



AUGUST 2023

HCPC CONNECTIONS

HARNETT COUNTY PARTNERSHIP FOR CHILDREN



HELLO, FRIENDS!

The *dog days of summer*, the hottest days of the season, are upon us here in Harnett County and while the heat can get *ruff*, HCPC staff is hard at work creating cool events and activities for your children to enjoy. Speaking of cool, don't *fur-get* to get your child registered for an August yoga class, featuring the coolest cats, Pete the Cat and Ms. Dollie! Our August Ready to Grow Playgroup will continue with time spent in our Lillington playspace and local parks that your kiddo will really *dig*! It's going to be another *dog-gone* amazing month for early childhood development here at HCPC and having you join us would make it *paws-itively pup-tastic*!

Last, but not least, we want to wish Harnett County's 2023-2024 NC Pre-K class and rising kindergarteners the *ulti-mutt* first day of school and year!



SPECIAL DATES

- **August 2nd:** RTG Cultural Celebration Day.
- **August 3rd:** HCPC at Harnett County Health Department Breastfeeding Health Fair
- **August 9th:** HCPC Splash & Play Day
- **August 17th:** HCPC at Harnett County Community Day
- **August 30th:** HCPC Splash & Play Day





HCPC MISSION:

Our mission is to improve the quality of life for young children and families in Harnett County, through community based programs focusing on health, education, and family support.

HCPC STAFF:

- Tara Fish, Executive Director
- Dollie Adcock, Healthy Activities Specialist
- Janine Bogwicz, Community Outreach Coordinator
- Jordan Ellis, Family Support Specialist
- Debbie Fann, Fiscal Specialist
- Ashleigh Goss, Early Childhood Program Specialist
- Whitney Heath, Family Support Specialist
- Melanie Jacobson, Early Childhood Program Specialist
- Carmen Martell, Lead Family Support Specialist
- Kim Polinski, NC Pre-K Program Support Specialist
- Amy Rackley, NC Pre-K Program Support Specialist
- Lynda Turlington, Early Childhood Program Coordinator
- Lena West, NC Pre-K Program Support Specialist
- Katie Willoughby, Family Support Specialist



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LET'S GET CONNECTED FOR THE LATEST HCPC NEWS & UPDATES





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on YouTube [@harnettcountypartnershipfo9443](#)

DOLLY PARTON'S IMAGINATION LIBRARY

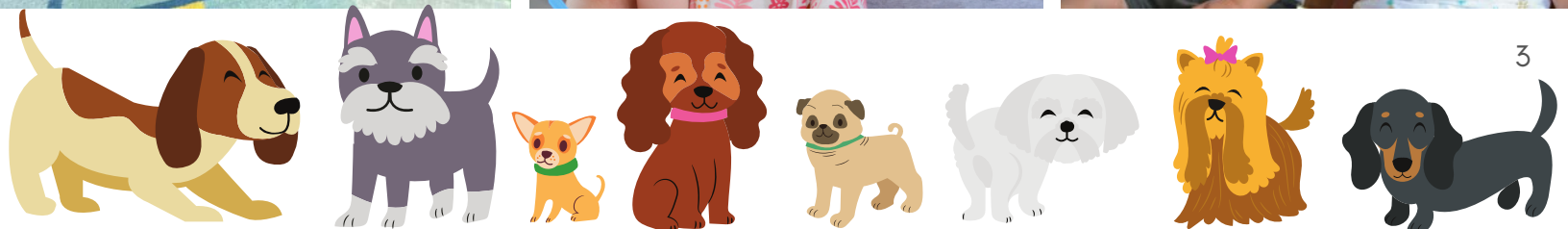


Dolly Parton's Imagination Library is a book gifting program that mails free books to children from birth until their 5th birthday. Register your child online today!





