mistakes happen. Here are some sensible thoughts to help you through the tough times, when it's already happened.

Responding to Back Talk

10 Strategies for parents. From toddlers to adolescents, helpful ways to respond at all ages, and maintain connection.

It's Never Too Late to Turn Things Around

What to do if you've already given a child under 14 a smartphone – or allowed social media before age 16.

The Key to Raising Successful Kids in a Tech Saturated World? Build Real-World Efficacy by Doing Things with Risk

If you've noticed that the more time children spend in front of a screen, the worse their behavior - here are some real-world engagement ideas that can help.

Child Health and Well-Being

Fruits and Veggies Boost Sleep Quality

Do you have a child that doesn't sleep well? This study suggests that including more fruits and vegetables in their diet may help.

Breakthrough Research Shows the Complexity and Brilliance of Babies' Brains

Babies brains are not "blank slates" waiting for us to fill them, they are more like a supercomputer – learning at lightning speed! (Read the secondary articles to better understand what's happening in those little minds.)

10 Tips for Reading Aloud to Babies for Brain Development

These tips for reading aloud to babies is a great way to promote language and literacy skills early.

A Little Bit Different, A Little Bit the Same

Flexibility can be a challenge for all children, but especially for children on the autism spectrum, and for those who think differently. Try small changes to help them realize, and adjust to the fact, that sometimes... Things change. (Be sure to read the story book too!)

Movement and Exercise Help Kids Learn

Exercise supports our ability to think creatively, make decisions, focus, and retrieve key information.

Back to School Tips for Families

These tips can help prepare for the transition back to school, and minimize stress and anxiety for both the child and the parent.

11 Essential Back-to-School Health Tips for a Successful Year

Preparing your child for a healthy school year involves more than just buying school supplies. By establishing routines, promoting good nutrition and hygiene, and addressing emotional well-being, your child can start the school year on the right foot.

The 8th Sense Explained: 7 Interoception Activities for Kids

Interoception is the ability to recognize clues your body gives you. If your child struggles with this sense, this article may help you to help them.

We know we don't usually include two Guided Relaxation articles, but August is such a time of transitions, we thought both of these could be useful.

Guided Relaxation: Peaceful Butterfly Meditation

This is a wonderful, relaxing meditation, perfect for this time of year.

Guided Relaxation – "Cool at School"

With school starting again, this can be a very useful tool in getting back into the swing of things. Try it with your child even before school starts, to help foster a positive attitude about returning to school.

What is Early Intervention?

Early Intervention or EI provides developmental supports and services to children birth through two years of age who have significant developmental needs. You may also hear it referred to as “Part C” (Which is the federal law) or Birth to 3. It can help a family learn ways to support and promote their child’s development, within their family activities and community life.

We serve children with a variety of disabilities, from a moderate communication delay to children who are profoundly involved. The EI program can provide fifteen different early intervention services, which commonly include occupational, or physical therapy, and speech therapy. It may also include audiology services, nutrition, social emotional services, and vision services and more to help infants and toddlers grow and develop, and to help their family in this process. It is a voluntary program and does not discriminate based on race, culture, religion, income level, or disability.

The term “early” is important because research shows that the first three years are the most important time for developing and learning in a child’s life. The goal of the EI program is to “open a window of opportunity” for families to help their children with special needs develop to their full potential. It may also prevent or decrease the need for special help later during the school years.

How can a family receive Early Intervention services? Anyone can refer a child to EI. Typically, we receive referrals from physicians, community screenings, Child Find, parents, home visitation programs and Department of Human Services. Referrals are sent to the state EI team and evaluations are completed in our nine counties by a team of local professionals.

Eligibility for services is different from adults or school-age programs. Children who qualify must have a 33% delay in one or more of the five domains: Physical, Cognitive, Social-Emotional, Communication and Adaptive skills. Or a 25% delay in more than one area. Or they may have an “Established Condition” such as Down Syndrome, low birthweight, severe hearing or vision loss, Cerebral Palsy, etc.

