







ECL Monthly news & updates




September|2023

September 2023						
Notes	Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
						
1 Play with a flashlight. Will your child look where you point it?	2 Play a memory game on your top. Say "top," then look again!	3 Practice body parts. Put sunscreen on your arms & legs.	4 Go for a walk and talk about the animals you see.	5 Play with blocks together. Knows them "down".	6 Read a new book today.	7 Sing The Wheels on the Bus
8 Hug your child. Give a high five!	9 Hug your body today. Follow the direction "Give a hug"	10 Have an apple taste test. Which kind do you like best?	11 Can your child put on their shoes? Say "shoes".	12 Make a sandwich. Ask what comes next!	13 Let your child choose what's for dinner. Give 2 choices.	14 Play dress up. Put "on" hats and glasses.
15 Mix food coloring with vanilla yogurt to make finger paint.	16 Read Corduroy and look for buttons on your clothes.	17 Sing Ring Around the Rosie. Do the actions.	18 Make a sandwich at the park. Ask a friend to play too.	19 Wave and say "Hi" to a neighbor.	20 Sing the Walking Walking song. Sign "Stop".	21 Make mud pies outside. Get dirty.

Early Communicator Calendar

September 2023						
Notes	Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
						
1 Play with a flashlight and talk about what you see.	2 Practice body parts. Put sunscreen on your arms & legs.	3 Practice body parts. Put sunscreen on your arms & legs.	4 Go for a walk and talk about the animals you see.	5 Play with blocks together. Knows them "down".	6 Read a new book today.	7 Sing The Wheels on the Bus
8 Ask your child to put their shoes away. Give a high five.	9 Hug your body today. Follow the direction "Give a hug"	10 Have an apple taste test. Which kind do you like best?	11 Can your child put on their shoes? Say "shoes".	12 Make a sandwich. Ask what comes next!	13 Let your child choose what's for dinner. Give 2 choices.	14 Play dress up. Put "on" hats and glasses.
15 Practice sweeping leaves off the sidewalk.	16 Play with clay dough. Can you make an apple?	17 Sing Ring Around the Rosie. Do the actions.	18 Make a sandwich at the park. Ask a friend to play too.	19 Wave and say "Hi" to a neighbor.	20 Sing the Walking Walking song. Sign "Stop".	21 Make mud pies outside. Get dirty.

First Words Calendar

September 2023						
Notes	Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
						
1 Play "I spy" in the park and find things with a flashlight.	2 Practice "Stop". Ride a bike or a scooter. Wear your helmet.	3 Practice body parts. Put sunscreen on your arms & legs.	4 Go for a walk and talk about the animals you see.	5 Play with blocks together. Knows them "down".	6 Read a new book today. Ask "What do you see?"	7 Sing The Wheels on the Bus
8 Ask your child to put their shoes away. Give a high five.	9 Hug your body today. Follow the direction "Give a hug"	10 Have an apple taste test. Which kind do you like best?	11 Can your child put on their shoes? Say "shoes".	12 Make a sandwich. Ask what comes next!	13 Let your child choose what's for dinner. Give 2 choices.	14 Play dress up. Put "on" hats and glasses.
15 Practice sweeping leaves off the sidewalk.	16 Play with clay dough. Can you make an apple?	17 Sing Ring Around the Rosie. Do the actions.	18 Make a sandwich at the park. Ask a friend to play too.	19 Wave and say "Hi" to a neighbor.	20 Sing the Walking Walking song. Sign "Stop".	21 Make mud pies outside. Get dirty.

Expanding Language Calendar

Tried & True Tips from a Therapist

by Heather Andrews, PT/NDT/SIPT/TMR

Hints from Heather: Developmental Resources from a PT

Wouldn't it be nice to find a resource to give you extra information about helping your child develop that your therapist would love, also?

There is so much on the Internet that it's hard to weed through what you can trust. I am so excited that I have found this nonprofit organization, Pathways.org! It is run by physical therapists, occupational therapists, speech-language pathologists, and pediatricians. Did I mention, just like our own Easter Seals, it is a **nonprofit**? Every area of development is highlighted to give you well rounded support to the services you are receiving from Easter

Seals.

