

# THE PARENT MENTOR

# MINUTE

JANUARY 2024

A MONTHLY NEWSLETTER OF THE ESC LORAIN COUNTY PARENT MENTOR PROGRAM

## EMBRACING ROUTINES AND SHARING RESOURCES

It's back to school and back to routines. There are some great resources and trainings that we have included in this month's newsletter. Be sure to follow our Facebook page [here](#) for periodic updates. If you are looking for a specific resource, please reach out.

Mark your calendars for the Lorain County Resource Fair, hosted by Connecting for Kids- MARCH 12th from 6:00-8:00 PM at Lorain County Community College. More details to come in upcoming newsletters.

**BEFORE LEARNING TO WRITE, A CHILD NEEDS TO...**

- squish play dough
- squeeze pegs
- thread beads
- use scissors
- trace with their fingers
- create art
- squeeze pipettes
- sew/lace

## LEARNERS WITH COMPLEX NEEDS

### Marvin's Story Time

Looking for activities during the winter months? Enjoy Marvin's Story Time Adventures with Gwynnie-Gwyn-Gwyn. Family Learning Partnership hosts this story-time show that is inclusive for your child with complex learning needs. To watch pre-recorded sessions, [visit here](#).



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## ELEMENTARY

As your student approaches middle school, you may notice your student having more learning difficulties. Understood offers [help for 6 common executive function challenges](#).

## HIGH SCHOOL TRANSITION AGE 14+

Free Book: *Supported Decision Making and Guardianship*

The Ohio Developmental Disabilities Council has published the latest book from Resch, Root, Philipps, & Graham, LLC. To order your free copy of *Supported Decision-Making and Guardianship*, written by Logan Philipps and Derek Graham, [click here](#).

**NEW BOOK RELEASE!**

**SUPPORTED DECISION MAKING AND GUARDIANSHIP**

WRITTEN BY LOGAN PHILIPPS & DEREK GRAHAM

## READING

When the weather finally gets cold and snowy, you can use this [Reading Challenge](#) with 13 reading ideas to change things up! Bundle up and take your list to your local library.





## REAL STORIES: IMAGINE A LIFE IN THE COMMUNITY FOR ALL

JOIN US FOR THIS  
GREAT SERIES  
TUESDAY, JANUARY 23  
TUESDAY, JANUARY 30  
TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 6  
6:00pm-7:30pm

CAN YOU IMAGINE YOUR CHILD LIVING THEIR BEST LIFE IN THE COMMUNITY AS AN ADULT? LIVING WITH FRIENDS, GOING TO THE GYM, OR HAVING A FAVORITE HANG OUT.

### JOIN US FOR THIS INNOVATIVE SERIES:

- **LEARN** FROM FAMILIES' REAL EXPERIENCES.
- **SEE** HOW THEY MADE THE SEEMINGLY IMPOSSIBLE, POSSIBLE
- **HEAR** HOW THEY WORKED WITH SUPPORTS.
- **GAIN** INSPIRATION AND WORK WITH THEM TO PLAN FOR YOUR CHILD

Register Now  
Hosted on Via Zoom



## IEP TIP CORNER

It's never too early OR too late to organize your student's IEP binder. If you have a "pile" of your student's papers you have been meaning to go through, [here](#) is a resource to help!

## LOCAL RESOURCES/EVENTS



Mother 2 Mother is available to offer resources and virtual support to parents and caregivers of children with special needs.

Join us at 6:00pm on the second Thursday of each month to participate in the discussions, activities and to stay updated on current community events.

For more information or to register for the next upcoming event click [here](#).

## BEHAVIOR CHAT SPECIAL SENSORY EDITION

Does your child struggle with behavior when they become overwhelmed or overstimulated? Join Christine Chambers, MEd, OTR/L, of Abilities First, LLC, for a special edition of Behavior Chat, where you will learn what a sensory bucket is and some tools you can use to empty your child's bucket to promote positive behavior.

The content in this program is geared toward caregivers of children ages 18 months - 6 years (with or without developmental concerns). Each attendee will receive a free Behavior Toolkit.

Register [here](#).

## I'M POSSIBLE GAMES

Join I'm Possible Games on the third Wednesday of the month at St. Joseph Church in Avon Lake. We will be there from 5:00-8:00 PM looking forward to good, old-fashioned fun that includes games for all ages and abilities. Learn more about the event [here](#). The event is free and no registration is required.



GUIDED IMPLEMENTATION  
SERIES  
FOR FAMILIES  
Wednesday  
January:  
10, 17, 24, and 31  
4:00 pm to 5:30 pm



Join the Family Resource Network of Ohio for their Guided Implementation Series. This FREE Zoom series offers an opportunity to learn about Charting the Lifecourse, access valuable resources, engage in collaborative learning with other families, and dedicate time to implementing strategies with your loved ones.

Access meetings via QR code.

