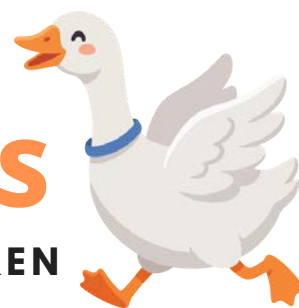




SEPTEMBER 2026

HCPC CONNECTIONS

HARNETT COUNTY PARTNERSHIP FOR CHILDREN



DUCK... DUCK... GOOSE!

Hi, friends! Great news - our *Septembird* schedule will keep you from having to go on a *wild goose chase* for fun events and activities for your little *silly goose*! There are a lot of fun things *waddling* your way here at the Harnett County Partnership for Children.

Help your children *spread their wings* and *take flight* at Ready to Grow Playgroups in Erwin, Lillington, and now Spout Springs! Little ones can play, explore, learn, and make new friends while you both also connect with other families. You'll have a *honking* good time!

Parenting can sometimes *ruffle your feathers*, but you don't have to go it alone! At Circle of Parents, you can find your flock - or even a whole gaggle of support - connect with other parents, share experiences, and navigate the parenting journey together.

Ready to move and groove? *Shake your tail feathers* with our Music & Movement session with Mrs. Katie! Little ones and their caregivers bond while they sing and dance together. And be sure to take a *gander* at where the Grow on the Go Playmobile will be next as it brings playful learning and fun to communities throughout Harnett County.

So, don't *wing it* this month - come play, connect, and have fun with your little *goose* and other families! And don't forget to *honk* if you love HCPC!



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

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

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Lena West, NC Pre-K Program Support Specialist

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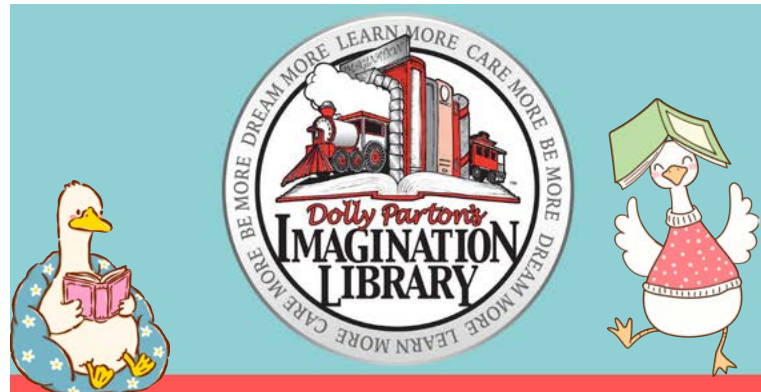
on Instagram @hcopartnershipforchildren_



on TikTok @HarnettPartnershipForChildren



on YouTube @harnettcountypartnershipfo9443



REGISTER YOUR CHILD
TODAY TO RECEIVE
FREE BOOKS!



www.harnettsmartstart.org

MONTHLY LITTLE LAUGH & FUN FACT

What do you call a goose who
likes to tell jokes?



A SILLY GOOSE!



Geese fly in a V-shape to help
them save energy when
traveling long distances.



MARK YOUR CALENDARS:

October 29th: TRUCK-or-Treat: Join us for a touch-a-truck event that will also include trick-or-treating, activities for young children, community resources, and information! Food trucks will also be on-site, offering delicious lunch and snack options!



 - Erwin Ready to Grow Playgroup (RTG)

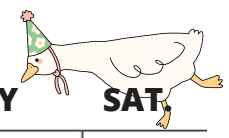
 - Lillington Ready to Grow Playgroup (RTG)

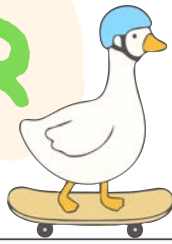
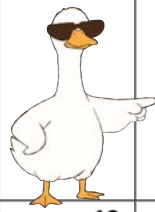
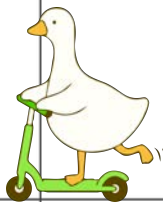
 - Grow on the Go (GOTG)

 - Spout Springs Ready to Grow Playgroup (RTG)

 - Circle of Parents (COP)

