

About the Program

PLAY LEARN CONNECT



The Play. Learn. Connect. program purposely focuses on families, encourages hands-on play, provides support for caregivers, and offers the right info.

Sessions during the 5-week program will address a different topic which may include:

Early Literacy · Speech/Language Development & Hearing
Nutrition · Play & Movement · Child Development & Parenting



FAMILY FOCUSED

Children & parents learn side-by-side as they play together. Bonds form & strengthen. Children, families & communities will grow together.



HANDS-ON PLAY

Follow your child's lead! Children learn as they play. The toys, books & activities provided help develop vocabulary, social and motor skills.



PARENTING SUPPORT

Is your child on track? Share your concerns & experiences. Find helpful materials. Connect with experts. Parents learn from & lean on each other.



NO INFO OVERLOAD

Find only the information you need at that time. Materials & local contacts for individual topics/issues are provided or ask for personalized resources.

Parenting is tough. We're here to help!

MORE PROGRAMS

FOR PRE-K

@ GHAL

1000 BOOKS



BEE-FORE
KINDERGARTEN



Benefits of reading aloud to children:

- Success in school and life
- Love of learning and reading
- Better language & listening skills
- Healthy brain development
- Bond between caregiver and child

Enrolling birth to 5 years @ ghal.beanstack.org
or download the free beanstack app



A browser or app that MOTIVATES KIDS (ADULTS TOO) TO READ!



set reading goals



track progress



join challenges



complete activities



earn virtual badges



chance to win prizes

Enroll in challenges @ ghal.beanstack.org
or on the app

READ TO SUCCEED KINDERGARTEN PREP

Exposure to skills needed for kindergarten success including



FINE
MOTOR
SKILLS



WRITE
1ST
NAME



LETTER
RECALL &
SOUND



RHYMING
WORDS



NUMBER
RECALL &
COUNT

Check event calendar at www.GHAL.org for dates.

"It's nothing like any other library program you've been to."

PLAY LEARN CONNECT

This program is the key to
unlocking your child's potential.



AGES 1 TO 3 YEARS OLD*
MONDAYS: JUNE 26 TO JULY 24
FROM 10:00 TO 11:15 AM

GREENSBURG HEMPFIELD
AREA LIBRARY



237 S Pennsylvania Ave
Greensburg, PA 15601

(724) 837-5620
www.GHAL.org



Program is FREE, but registration is required!
Please register only if you can commit to attending all 5 sessions.

*Siblings up to the age of 5 are welcome to attend as well.

Why is it so important?

Advances in neuroscience show the brain is not fully "wired" at birth. The experiences and interactions children have in these early years of development directly impact how they relate to and communicate with peers, form relationships with adults, and learn.



Brain Development at Birth	Brain Development at Age 1	Brain Development by Age 3
Only 25%	At least 50%	80% or more

90% of Brain Growth Happens Before Kindergarten!

What you will do



Explore a room filled with fun, developmentally-appropriate toys



Spend quality time playing and bonding with your little one(s)



Connect with experts from other community service organizations



Jumpstart learning, development and literacy



Meet new friends, parents and caregivers



Find support for not only your child, but also YOU!

What others are saying

"This reassures parents that they really are the 1st & best teachers for their children."

"Without a doubt, it ensures children enter school ready & able learn."

Register at www.GHAL.org



FAQs:

How long is the program/session?

Each session in this 5-week program is 1 hour.

Is this free play or is there structure?

It's essentially free play with a loose structure to encourage interaction.

I have more than 1 child. Can siblings come?

Siblings up to age 5 may participate in the art/craft area.

What do caregivers do during the program?

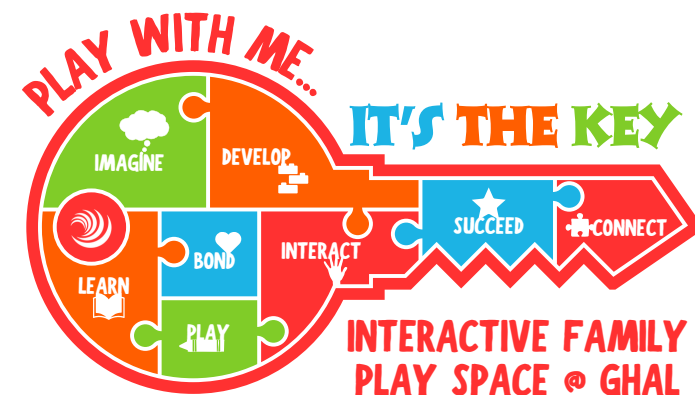
Caregivers play along with their child, talk to other caregivers, find informative reading materials and confer with experts.

Who are the experts and what will they do?

Each week, a representative from a separate child and family service agency will speak with each parent, help identify issues, address specific concerns & share information.



Coming this Fall! The New Interactive Family Play Space at the Library will be open to all families. Look for the key!



Like locks, children are slightly different from one to another, so is their development. The key to unlock their potential is freedom to explore, create, imagine, interact & learn about & for themselves.

The family play space & Play. Learn. Connect. are core elements of the *Family Place Library™* network, a national initiative to expand the role of the children's services department.



What are the goals of Family Place?

1. Build on what the Library already does for young children and families
2. Expand or add new services, materials and collections
3. Extend the children's librarian role in our work with parents and caregivers
4. Emphasize the importance of the Library working with other family-serving agencies and professionals
5. Help the Library reach diverse families within our community.