

OCTOBER 2022

PARENTING COMMUNITIES

funded by the 2019 Leelanau County Early Childhood Millage

The Protective Factors: Knowledge of Parenting & Child Development

The Protective Factors are strengths all families may have and can build upon that support resilient, thriving children and families. They are: parental resilience, social connections, knowledge of parenting & child development, concrete support in times of need, social & emotional competence of children, and nurturing & attachment.

These factors help to reduce stress, enhance wellbeing and positive parent-child relationships that are the foundation for healthy development in children. This month, our focus is on **knowledge of parenting & child development**.

Let's take a closer look at fine motor skills - what are they and how do we support our child's development of fine motor skills?

Fine motor skills are the coordination of small muscles and movements of the hands, wrists, and eyes, enabling us to do precise movements. These are developed from birth and eventually leads to the ability to write, get dressed, prepare food, and aid in our daily tasks.

Infants grasping at a stuffed animal or wrapping their hands around a caregiver's finger are developing fine motor skills. Toddlers playing with blocks, cars, scribbling, and turning pages of a book are developing fine motor skills. Preschoolers cutting paper, playing with play-doh, painting, and helping in the kitchen are developing fine motor skills. So many things we do daily are fine-motor related that we may not realize! Below are some activity ideas to support your child's fine motor development at different ages.

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Developmentally Appropriate Activities: Fine Motor Skills

0-6 months

Place a variety of toys & textures around baby to practice reaching & grasping

6-12 months

Play with blocks to practice holding smaller objects, stacking them, & watching them fall down

1-2 years

Give utensils & a cup so they can begin feeding themselves at meal times

2-3 years

Get out the play-doh to roll, pound, squeeze, & pull - this helps develop small hand muscles

3-4 years

Use child-safe scissors to practice cutting paper, you may draw a line to show them where to cut

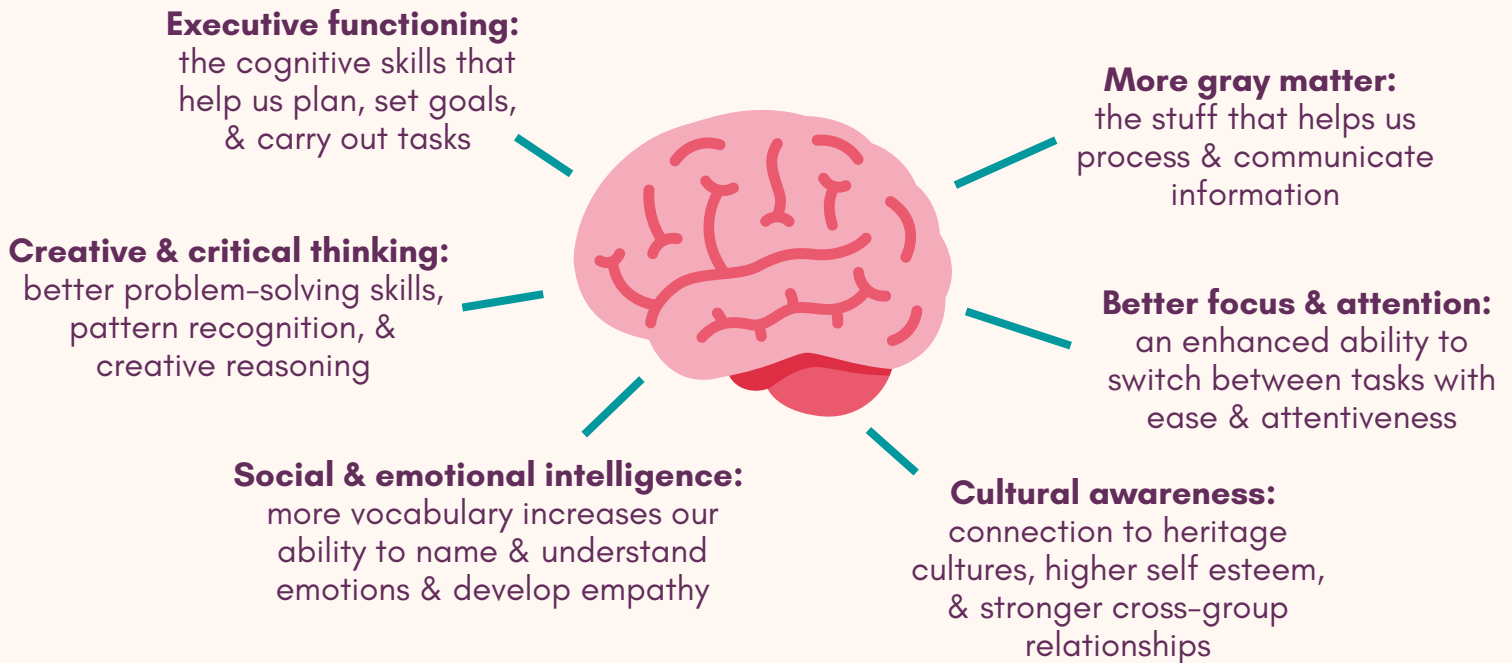
4-6 years

Emerging writing skills vary, but lots of practice with crayons or markers and copying shapes, letters, numbers will help them learn to write

Celebrating the Bilingual Child

October is the month that we celebrate bilingual (and multilingual) children! Children who are raised with more than one language are shown to have more mental flexibility, better focus, stronger literacy skills, and cultural ties – all great benefits!

The bilingual brain's super powers!



How can we celebrate the bilingual child month?