Let's get started. Check it out here:

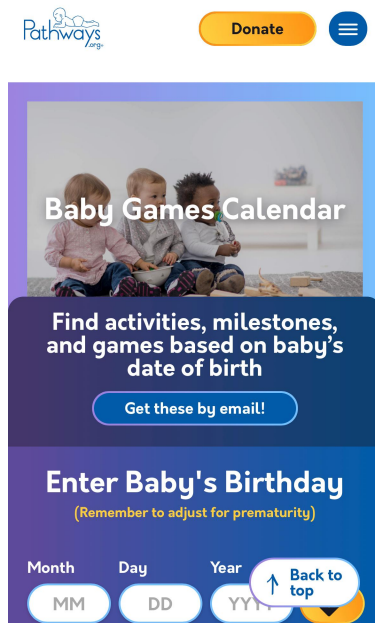
Tools to maximize child development.

There are more platforms where you can find Pathways!
Instagram, YouTube AND an App!

Think of all your questions-there is probably something there to help.
Pathways features videos, brochures, and more!

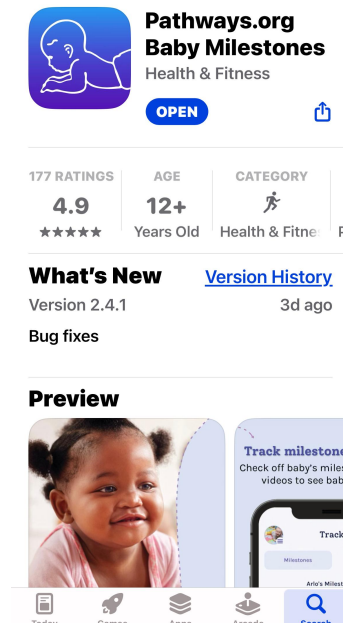
Heather's Favorites:

1. **Milestones by the Week**
2. **The Pathways App**
3. **Pathways Videos on YouTube**



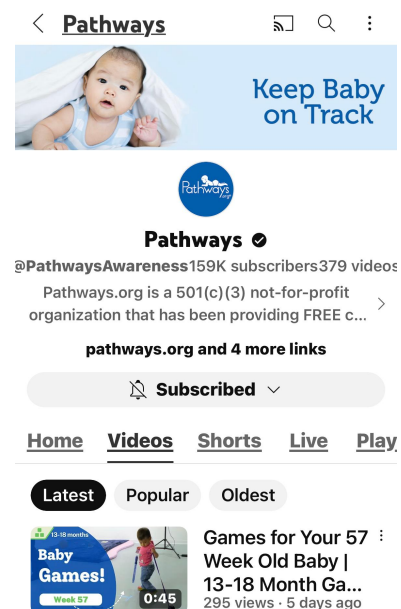
Milestones by the Week!

Want weekly milestones and games to play with your child? Sign up to get them free direct to your email [here!](#)



There's an App for That!

Yes, they have an app! Get access to most of the same content through their FREE app! Plus there is a Tummy Time tracker!



Videos and More!

Do you like YouTube? Pathways has so many videos, 379 to be exact, that will support your understanding of your child's development.

Subscribe Now!



Scan to download the Pathways.org app!



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[Pathways.org](https://www.pathways.org) is a 501 (c)(3) not-for-profit organization that has been providing FREE child development information to empower parents and health professionals since 1985.

Spotlight Story - Emma Schoensee

By Alessandra & Ryan Schoensee

Emma has been in the ECI program ever since she was six months old. She was a preemie and this program was recommended by our pediatrician when she wasn't sitting up, rolling, or picking her head up during tummy time. Emma first started receiving physical therapy from Heather Andrews and then we started receiving speech and occupational therapies, then later we added an early intervention specialist. We later discovered that Emma has a rare microdeletion and she was also diagnosed with Angelman's Syndrome earlier this year.



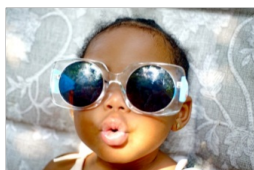
Emma loves seeing her therapists enter our home and enjoys walking them out after her sessions (with plenty of hugs in between). She loves riding around on her pink car using her legs to push herself and is very well coordinated moving and turning in it. At this time, Emma is nonverbal, but she enjoys using her blue communication folder to tell us what she wants and needs by pointing at different words and icons. We took her on a three and a half hour road trip to Houston last month and she used the folder a lot to communicate with us.