A LOOK BACK AT JULY:



-  - Lillington Ready to Grow Playgroup (RTG)
-  - RTG Summer Adventures
-  - Circle of Parents (COP)
-  - Zumbini
-  - YMCA Ready to Grow Playgroup (RTG)
-  - RTG @ The Park
-  - Pete the Cat Yoga

SUN.	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SAT.
		1 10:30am- RTG (Jack Marley Park - Angier) 1:00pm- RTG (YMCA)	2 10am- Zumbini (YMCA) 11am- Zumbini (YMCA) 10:30am- RTG Summer Adventures (Cultural Day - Lillington)	3 12:00pm- COP (Lillington) 11am - 1pm HCPC @ Breastfeeding Health Fair	4 10am- Pete the Cat Yoga (HCPL)	5
6	7 10-11:30 am- RTG (Lillington) *Please note playgroup time change.*	8 10am- Zumbini (HCPL) 11am- Zumbini (HCPL) 10:30am- RTG (Erwin Park & Splash Pad) 1:00pm- RTG (YMCA)	9 10am- Zumbini (CCB) 11am- Zumbini (CCB) 10:30am- RTG Summer Adventures (HCPC Splash & Play Day, Lillington)	10	11	12
13	14 10am- Zumbini (EPL) 10:30am- RTG (Lillington)	15 10:30am- RTG (Tyler Park - Dunn) 1:00pm- RTG (YMCA)	16 10am- Pete the Cat Yoga (CCB) 10:30am- RTG Summer Adventures (Harnett County Library)	17 12:00pm- COP (Lillington) 4pm - 7pm HCPC @ Harnett County Community Day	18 10am- Pete the Cat Yoga (DPL)	19
20	21 10:30am- RTG (Lillington)	22 10:30am- RTG (Lillington Riverfront Park) 1:00pm- RTG (YMCA)	23 10:30am- RTG Summer Adventures (TBD)	24 10am- Zumbini (YMCA) 11am- Zumbini (YMCA) 12:00pm- COP (Lillington)	25 10am- Pete the Cat Yoga (EPL)	26 National Dog Day
27	28 10:30am- RTG (Lillington) 	29 10am- Zumbini (HCPL) 11am- Zumbini (HCPL) 10:30am- RTG (Lillington) 1:00pm- RTG (YMCA)	30 10am- Zumbini (CCB) 11am- Zumbini (CCB) 10:30am- RTG Summer Adventures (Splash & Play Day, Lillington)	31 10am- Zumbini (EPL) 12:00pm- COP (Lillington)		



LOCATIONS:

CCB: Coats Community Building, 127 S McKinley St, Coats, NC 27521

DPL: Dunn Public Library, 110 E Divine St, Dunn, NC 28334

EPL: Erwin Public Library, 110 W F St, Erwin, NC 28339

Erwin Splashpad: 810 S 16th St, Erwin, NC 28339

HCPL: Harnett County Public Library, 455 McKinney Pkwy, Lillington, NC 27546

Jack Marley Park: 145 State Rd 1441, Angier, NC 27501

Lillington Riverfront Park: 235 E Duncan St, Lillington

Lillington RTG & COP Groups: 170 Pine State St., Lillington

Tyler Park: 803 W Harnett St, Dunn, NC 28334

YMCA: 107 Carletta Cagle Dr, Cameron



AUGUST:

National Wellness Month prioritizes your self-care, managing stress, and promoting healthy routines. Create wholesome habits in your lifestyle and focus on self-care to feel like your best self and setting a good example for your children.

Children's Eye Health and Safety Month is a national health observance (NHO) that highlights the importance of protecting children's vision and eye health. This month aims to raise awareness about the importance of taking care of children's eyes. Eye health and good eyesight are essential for young children's physical and cognitive development. Since it's not always possible for kids to understand when their eyes aren't healthy, parents should stay on top of vision issues.

National Dog Month celebrates our loveable canine pals smack in the middle of the dog days of summer. Did you know that scientific studies prove our pawsome companions make us happier, less stressed, and more optimistic? Specific benefits of children having a dog as a pet include companionship, active lifestyle, sense of responsibility, encouragement of communication, happiness, and unconditional love!

National Get Ready for Kindergarten Month encourages parents/caregivers to help their child get excited for the transition of kindergarten. Ways you can encourage excitement for this next big step include: visiting the classroom with your child to meet the teacher and see the facility, setting a breakfast and bedtime routine at least a month in advance, getting necessary school supplies, and reading kindergarten themed books with your child.

National Family Fun Month is the perfect reminder to take a break and engage in activities as a family before the end of summer in ways that are fun and memorable. Here are some easy and inexpensive ways to enjoy time together: build a backyard fort, bike together on a community trail, have a family talent show, and have a family movie night with movie-themed snacks.