We have four full-time service coordinators that assure families know their rights and entitlements under the Colorado State Plan and the federal law, IDEA. They help guide families after they are referred and found eligible through the process until the child turns three. They write the IFSP (Individual Family Service Plan) that outlines what services a family will receive. They then monitor to make sure a child and family are receiving the services and supports to meet the outcomes specified in the plan. In addition, they help the families apply for Family Support and/or waivers when appropriate. They also can connect families with additional resources and programs.

We currently serve about 130 to 140 children each month. EI is at “no cost” to families. It saves them from paying deductibles, co-pays, and travel to therapy far away. The services take place in a “Natural Setting” like a child’s home, grandparent’s home, childcare or even a community setting such as the library. Some of our providers are local therapists; others live elsewhere and provide telehealth. Telehealth has been shown to be as effective as or even more so than in-person services. It has enabled us to broaden our bank of therapists and therapies. We even have a Spanish speaking speech therapist!

At age 3 if a child could benefit from preschool services they might be referred to the local school district. All children in EI go through a transition process.

Early Intervention has strict timelines we are required to meet. Once the state team receives a referral, they have 45 days to complete the evaluation unless there are issues connecting with and scheduling with the family. If the child is found eligible, the local program is notified and we set up the Initial IFSP meeting. When that is complete, we have 28 days to arrange for and start therapy. Families never wait months for an evaluation or services.

If you would like to learn more about the EI program, please reach out to me at:

Vicki Folkerts
Early Intervention Director
Eastern Colorado Services
970-526-3623 ext. 303
vfolkerts@ecsdd.org

or

Lisa Wieland
Logan, Sedgwick & Phillips counties Service Coordinator
Eastern Colorado Services
970-531-0880
lwieland@ecsdd.org

ADAPT TO IMPACT



Center for
Innovative Design
and Engineering
(CIDE)

Breaking Barriers | Changing Lives

Adapt to Impact helps create childcare environments where every child can succeed by offering providers the tools and resources to support children with delays and disabilities.

Adapt to Impact is:

- For all licensed Colorado childcare programs
- Intended to better serve children with delays, disabilities, and differences
- FREE to participating programs

Adapt to Impact Offers:

- Comprehensive online trainings focused on adapting and supporting children with delays and disabilities
- Access to a loan library of over 200 items
- Supports and resources

Contact Us:

<https://bit.ly/AdaptToImpact>

AdaptCIDE@UCDENVER.EDU



[Follow this link for more information.](#)

BUSINESS INSURANCE & BENEFITS SOLUTIONS

For Child Care Providers

Protecting care centers. Empowering caregivers.

TrueNorth understands the unique insurance challenges faced by child care providers. We've developed a holistic program to directly address critical coverage needs, as well as provide options to ensure workforce well-being. In collaboration with ECCLA, we've curated a Benefits Bundle and free à la carte benefits marketplace with affordable healthcare options.

The 'Benefits Bundle' includes:

- ✓ 24/7 urgent care telemedicine
- ✓ Medical safety net
 - Accident coverage up to \$500
 - Critical illness up to \$5,000
 - Hospital stay coverage up to \$1,000
- ✓ Mental health counseling & resources
- ✓ Wellness & lifestyle action plans
- ✓ Financial coaching & budgeting tools

We're here to serve as a trusted ally for child care providers, allowing them to focus on protecting and maximizing their businesses.



OUR SOLUTIONS INCLUDE:

General Liability
Abuse & Molestation
Property
Commercial Auto
Workers' Comp
Umbrella
Benefits Bundle

Want to learn more about our program offerings?



Explore how our business and benefits solutions can help you achieve your goals.



This publication has been prepared by TrueNorth Companies, L.C. and is intended for informational purposes only. Transmission of this publication is not intended to create, and receipt does not constitute, a client relationship with TrueNorth Companies, L.C. This publication does not constitute any type of representation or warranty, and does not constitute, and should not be relied upon as, legal advice. This publication is not a contract and does not amend, modify or change any insurance policy you may have with an insurance carrier. © 2025 TrueNorth Companies, L.C. All rights reserved.

