



JULY 2025

HCPC CONNECTIONS

HARNETT COUNTY PARTNERSHIP FOR CHILDREN



HELLO FRIENDS!

We're ready to spark joy and light up little faces with smiles all month long with a star-spangled lineup of fun for your little firecrackers. Whether you're popping into a Ready to Grow Playgroup, rolling out fun with the Grow on the Go playmobile, or gathering with your village at Circle of Parents, there's no shortage of celebration, connection, and summertime sunshine!

This month, we're blasting off into brand-new adventures, creating sweet summer memories, and filling every day with learning and laughter. Our programs are designed to help your child shine—through playful experiences, hands-on exploration, and plenty of giggles along the way. Please take special note of some changes to our program schedules for the month of July, as our team will be spending time refreshing and revamping our play spaces and routines to bring even more fun in the months ahead. While some regular sessions may look a little different, we've added in extra summer fun to keep the good times rolling, including some exciting splashpad playtimes to help everyone cool off and stay active!

Join us as we celebrate summer, childhood, and community. We can't wait to see your smiling faces as we play, learn, and grow our way through the month!



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.

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@HarnettCountyPartnershipForChildren



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EVENT LOCATIONS:

Angier Public Library:

28 N Raleigh St, Angier, NC

Benhaven Public Library:

2815 Olivia Rd, Sanford, NC

Boone Trail Public Library

8500 Old US Hwy 421, Lillington, NC

Erwin COP & RTG Groups:

494 Antioch Church Rd, Dunn

Erwin Splashpad:

810 S. 16th Street, Erwin, NC

Harnett County Public Library:

455 McKinney Pkwy, Lillington, NC

Lillington COP Group:

170 Pine State St, Lillington



HCPC STAFF:

Tara Fish, Executive Director

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

Lynda Turlington, Early Childhood Program Coordinator





Lena West, NC Pre-K Program Support Specialist

Katie Willoughby, Family Support Specialist



170 Pine State St, Lillington, NC 27546 / 910-893-2344 / www.harnettsmartstart.org

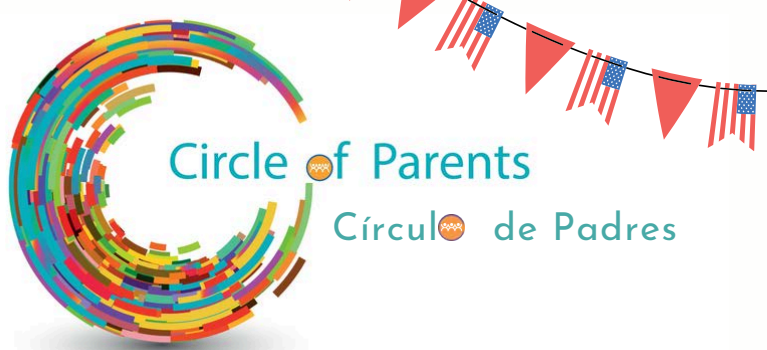


-  - Circle of Parents (COP)
-  - Open Play
-  - Erwin Ready to Grow Playgroup (RTG)
-  - Grow on the Go Playmobile (GOTG)

SUN. MONDAY TUESDAY WEDNESDAY THURSDAY FRIDAY SAT.

		1 10am- GOTG (Boone Trail Library)		2		3		4 HCPC Offices Closed 		5			
6		7		8 		9		10 10am- GOTG (Benhaven Library)		11 10am- Open Play (Lillington)		12	
13 		14		15		16 10am- RTG (Erwin)		17 10am- GOTG (HC Library)		18 10am- Open Play (Splash Pad Erwin)		19	
20 9:30am- COP (Splash Pad Erwin)		21 10am- COP (Lillington)		22		23 10am- RTG (Erwin)		24 10am- GOTG (Angier Library)		25 10am- Open Play (Lillington)		26 	
27 9:30am- COP (Erwin)		28 10am- COP (Lillington) 		29 10am- RTG (Erwin)		30		31 10am- COP (Lillington)					





GROW ON THE GO

PLAY, LEARN, AND GROW TOGETHER

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.

CIRCLE of PARENTS®
Sharing Ideas. Sharing Support.



Grow on the Go Playmobile

Grow on the Go is a mobile play unit offering play and learn opportunities for Harnett County families with children between the ages of birth to five years old. Registration is not required - simply find us at our designated location for some Pop Up & Play fun!