Circle of Parents

Círculo de Padres

CIRCLE of PARENTS®
Sharing Ideas. Sharing Support.



Parenting is joyful, but can also present difficulties and challenges.
Es una dicha ser padres, pero también presenta dificultades y desafíos.

Feel empowered, supported, and strengthened as you attend weekly Circle of Parents meetings. Join other Harnett County parents/caregivers at our Circle of Parents group.

Siéntase empoderado, apoyado y fortalecido mientras asiste a las reuniones semanales del Círculo de Padres. Únase a otros padres/proveedor de cuidados del Condado de Harnett en nuestro grupo de Círculo de Padres.

● THURSDAYS @ 12PM / 170 PINE STATE ST, LILLINGTON
LOCATION: 170 PINE STATE ST, LILLINGTON

To register, email familysupport@harnettsmartstart.org or call 910-893-2344.
Para registrarse, envíe un correo electrónico a familysupport@harnettsmartstart.org
o llame al 910-893-2344.

FUNDRAISER BENEFITING THE HARNETT COUNTY PARTNERSHIP FOR CHILDREN:



Aim High for Children and Families

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 20, 2023

Shotgun Start at 9:15am

Drake Landing

3146 Chalybeate Springs Rd.

Fuquay Varina, NC



OUR SHOT TO MAKE A DIFFERENCE!

The Harnett County Partnership for Children is a 501-c3 non-profit that focuses on health, family support, and early education for children ages birth to five. Join us for a wonderful fundraising event to help support Harnett County children and families and the HCPC mission. Teams of 4 will rotate through 13 stations to shoot 50 clays per team member. Ear protection, guns, ammo, and cart are provided for each team. Mulligans will be sold to teams the day of the event. The course is challenging, fun, and sure to be a great time! Don't hesitate to aim high for Harnett County children and families.

*Prizes will be awarded during a delicious catered lunch that will include steak, baked potato, salad bar, dessert, and drinks at Drake Landing.

*Sponsors will enjoy additional fun in a Five Stand Course and complimentary mulligans!

EVENT SCHEDULE

8:00am - Registration Opens

8:30am - Light Breakfast

9:00am - Mandatory Safety Meeting

9:15am - Shotgun Start / Course

11:15am - Sponsor Flurry / 5 Stand Course for Sponsors

Refreshments / Pre Awards

12:00pm - Awards Luncheon



FOR SPONSORSHIP OPPORTUNITIES AND TEAM REGISTRATIONS:

<https://harnettsmartstart.ejoinme.org/raisewithclaysregistration>
or scan the QR code.



HEALTHY HABITS FOR HARNETT

AUGUST & SEPTEMBER YOGA CLASSES



Join Ms. Dollie for a
groovy
yoga class!



REGISTRATION



SCAN ME

Harnett County Library (Lillington)- August 4th @ 10:00

Coats Community Building August 16th @ 10:00

Dunn Public Library August 18th @ 10:00

Erwin Public Library August 25th @ 10:00



Like us on
Facebook

It's all
good!

Children Ages 4-5 years



AGES 4- 5

JOIN MS. DOLLIE FOR A
'FARM-TASTIC' yoga and
MOO-vement adventure!!

Friday, September 1st at 10:00- Harnett County Public
Library (Lillington)

Friday, September 15th at 10:00- Dunn Public Library

Friday, September 22nd at 10:00- Coats Community
Building

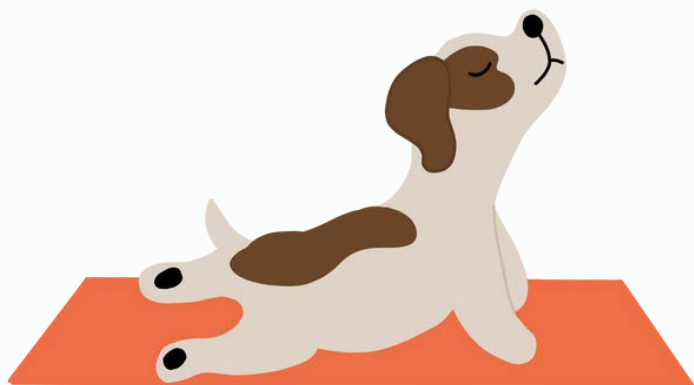
Friday, September 29th at 10:00- Erwin Public Library



Scan me!!