 - Music & Movement with Mrs. Katie



SUN.	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SAT.
		1	2	3	4	5
 				10am – 11:30am: GOTG (River Park, Lillington) 1:30pm - 3pm: RTG (Spout Springs)	9:30 - 11:30am: RTG (Lillington)	
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
	HCPC Offices Closed 	9am - 10:30am: COP (Lillington) 11am - 12:30pm: COP (Lillington)	9:30am - 11am: COP (Erwin) 9:30am - 11:30am: RTG (Lillington)	10am – 11:30am: GOTG (River Park, Lillington) 1:30pm - 3pm: RTG (Spout Springs)	9:30 - 11:30am: RTG (Lillington) 	
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
9:30 - 11:30am: RTG (Lillington) 9:30am - 11:30am: RTG (Erwin)		9am - 10:30am: COP (Lillington) 11am - 12:30pm: COP (Lillington)	9:30am - 11am: COP (Erwin) 9:30am - 11:30am: RTG (Lillington)	10am – 11:30am: GOTG (River Park, Lillington) 1:30pm - 3pm: RTG (Spout Springs)	9:30 - 11:30am: RTG (Lillington)	
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
9:30 - 11:30am: RTG (Lillington) 9:30am - 11:30am: RTG (Erwin)		9am - 10:30am: COP (Lillington) 11am - 12:30pm: COP (Lillington)	9:30am - 11am: COP (Erwin) 9:30am - 11:30am: RTG (Lillington)	10am – 11:30am: GOTG (River Park, Lillington) 1:30pm - 3pm: RTG (Spout Springs)	9:30 - 11:30am: RTG (Lillington)	
27	28	29	30			
9:30 - 11:30am: RTG (Lillington) 9:30am - 11:30am: RTG (Erwin) 		9am - 10:30am: COP (Lillington) 11am - 12:30pm: COP (Lillington)	9:30am - 11am: COP (Erwin) 9:30am - 11:30am: RTG (Lillington)			

KIDDO SPOTLIGHT

SETH, AGE 4

What is your favorite part about coming to playgroups?

Playing with Cameron.

Who is the silliest person you know? What makes them silly?

Mommy because she cooks with daddy.

What is your favorite silly thing to do?

Jump in muddy puddles!

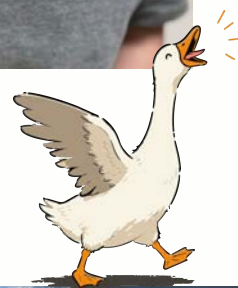


If you had a pet goose, what would you name it?

Seth Junior

If you had a friend who was coming to playgroup for the first time, what would you tell them?

That they will make lots of friends.



COMMUNITY RESOURCE SPOTLIGHT

Heritage Counseling and Wellness

Heritage Counseling and Wellness PLLC - Offers a safe and secure environment to help adults, children and families who are experiencing difficulties in their lives including:

- Anxiety
- Depression
- Postpartum Depression/Anxiety
- Grief and Loss
- General Conflict/Adjustments
- Trauma Treatment/PTSD
- Stress Management
- Marital/Relational Stress
- Parenting



To learn more or apply visit; <https://www.heritagecw.com/>





Circle of Parents

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.

TUESDAYS:

9AM - 10:30AM & 11AM - 12:30PM
170 PINE STATE ST. LILLINGTON

WEDNESDAYS:

9:30AM - 11AM
494 ANTIOCH CHURCH RD. DUNN

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.



FAMILY NAVIGATION **New!**

The Family Navigation Program provides support to families with children from birth to age five who reside in Harnett County. The program helps families navigate community resources by offering referrals, follow-ups, and ongoing case management tailored to each family's unique needs. Through a personalized intake process, families identify their highest priority needs and develop goals while receiving assistance connecting to available community services and resources. The program also provides ongoing support to help families monitor their progress and achieve greater stability and success. For more information, call 910-893-2344.

El Programa de Navegación Familiar brinda apoyo a las familias con niños desde el nacimiento hasta los cinco años de edad que residen en el condado de Harnett. El programa ayuda a las familias a acceder y utilizar los recursos disponibles en la comunidad mediante referencias, seguimiento y gestión continua de casos, adaptados a las necesidades específicas de cada familia. A través de un proceso de evaluación personalizado, las familias identifican sus necesidades de mayor prioridad y establecen metas mientras reciben apoyo para conectarse con los servicios y recursos disponibles en la comunidad. El programa también ofrece apoyo continuo para ayudar a las familias a dar seguimiento a su progreso y alcanzar una mayor estabilidad y bienestar. Para obtener más información, llame al 910-893-2344.



