

Five from Thrive

July 2009



ThrivebyFive™
WASHINGTON



News and Events

Snohomish Born Learning Trail Featured on KING TV's Evening Magazine; New Trail Coming Soon

Walk. Read. Do. Learn.

KING 5 TV's *Evening Magazine* recently featured the Born Learning Trail at Willis D. Tucker Community Park in Snohomish County. The trail, part of the national Born Learning effort, includes 10 signs along a path that give parents and caregivers ways to take advantage of outdoor everyday moments with their young children from hopping to listening to sounds and finding things that start with the T - like trees.

More than a dozen Born Learning Trails are in communities throughout Washington state thanks to the efforts of local early learning coalitions and groups of volunteers who help install them. Kitsap County got a new Born Learning Trail this past spring at the Naval Avenue Early Learning Center, and Lake Stevens will get a Born Learning Trail next week. Thrive helps support both of the early learning coalitions in these areas.

Interested in putting a Born Learning Trail in your community? Contact your local United Way for more information.

Mark Your Calendar! Primetime Special on School Readiness to Air August 30



"Learning For Life: Ready For School, Ready For Life": A child prepared for kindergarten has a much greater chance of succeeding in school and in life. In this KING 5 special, hosted by Joyce Taylor and Brad Goode, parents and caregivers learn what it means to be "kindergarten ready," why it's important and how we all can make a positive impact on a child's future.



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Get the very latest from the world of early learning including news, upcoming events, groundbreaking studies and much more!

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The special airs Sunday, Aug, 30 at 9 p.m. on KING 5 TV and is one of the many ways that KING and Thrive are working in partnership to raise the level of awareness about the importance of early learning in Washington state.

Clear Channel Communications also will be helping to promote the special on its 28 stations throughout the state. We'll let you know soon when to listen for special interviews and call-in opportunities to talk about early learning!

Play and Learn Comes to Wenatchee-area Migrant Worker Camp

A new weekly Play and Learn group in Monitor is getting lots of attention for reaching out to a special group: families with young children living in migrant camps.



Liliana Torres, the Play and Learn facilitator, told the *Wenatchee World* in a recent [story](#) that the group tries to attract parents as well as connect with children. Play and Learn "gets parents more involved in their children's education," she said. "We give the parents ideas about how to play with small children, when they go home they'll have ideas about different games."

She also said the Play and Learn groups are for everyone, but migrant farmworker families have a special need. "They move around every three months and parents don't have room to pack toys. They only bring what's absolutely necessary."

As a result of the *Wenatchee World* article, more local businesses that employ migrant workers are interested in creating additional Play and Learn groups to support their families.

Thrive helps support the early learning coalition in Chelan and Douglas counties.

Learning for Life Baby: The First Year

Babies are born learning and grow more during their first five years than at any other time in their lives. Providing children with a healthy and supportive environment during this time is particularly important.



This month's *Learning for Life* focused on issues related to baby's first year ranging from the changes and challenges that come with bringing a new baby home, to the benefits of home visiting programs that give extra support to families who need it most. We also looked at how sign language can be used to communicate with a baby in the first year, and explored important milestones, resources, and concerns parents have related to the health and development of babies in the first year.

Segments for July's *Learning for Life* included:

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🕒 **[Learning Begins at Birth:](#)** What's Happening in the Baby Brain: Dr. Dimitri Christakis of Seattle Children's talks about how a baby's first year of learning impacts brain development for the rest of his or her life.

🕒 **[Home Visiting: Getting a Healthy Start:](#)** Keltie Wright from the non-profit organization Friends of Youth talk about how important it is to have a support system in place when adjusting to life with a new baby.

🕒 **[Healthy Start Helping Coach Young, First Time Parents:](#)** Being a new parent is scary and stressful at times, but the uncertainty is even higher when the parent is still a youngster herself. A program in King and Snohomish counties offers free parenting coaches to young, first time parents.

🕒 **[Life with Baby:](#)** Bringing a baby home from the hospital can be the start of a challenging time for new parents. But with a little expert advice and a sense of humor, parents can weather the changes.