Space is limited
Registration is required





HEALTHY HABITS FOR HARNETT

AUGUST & SEPTEMBER ZUMBINI CLASSES



August zumbini
WITH MS. DOLLIE

SPACE IS LIMITED
→
REGISTRATION REQUIRED

~SALEEBY YMCA
~ERWIN PUBLIC LIBRARY
~COATS COMMUNITY BUILDING
~HARNETT COUNTY PUBLIC LIBRARY

SEPTEMBER zumbini

SCAN ME

Happy hour for you and your baby
Sing, dance, & play as you bond with your child

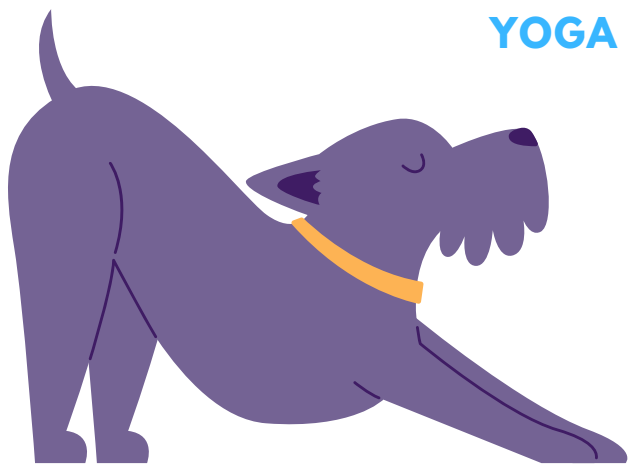
HARNETT COUNTY PUBLIC LIBRARY
ERWIN PUBLIC LIBRARY
SALEEBY YMCA
COATS COMMUNITY BUILDING

registration is required

Like us on Facebook

SPACE IS LIMITED

YOGA POSE OF THE MONTH - DOWNWARD DOG:



- Start out on all fours.
- Spread your fingers and press your palms flat onto the floor.
- Lift your hips, straighten your legs, and make an upside-down V shape.
- Send your heels gently to the ground.
- Relax your head and neck and look down between your feet.



READY TO GROW



Ready to Grow Playgroup facilitates developmentally appropriate playgroups for children and caregivers who reside in Harnett County. Eligible children must be between the ages of birth through 5 years old. Playgroup facilitators use Kaleidoscope Play & Learn Curriculum to provide hands on activities that focus on early literacy and social emotional competency. Caregivers learn about the purpose of play and will connect with other parents during group time. Children and caregivers will participate in coordinated group activities to prepare the children for success in school.

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Lillington Playgroup meets on Mondays at 10:30am-12pm at 170 Pine State St, Lillington.

Playgroups at The Park meets on Tuesdays at 10:30am-12pm. Park locations will vary - please check calendar on page 4 for details.

Playgroup Summer Adventures will meet on Wednesdays at 10:30am beginning August 2nd. Locations will vary - please check calendar on page 4 for details.

YMCA Playgroup meets on Tuesdays at 1pm - 2:30pm at 107 Carletta Cagle Dr, Cameron.

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HAVE FUN



READY TO GROW PLAYGROUP

THEME OF THE MONTH:

Differences & Diversity

CAREGIVERS WILL LEARN:

How to expose infants and young children to differences and diversity and how to foster understanding about it.



KEY MESSAGE:

1. Children start becoming aware of differences related to race, ethnicity, gender, culture, families, and disabilities, etc. at a very young age. It is never too early to start developmentally appropriate conversations on these topics.
2. Caregivers can help guide the child they care for in their learning about differences and foster a comfortable space for exploration and questions.
3. There are many ways caregivers can turn everyday moments into teachable moments as it relates to teaching children about differences and diversity.



KEY MESSAGE CONTINUED:

4. General tips for caregivers:

- Use facts and be honest. If you do not know something, admit it and say, "let's find out together."
- Meet the child where they are and help them process their understanding and observations of differences. Ask questions like, "why do you think or say that?"
- Be a role model. Lead by example and show tolerance and acceptance of differences so that children can learn from adults around them.
- Children are very observant. Negative body language, facial expressions, language usage, and other cultural messages can aid in developing real prejudice when reinforced by biases that exist in society.
- Attend cultural community events to enjoy and learn from.