Challenge your children

- make a special effort to speak to your child in their first language
- have conversations with family & friends
- always remind them of the importance of their language & its equality with other languages

Read & learn about languages & culture

- read to children in their first language on a daily basis, feel free to mix in words from both languages they know
- rhyme & sing songs in many languages
- visit the library to find books in many languages & about many cultures

Organize a playdate

- playing with other bilingual children will help them build confidence & gives them the opportunity to openly express themselves
- playing with children who speak other languages helps all children develop cultural awareness, empathy, & celebrate diversity



Playgroup Fun!



Join us for a
Harvest playgroup:
Friday, October 14th
10-11:30am
9 Bean Rows,
Lake Leelanau
Costumes
encouraged!



Registration for
harvest playgroup
required:
tinyurl.com/v5cx6vsu



FLOWCODE
PRIVACY.FLOWCODE.COM



OCTOBER/OCTUBRE 2022 EVENTS!

For Leelanau families with children ages 0-6
Para familias de Leelanau con niños de 0-6 años



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COMMUNITIES

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Early Childhood Millage

PLAYGROUPS

MONDAYS/LUNES

***NEW!* SPANISH-
SPEAKING PLAYGROUP**

FRIENDSHIP CENTER,
SUTTONS BAY
OCT 3, 10, 17, 24
4-5PM

WEDNESDAYS/ MIERCOLES

NORTHPORT PUBLIC SCHOOL
OCT 5, 12, 19, 26
10-11AM

(5toONE/PC) GREAT LAKES
CHILDREN'S MUSEUM
OCT 12 & 26
10-11:30AM

TUESDAYS/MARTES

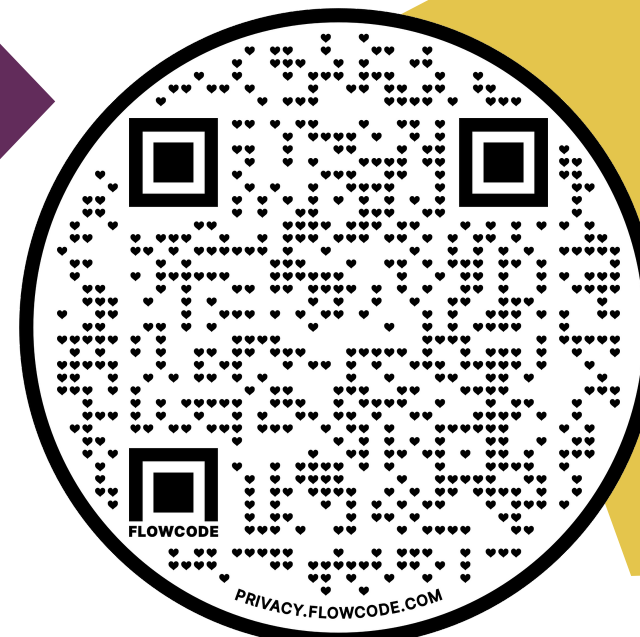
GLEN LAKE COMM.
REFORMED CHURCH
OCT 4, 11, 18, 25
10-11AM

FRIDAYS/VIERNES

SUTTONS BAY LIBRARY
OCT 7, 21, 28
10-11AM

9 BEAN ROWS
OCT 14
10-11:30AM

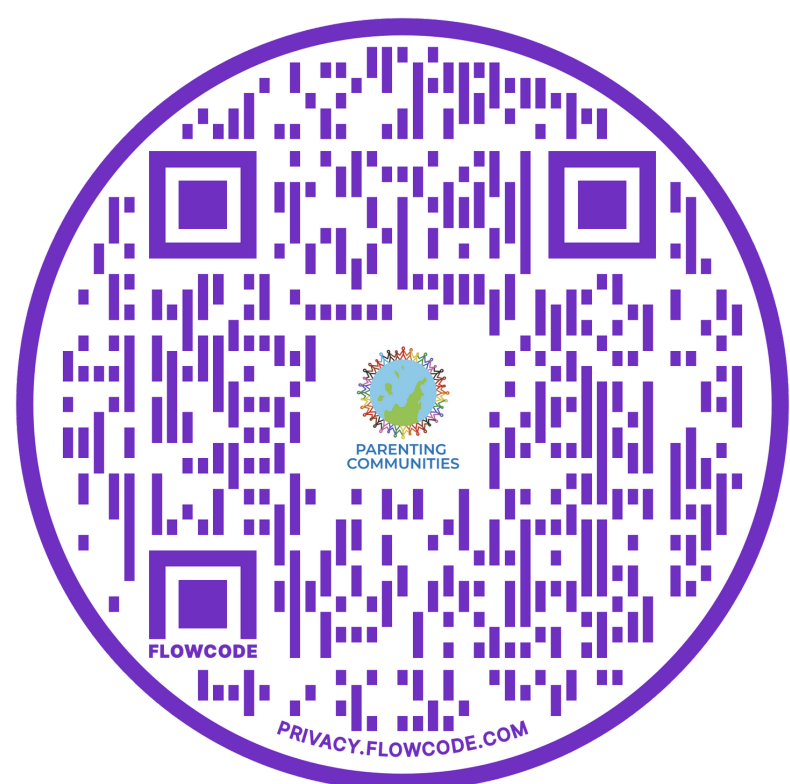
Registration Required
scan QR code to register



Family Check-in

If you have ever participated in Parenting Communities services (home visits, playgroups, community events) please complete this survey so we can get an understanding of how we are meeting the community's needs.

Your input is important!



HELPING US ALL BE THE PARENTS
WE DREAM OF BEING



@PCLeelanau



@parentingcommunities



www.bldhd.org/Parenting-communities