JULY SCHEDULE:

July 1st: Boone Trail Library
July 10th: Benhaven Public Library
July 17th: Harnett County Public Library

July 24th: Angier Public Library

***10am-11:30am at these locations**



- JULY 21ST @ 9:30AM
LOCATION: 810 S. 16TH STREET, ERWIN, NC
- JULY 28TH @ 9:30AM
LOCATION: 494 ANTIOCH CHURCH RD, DUNN
- JULY 22ND, 29TH, 31ST @ 10AM
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.

KIDDO SPOTLIGHT:

MILA, 4 YRS OLD

What is your favorite thing about playgroups?

“Favorite thing about playgroup is getting to paint.”

What’s your favorite thing to do in the summer?

“The pool makes me happy and jumping on the trampoline in the summer.”

Would you rather go to the beach or the pool?

And why?

“The beach because it’s bigger and has sand!”



JULY IS FRESH FRUIT AND VEGETABLE MONTH:

At Harnett County Partnership for Children, we know that healthy habits start young. Introducing fruits and veggies early in life not only supports healthy growth and development, but it also helps little ones build a taste for nutritious foods that can last a lifetime. Bright berries, crunchy carrots, juicy watermelon – summer is full of kid-friendly produce that’s both fun to eat and good for growing bodies!

Encourage your child to explore age-appropriate fruits and vegetables through taste, touch, and even play. Let them help you pick out colorful produce at the grocery store or farmers market, and invite them into the kitchen for simple snack prep. Every bite is a step toward a healthier future!



BANANA & BERRY YOGURT BITES

INGREDIENTS:

- 1 ripe banana (mashed)
- 1/2 cup plain or vanilla yogurt
- 1/4 cup chopped strawberries or blueberries

INSTRUCTIONS:

- Mix the mashed banana, yogurt, and berries together in a bowl.
- Spoon small dollops onto a parchment-lined tray.
- Freeze for about 1–2 hours until firm.
- Serve cold as a refreshing, toddler-sized treat!





READY TO GROW

GRUPO DE JUEGOS LISTO PARA CRECER

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.



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.

Erwin Playgroup: Last 3 Weeks of July, Wednesdays from 10am - 11:30am

Erwin Grupo: Últimas 3 semanas de julio, miércoles de 10 a. m. a 11:30 am



zumbini®

 with Ms. Katie!

***No Zumbini sessions for the month of July.**

CHECK THE HCPC
MONTHLY
CALENDAR - MUSIC
NOTES INDICATE
EVENTS THAT
INCLUDE ZUMBINI!

Registration
NOT
Required!



GRUPO DE JUEGOS LISTO PARA CRECER

TEMA DEL MES:

¡Posibilidades Infinitas!



LOS CUIDADORES APRENDERÁN:

- Sobre la importancia del juego en el apoyo al desarrollo de un niño
- Que el juego abierto puede ayudar a los niños a desarrollar creatividad, habilidades, y conocimientos a su propio ritmo

MENSAJES CLAVE:

1. El juego es el trabajo de un niño. Es cómo aprenden, descubren y llegan a entender el mundo.
2. Podemos animar a los niños a jugar dándoles mucho tiempo para jugar y explorar y jugando y hablando con el niño.
3. El juego ayuda a los niños a pensar simbólicamente. ¡Mira sus imaginaciones en acción!



LIBROS RECOMENDADOS:

- Not a Box, by Antoinette Portis
- Roxaboxen, by Alice McLerren
- Bear in Sunshine, by Stella Blackstone

READY TO GROW PLAYGROUP

THEME OF THE MONTH:

Endless Possibilities



CAREGIVERS WILL LEARN:

- About the importance of play in supporting a child's development
- That open-ended play can help children build creativity, skills, and knowledge at their own pace



KEY MESSAGES:

1. Play is a child's work. It is how they learn, discover, and come to understand the world.
2. We can encourage children to play by giving them plenty of time to play and explore and by playing and talking with the child.
3. Play helps children think symbolically. Watch their imaginations at work!



BOOK RECOMMENDATIONS:

- Not a Box, by Antoinette Portis
- Roxaboxen, by Alice McLerren
- Bear in Sunshine, by Stella Blackstone