Aphid

*Aphids are soft-bodied insects that use their piercing sucking mouthparts to feed on plant sap. They usually occur in colonies on the underside of tender terminal growth. Heavily infested leaves can wilt or turn yellow because of excessive sap removal. While the plant may look bad, aphid feeding generally will not seriously harm healthy, established trees and shrubs. However, some plants are very sensitive to feeding by certain aphid species. Saliva injected into plants by these aphids may cause leaves to pucker or to become severely distorted, even if only a few aphids are present. Also, aphid feeding on flower buds and fruit can cause malformed flowers or fruit.

*Infestations generally result from a small number of winged aphids that fly to the plant and find it to be a suitable host. They deposit several wingless young on the most tender tissue before moving on to find a new plant. The immature aphid nymphs left behind feed on plant sap and increase in size. They mature in 7 to 10 days and then are ready to produce live young. Each of them are capable of producing 40 to 60 offspring. The process is repeated several times, resulting in a tremendous population explosion. Winged females may develop later in the season, allowing the insects to colonize new plants. In temperate regions, a phase of sexual reproduction occurs in the autumn, with the insects often overwintering as eggs. There are about 5,000 species of aphid.

*Control can be difficult, as the aphids tend to cluster on the underside of leaves and flower buds. Small numbers of individuals can be crushed by hand or removed by pruning. Most products used for aphid control work as contact insecticides. This means the aphids must be hit directly with spray droplets so that they can be absorbed into the insect's body. Sevin dust is highly ineffective for aphids and often will reduce the number of beneficial insects, such as lady beetles, and increase the potential for aphid outbreaks.

*Aphid control is most valuable for new plantings, where excessive sap removal is more likely to affect general plant vigor. Good cultural practices, such as watering and fertilization, will help to reduce stress by these insects. Plants that become infected with an aphid-borne virus may be severely stunted and may die. Preventive sprays are rarely effective in keeping viruses out of plantings but they may reduce the spread within a group of susceptible plants. Beneficial insects will begin to appear on plants with moderate to heavy aphid infestations. They may eat large numbers of aphids, but the reproductive capability of aphids is so great that the impact of the natural enemies may not be enough to keep these insects at or below acceptable levels.

*Many aphid species are monophagous (meaning they feed on only one plant species). Others, like the green peach aphid, feed on hundreds of plant species across many families. About 10% of species feed on different plants at different times of the year.

*Some species of ants farm aphids, protecting them on the plants where they are feeding, and consuming the honeydew the aphids release. This is a mutualistic relationship. Although mutualistic, the feeding behavior of aphids is altered by ant attendance. Aphids attended to by ants tend to increase the production of honeydew in smaller drops with a greater concentration of amino acids. Some farming ant species gather and store the aphid eggs in their nests over the winter. In the spring, the ants carry the newly hatched aphids back to the plants. Queens leaving to start a new colony take an aphid egg to found a new herd of underground aphids in the new colony. Some bees in coniferous forests collect aphid honeydew to make [forest honey](#).

Aphid - cont.

*An interesting variation in ant-aphid relationships involves [lycaenid butterflies](#) and [Myrmica](#) ants. For example, [Niphanda fusca](#) butterflies lay eggs on plants where ants tend herds of aphids. The eggs hatch as [caterpillars](#), which feed on the aphids. The ants do not defend the aphids from the caterpillars, since the caterpillars produce a [pheromone](#), which deceives the ants into treating them like ants, and carrying the caterpillars into their nest. Once there, the ants feed the caterpillars, which in return produce honeydew for the ants. When the caterpillars reach full size, they crawl to the colony entrance and form cocoons. After two weeks, the adult butterflies emerge and take flight. At this point, the ants attack the butterflies, but the butterflies have a sticky wool-like substance on their wings that disables the ants' jaws, allowing the butterflies to fly away without harm.

*Another [ant-mimicking](#) gall aphid has evolved a complex double strategy involving two morphs of the same clone and [Tetramorium](#) ants. Aphids of the round morph cause the ants to farm them, as with many other aphids. The flat morph aphids are aggressive mimics with a "wolf in sheep's clothing" strategy: they have hydrocarbons in their cuticle that mimic those of the ants, and the ants carry them into the brood chamber of the ants' nest and raise them like ant larvae. Once there, the flat morph aphids behave like predators, drinking the body fluids of ant larvae.