GROW ON THE GO

PLAY, LEARN, AND GROW TOGETHER

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 Pop Up & Play fun!



SEPTEMBER SCHEDULE: THURSDAYS / 10AM - 11:30AM @ RIVER PARK, LILLINGTON



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: Mondays @ 9:30am - 11:30am

Erwin Grupo: Todos los lunes a las 9:30am - 11:30am

Lillington Playgroup: Mondays, Wednesdays, & Fridays / 9:30am - 11:30am

Lillington Grupo: Lunes y viernes / 9:30am a 11:30am, miércoles / 9:30am - 11am

Spout Springs Playgroup: Thursdays @ 1:30pm - 3pm

Spout Springs Grupo: Todos los jueves a las 1:30pm - 3pm



MONTHLY HOME ACTIVITIES



Magnetic Number Counting

Place the number magnets on the cookie sheet. Invite your child to find and identify different numbers. Try asking questions like, "Can you show me the number 4?" Then, count together: "1, 2, 3, 4!" Continue with other numbers as your child is ready.



Number Matching with Pom-Pom Balls

Choose a number card and have your child count out the same number of pom-pom balls. For example, if the card shows the number 5, count out 5 pom-poms together! Don't have number cards or pom-poms at home? Make your own number cards and use everyday items like blocks, buttons, or small toys for counting.

GRUPO DE JUEGOS LISTO PARA CRECER

TEMA DEL MES:

1, 2, 3: Aprendiendo los Números



LOS CUIDADORES APRENDERÁN:

- Cómo ayudar a su hijo(a) a contar del 1 al 20.
- Cómo ayudar a su hijo(a) a contar de 10 a 20 objetos, señalando cada uno.
- Cómo ayudar a su hijo(a) a identificar los números del 1 al 10.



MENSAJES CLAVE:

1. Aprender a contar, reconocer los números, comprender las cantidades y saber cómo ordenar los objetos son habilidades matemáticas fundamentales. Para aprender conceptos matemáticos más complejos, los niños primero deben comprender estos conceptos básicos relacionados con los números.
 2. Por lo general, los niños aprenden a contar de manera mecánica al principio (memorizando 1, 2, 3, etc.). Con el tiempo, aprenden que cada número corresponde a un objeto. Podemos ayudar a los niños a desarrollar esta habilidad, conocida como “correspondencia uno a uno”, de las siguientes maneras:
- Señalar los objetos mientras contamos para que los niños comiencen a relacionar los números con los objetos. Por ejemplo, al guardar los platos, podemos contar cada uno mientras lo colocamos en el gabinete.

LIBROS RECOMENDADOS:

- Ten, Nine, Eight by Molly Bang
- Ten Black Dots by Donald Crews
- 10 Little Ladybugs by Merle Peek
- Miss Spider's Tea Party by David Kirk



READY TO GROW PLAYGROUP

THEME OF THE MONTH:

1,2,3 Learning Numbers



CAREGIVERS WILL LEARN:

- How to help their child count from 1-20.
- How to help their child count 10-20 objects (pointing to each one).
- How to help their child identify the numbers 1-10.

KEY MESSAGES:

1. Learning to count, recognize numbers, understand quantity, and how to order items are vital foundational math skills. To learn more complex math concepts, children must first grasp these basic number concepts.
 2. Children usually learn to count in a very rote way (memorizing 1,2,3, etc.). Eventually they learn that a number corresponds to an object. We can help children gain this skill (known as “one to one correspondence”) by:
- Pointing to items as we count so children begin to attach numbers with objects. For example, when putting dishes away, we can count each one as we put it in the cabinet.



BOOK RECOMMENDATIONS:

- Ten, Nine, Eight by Molly Bang
- Ten Black Dots by Donald Crews
- 10 Little Ladybugs by Merle Peek
- Miss Spider's Tea Party by David Kirk

Music & Movement

with Ms. Katie!



Registration
NOT Required!

• September 11th @ 9:30am
Lillington Ready to Grow Playgroup
@ 170 Pine State St, Lillington



A LOOK BACK AT AUGUST

