

Colorado Early Learning & Development Guidelines

Letter Template

This is a letter (see page 2) you can customize to reach out to local schools, child care centers or any place where you think it will reach parents (e.g., libraries, human services offices) to spread the word about the Colorado Early Learning and Development Guidelines.

Feel free to reach out to them to see if they would be open to placing the flyers in highly visible areas where parents and caregivers would have an opportunity to learn more about this valuable resource. If you are able, you can offer to bring color copies of the flyers to them, or you can email them a PDF version for them to print themselves.

Instructions:

- Cut and paste the text below into a document or email
- Customize or edit the letter based on how you plan to use it and include any additional messages you would like to include
- Print the letter or paste it into an email
- Feel free to use your organization's branding in your outreach materials

Colorado Early Learning & Development Guidelines

We know the early years -- from a child's birth to age eight -- are critically important for all areas of learning and development. That includes children's health and physical development, emotional and behavioral development, as well as logic and reasoning.

Early experiences and relationships shape how a child's brain gets built. Creating a strong foundation - with secure and loving relationships and positive experiences -- leads to greater health, learning and well-being later on.

That is why Colorado created the Early Learning and Development Guidelines to describe a child's learning and development and provide practical tips and fun ideas that anyone can use to support young children's healthy development.

As parents and caregivers, our role in supporting children's healthy development starts by simply getting involved - using the tools we already have to build strong, supportive relationships with our children and helping them feel safe and secure to learn and explore the world around them.

Here is what you can do:

1. **Visit EarlyLearningCO.org to learn more about the Guidelines.** The website is also available in Spanish at AprendizajeTemprano.org.
2. **Explore the Guidelines and identify ways that you can use them at home or in your work.** Tools to help are available on the website including tip sheets and a new video series.
3. **Spread the word and tell parents and coworkers about the Guidelines.** Customizable flyers for parents and caregivers are available on the website at EarlyLearningCO.org/Providers-Educators/Materials.

Remember, all children learn, grow and develop differently. What works for one child may not work for another, and that's OK! When parents and caregivers follow a child's lead and support him or her with caring, consistent relationships and positive experiences, both the parent and the child will thrive.

The Guidelines give us a great resource to help Colorado's kids get off to a strong start, but only if we all use them. Please help spread the word!

Sincerely,