🕒 **[Using Sign Language with Baby for Early Communication:](#)** Wondering what your baby's trying to tell you is frustrating, but what if you could teach your baby sign language to communicate? One Seattle woman is teaching parents and babies how to do that.

🕒 **[Baby's Health:](#)** Pediatrician Dr. Michelle Terry from Seattle Children's Hospital offers some advice aimed at easing fears so parents can relax and enjoy the adventure that comes with having a child.

Learning for Life is a week-long news series on KING 5 TV created in partnership with Thrive by Five Washington. It airs on KING Morning News on KING 6/16 TV between 7:30 and 8 a.m.

[Links to this month's and all past *Learning for Life* segments](#) can be found on Thrive's Web site.

The August *Learning for Life* airs the week of Aug. 24 and will focus on Preschool - why this step before kindergarten is important, what options are available and how to ease the transition from preschool to kindergarten.

What You Can Do

Join the Conversation

Have you been getting the latest scoop in early learning? More than 2,500 people have!

Join Paul Nyhan, former family reporter and Working Dad blogger for the Seattle Post-Intelligencer, on Thrive's daily blog, Birth to Thrive Online. Follow trends in early learning and learn about the exciting research, issues and news from around the state and country. The blog also features Thrive's work as well as the work



of our partners.

[Join in the conversation](#) today and let your voice be heard!

Get in the Know

CHILD Profile

CHILD (Children's Health Immunizations Linkages and Development) Profile is Washington State's health promotion and immunization registry system designed to help ensure Washington's children receive the preventive health care they need offering information and resources for both [parents](#) and [providers](#).



CHILD Profile mails to all parents of children birth to age 6 in Washington state age-specific information about immunizations, growth, development, safety, nutrition and other parenting issues.

There are a total of 17 mailings, timed to correspond with the American Academy of Pediatrics - recommended schedule of well-child visits. Each mailing contains an age-appropriate letter and, depending on the age, may contain other useful brochures that are listed by topic below. For the first 18 months, mailings are sent every three months. From 18 months to 6 years, mailings are sent every six months.

If you did not have your baby in Washington state and would like to begin receiving CHILD Profile mailings, [click here](#).

[Learn more about CHILD Profile](#). Resources and information are also [available en Espanol](#).

Partner Resources

Latest Research from the Institute for Learning and Brain Sciences

This month, University of Washington's Institute for Learning and Brain Sciences (ILABS) co-directors Drs. Pat Kuhl and Andy Meltzoff made the case for a "new science of learning" that has the potential to remake education, offering fresh evidence of science's growing role in the conversation about early learning's importance.

In the July 17 issue of the journal *Science*, Kuhl and Meltzoff - along with co-authors from the University of California San Diego - explored how breakthroughs in neuroscience, psychology and machine learning are helping us [understand how we learn](#).

Much of the paper focuses on how kids learn, highlighting the importance of social interaction, the limits of television in the first years of life and new findings about babies.

[Read Foundations for a New Science of Learning](#).

Events

8/8 - [Second Annual Early Learning Community Fair](#). The Foundation

for Early Learning is hosting the second annual statewide Early Learning Community Fair. Many fairs will be held Saturday, Aug. 8, 2009, but many others will be held over the following two weeks. Organizations, community groups, early learning centers, health providers, schools, libraries, and other supporters of early learning will be participating around Washington state. See if there is an Early Learning Community Fair near you by clicking here. [Click here to see if there is an Early Learning Community Fair near you by clicking here.](#)

8/10-11 - [Starting Strong: Connecting Schools and Early Learning Providers Birth through 8 years.](#) The "Starting Strong" conference will focus on informing practice in four key components necessary for P-3 early care and education efforts: leadership, Instructional practice, community coalitions and collaboration and family partnerships. Attendees will hear from national experts, P-3 partnerships in Washington and participate in facilitated work group sessions focused on helping teams plan how they will put what they are learning into practice.

9/10 - [KIRO 7 Kids Classic 13th Annual Golf Tournament and Auction.](#) Benefitting [Children's Home Society of Washington](#) this four-person scramble will be held at the Trilogy Golf Course at Redmond Ridge.



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