*Aphids have many bird and insect predators. In a study on a farm in North Carolina, six species of [passerine bird](#) consumed nearly a million aphids per day between them, the top predators being the [American goldfinch](#), with aphids forming 83% of its diet, and the [vesper sparrow](#). Insects that attack aphids include the adults and larvae of predatory ladybirds, [hoverfly](#) larvae, parasitic [wasps](#), [aphid midge](#) larvae, "aphid lions" (the larvae of [green lacewings](#)), and spiders. Some ladybirds are dietary specialist which only feed on particular species of aphids. Female hoverflies lay several thousand eggs. The adults feed on pollen and nectar but the larvae feed voraciously on aphids.

*Aphids are often infected by [bacteria](#), [viruses](#), and fungi. They are affected by the weather, such as precipitation, temperature and wind. Fungi that attack aphids include entomopathogenic fungi. Aphids brush against the microscopic spores. These stick to the aphid, germinate, and penetrate the aphid's skin. The fungus grows in the aphid's [hemolymph](#). After about three days, the aphid dies and the fungus releases more spores into the air. Infected aphids are covered with a woolly mass that progressively grows thicker until the aphid is obscured. Often, the visible fungus is not the one that killed the aphid, but a secondary infection.

*Aphids can be easily killed by unfavorable weather, such as late spring freezes. Excessive heat kills the symbiotic bacteria that some aphids depend on, which makes the aphids infertile. Rain prevents winged aphids from dispersing, and knocks aphids off plants and thus kills them from the impact or by starvation, but weather cannot be relied on for aphid control.

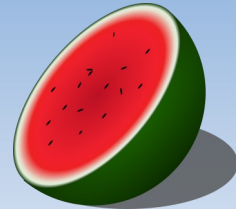
Watch this AMAZING video [HERE](#)

Source [1](#), [2](#)



Holidays and Special Occasions in August

August 1 – [Colorado Day](#)
 August 1 – [National Water Balloon Day](#)
 August 1 – [Spider-Man Day](#)
 August 2 – [National Coloring Book Day](#)
 August 3 – [American Family Day](#)
 August 3 – [National Watermelon Day](#)
 August 4 – [Hooray for Kids Day](#)
 August 6 – [Farmworker Appreciation Day](#)
 August 6 – [National Root Beer Float Day](#)
 August 8 – [Odie Day](#)
 August 9 – [Annual Perseid Meteor Shower Peak Night](#)
 August 9 – [National Book Lovers Day](#)
 August 10 – [Melon Day](#)
 August 12 – [International Youth Day](#)
 August 14 – [National Financial Awareness Day](#)
 August 15 – [Kool Aid Day](#)
 August 16 – [International Geocaching Day](#)
 August 16 – [National Roller Coaster Day](#)
 August 16 – [World Honey Bee Day](#)
 August 17 – [National Nonprofit Day](#)
 August 25 – [National Banana Split Day](#)
 August 30 – [Slinky Day](#)
 August 31 – [National Zoo Awareness Day](#)



August 1 – 7 – [Breastfeeding Week](#)
 August 3 – 9 – [Exercise with Your Child Week](#)
 August 3 – 9 – [National Farmers Market Week](#)
 August 29 – September 4 – [Literacy & Numeracy Week](#)



August is
[Back to School Month](#)
[Children's Eye Health and Safety Month](#)
[Family Fun Month](#)
[National Breastfeeding Month](#)
[National Peach Month](#)
[National Traffic Awareness Month](#)



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~

Stephanie Swenson Quality Support Coach <u>ecclps.edwards@gmail.com</u>	Stacey Zink Coordinator <u>ecclps.zink@gmail.com</u>	Michelle Sharp Executive Director <u>ecclps.sharp@gmail.com</u>
Aileen Miranda Program Assistant <u>ecclps.miranda@gmail.com</u>		Bailee Jones UPP Coordinator <u>ecclps.jones@gmail.com</u>

GENERAL INFORMATION

Office Hours

Tuesday - Friday 9:00 - 4:00

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

[Follow us on Facebook](#)