BOOK RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE MONTH:



- All Kinds of Friends by Shelley Rotner
- I'm New Here by Anne Sibley O'Brien
- The Colors of Us by Karen Katz
- We're All Wonders by R.J. Palacio



GRUPO DE JUEGOS LISTO PARA CRECER

El Grupo de Juegos Listo para Crecer tendrán sus reuniones en persona en Lillington. Las familias del condado de Harnett, que tengan niños recién nacidos hasta 5 años de edad, son bienvenidos a participar. Las familias tendrán la oportunidad de aprender y jugar con otras familias en persona.

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Aventuras de Verano - Miércoles de 10:30am-12pm, comenzando el 21 de junio. Por favor, prestar atención al calendario (pag. 4) para mas detalles.

Día de Juegos en el Parque - Martes de 10:30-12pm. Por favor, prestar atención al calendario (pag.4) para mas detalles.

Lillington Playgroup - Lunes de 10:30am - 12pm @ 170 Pine State St, Lillington, NC 27546

YMCA Playgroup - Martes de 1pm - 2:30pm @ at 107 Carletta Cage Dr, Cameron.



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TEMA DEL MES:

Diferencias y diversidad



LOS CUIDADORES APRENDERÁN:

Cómo exponer a los bebés y niños pequeños a las diferencias y la diversidad y cómo fomentar la comprensión al respecto.

MENSAJES CLAVE:

1. Los niños comienzan a tomar conciencia de las diferencias relacionadas con la raza, el origen étnico, el género, la cultura, las familias y las discapacidades, etc. a una edad muy temprana. Nunca es demasiado temprano para comenzar conversaciones apropiadas para el desarrollo sobre estos temas.

2. Los cuidadores pueden ayudar a guiar al niño que cuidan en su aprendizaje sobre las diferencias y fomentar un espacio cómodo para la exploración y las preguntas.

3. Hay muchas maneras en que los cuidadores pueden convertir los momentos cotidianos en momentos de enseñanza en lo que se refiere a enseñar a los niños sobre las diferencias y la diversidad.



MENSAJES CLAVE:

4. Consejos generales para cuidadores:

- Usa hechos y sé honesto. Si no sabes algo, admítelo y di: "averigüemos juntos".
- Conozca al niño donde está y ayúdelo a procesar su comprensión y observaciones de las diferencias. Haz preguntas como: "¿Por qué piensas o dices eso?"
- Ser un modelo para seguir. Lidere con el ejemplo y muestre tolerancia y aceptación de las diferencias para que los niños puedan aprender de los adultos que los rodean.
- Los niños son muy observadores. El lenguaje corporal negativo, las expresiones faciales, el uso del lenguaje y otros mensajes culturales pueden ayudar a desarrollar prejuicios reales cuando se ven reforzados por prejuicios que existen en la sociedad.
- Asistir a eventos culturales de la comunidad para disfrutar y aprender de ellos.

LIBROS RECOMENDADOS:



- All Kinds of Friends by Shelley Rotner
- I'm New Here by Anne Sibley O'Brien
- The Colors of Us by Karen Katz
- We're All Wonders by R.J. Palacio



KIDS' CORNER



OH WHERE, OH WHERE, HAS MY LITTLE DOG GONE?

Oh, where, oh, where
Has my little dog gone?
Oh, where, oh, where
Can he be?

With his ears cut short
And his tail cut long,
Oh, where, oh, where
Can he be?

Oh where, oh where
Has my little dog gone?
Oh, where, oh, where
Can he be?



HEY DIDDLE DIDDLE

Hey diddle diddle, the cat and the fiddle
The cow jumped over the moon
The little **dog** laughed to see such fun
And the dish ran away with the spoon!

Hey diddle diddle, the cat and the fiddle
The cow jumped over the moon
The little dog laughed to see such fun
And the dish ran away with the spoon!



JOKE OF THE MONTH:

What kind of dog doesn't bark?



**A hushpuppy*



FUN FACT OF THE MONTH:

DID YOU KNOW?



Dogs only sweat from their paws, and have to cool down by panting.

The sweat is much oilier than a human's, and it contains lots of chemicals that only other dogs can detect. Weirdly, it also makes many dog paws smell of cheesy crisps!



USE YOUR CREATIVITY - COLOR OR PAINT THE PUPPY BELOW.
WHAT WOULD YOU NAME HER?