We are so grateful for the therapists in Emma's life who bring high energy which she thrives on. We have seen lots of successful outcomes over the past two years. We believe Emma's therapy is a big reason why Emma is now sitting up perfectly, pulling to stand, and taking steps all on her own!

We would recommend ECI to any child who is behind in their development. We are not looking forward to transitioning out of the program in six months when Emma turns three years old. We are very grateful that Emma's therapists have played such an instrumental part in her life. Emma wouldn't be where she is today without her ECI therapy and we are fortunate to have a parent and caregiver present at all her therapy sessions as they come and meet Emma in our home.



We Are Looking For Spotlight Stories for Upcoming Newsletters



Is Your Child The
next
ECI
SuperStar?

We'd love to share your child's ECI journey!
If you'd like to be featured in the **"ECI Spotlight Story"** segment, click below.

[I'm a SuperStar!](#)

The Easter Seals ECI program would like to thank

The Abelar Family

for reaching out to us and hosting a birthday fundraiser.

Their generous efforts raised nearly \$2000.00 for the Easter Seals ECI Program!

100% of this donation will go directly to ECI and help provide therapy to a child in need.



The time to receive and return the annual Family Outcomes Surveys emailed to families from the Texas Health and Human Services ECI office ended on August 4, 2023. Our ECI program wishes to thank all of the families that returned their surveys to the state office before the deadline. We also wish to thank the service coordinators for their help in informing their families about the annual survey and the importance of completing and returning the

survey before the deadline.

While the actual survey results will not be available for several months, our program was told that at two weeks before the deadline, our families had a return rate of over 40%. That means we met and exceeded the minimum standard required (35% is the minimum standard). We were also told that our families had a return rate that exceeded the return rate for the entire state of Texas at that time!

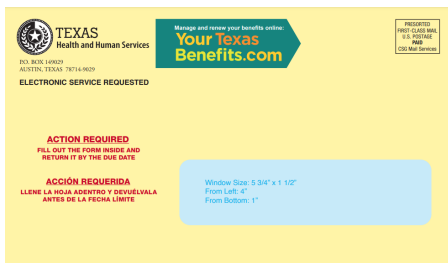
Thanks for the outstanding job that everyone did this year! We will share more information about the survey results as that information becomes available.

Reminders

**Easter Seals Rehabilitation Center
will be closed in observance of
Labor Day on
Monday, September 4, 2023.**



THANK YOU FOR YOUR HARD WORK



More Info

Continuous Medicaid Coverage Ending

Beginning **April 1, 2023**, all Medicaid members, including children receiving ECI services, will need to have their Medicaid eligibility redetermined. Medicaid members should look out for renewal notices mailed in an envelope that says "Action Required" in red or sent electronically to members signed up for electronic notices.

September Awareness Observations

Thank you to all of our wonderful speech therapists!



Month-Long

- Alopecia - (U.S.)
- Arnold-Chiari Malformation
- Achalasia
- Baby Safety Month
- Childhood Cancer
- Childhood Obesity Awareness Month
- Deaf (International)
- Lymphoma
- National Guide Dog Month
- National Recovery Month
- National Hydrocephalus
- National Preparedness Month

Days

- September 4 - **World Cerebral Palsy Day**
- September 7 - **Duchenne Muscular Dystrophy**
- September 8 - National Pediatric Hematology/Oncology Nurses Day
- September 9 - 9p Minus Awareness

Day (9/9)

- September 9 - International Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorder (FASD)
- September 11 - Patriot Day and National Day of Service and Remembrance
- September 13 - Celiac Disease
- September 15 - World Lymphoma - Hodgkin's Lymphoma
- September 19 - Aortic Dissection
- September 19 - Usher Syndrome
- September 23 - International Day of Sign Languages
- September 25 - International Ataxia
- September 29 - World Heart Day



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TEXAS
Health and Human
Services

Early Childhood Intervention

Easter Seals Rehabilitation Center
is a contracted provider of
Texas Early Childhood Intervention
Services and partially funded by
Texas Health and Human Services.

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