

VOLUME 2 AUGUST 7, 2023



# THE SCOOP

HEAD START NEWS



## Trainings

Wednesday, August 9  
RTA Curriculum Training  
ESF Board Room

8:00 to 3:30

This is for Head Start teachers only

**BRING RTA UNITS 1 AND 2  
COMPUTER AND HEADPHONES**

Thursday, August 10  
Professional Development and  
Program Updates

Posey Center

8:00 to 12:00

This is for all Head Start teachers only



# BACK TO SCHOOL

## LESS IS BEST

### Four Strategies as you Set Up Your Classrooms

Have you ever walked into an early childhood classroom and felt overwhelmed by the amount of classroom materials or toys or the decorations?

Children can feel overwhelmed in certain classroom environments, too. When children feel overwhelmed by visual or physical stimulation, they can show us challenging behavior or sometimes appear to “shut down”. Fortunately, we as educators can make small changes to the environment which can make a difference in children’s behaviors in the classroom.

# **1. Limit Choices and Materials**

**When there are a plethora of toys and materials in the classroom, children may act out. Children make many choices in an early childhood classroom every day, but when the number of toys and materials seems infinite, it can be hard for a child to make a choice. An educator can limit the choices to two or three items and see if that helps a child. For example, “Jose, would you like to play with blocks, cars, or the water table right now?” This can give a young child agency as well as a manageable number of choices.**

**Even better is to limit the number of overall choices of materials available within the classroom. But why? Fewer overall choices allow a child to more easily orient themselves in the environment and know what they want from their options. With too many options, a child might use most of their time and energy on making decisions, rather than engaging with materials or people. With too many things available, a child may take out an excessive number of items at once, mixing them all together, and have a hard time transitioning or cleaning up.**

**When there are less materials and toys in the classroom, clean up by the children, assisted by the teachers, can go much smoother. Consider having less of each item available. For example, if you had all one hundred pieces of a manipulative set in a bin on the shelf for the children to build with and were finding that clean-up was becoming a struggle, consider reducing the number of pieces to the set and putting some in storage.**

**Strategies 2, 3, and 4 are in the next newsletter!**

# Our WONDERFUL Family Advocates

Beatrice Benjamin at Endeavour

Jennifer Clark at Sherwood

Jocelyne Dagher at Jupiter

Yesenia Cepeda at Discovery and Port Malabar

Ernesta Jordan at Uni Park

Norma Jackson at Coquina and Enterprise

Angela Narcisse at Palm Bay





**This is for Coquina, Enterprise, Jupiter,  
Saturn, Sherwood and University Park only.**

**Friday, August 11  
Growing Up Wild Training  
Brevard Zoo  
8:30 to 12:00\***

**BOTH Teachers and IAs must attend**

**\*You are welcome to bring your lunch and enjoy the  
zoo after the training.**

**PLEASE BRING YOUR GROWING UP WILD BOOK if  
you have one. A new book will be given to you in a  
few weeks.**



Thank you to the mentor teachers for their work this summer and with the new teachers. They have a WEALTH of knowledge that they were able to share.



Coquina - Myesha Fuller and  
Heather Saule

Sherwood - Vicki Clare

Saturn - Celeste Rotan

Palm Bay - Ashley Rothe

Enterprise - Janice Smith



# Home Visits

Meeting our families in their home provides a wonderful opportunity to build a positive relationship with the family. Our focus this year is to support staff to complete these initial visits in the homes of their families.

Your coach will outline the responsibilities in assuring these are completed.

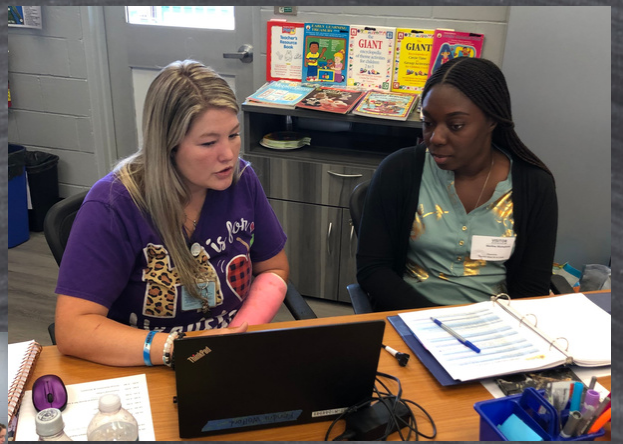


# Welcome to our NEW TEACHERS!

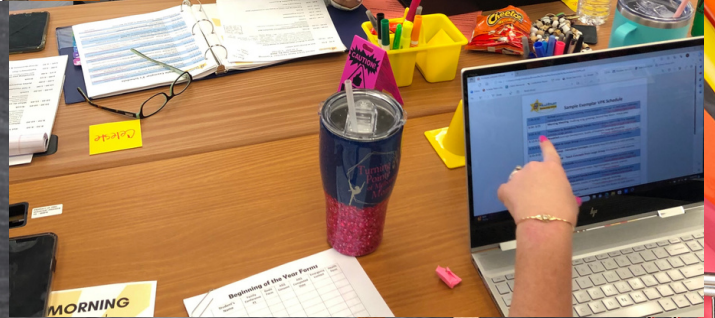
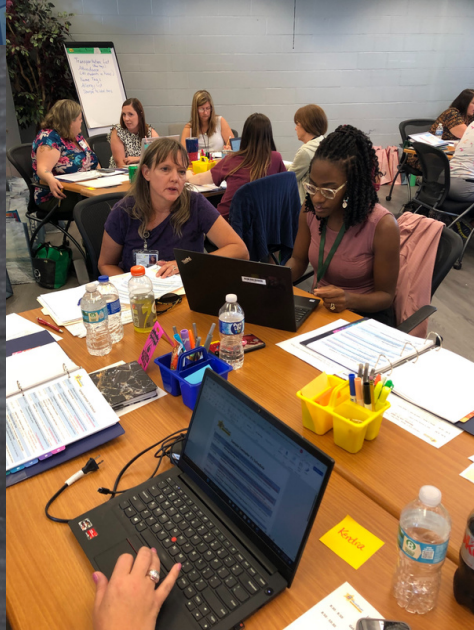
Tiffany Tucker - VPK at Discovery  
Merline Manphate - 3 Year Olds at Uni Park  
Nicole Alivandi - 3 Year Olds at Saturn  
Melissa Fernandez - VPK at Endeavour  
Tammy Matteson - 3 Year Olds at Mims  
Stephanie Clemmer - VPK at Endeavour







THANK  
YOU  
COACHES  
AND  
MENTORS!



BACK  
TO  
SCHOOL

# Head Start - Brevard Public Schools



**JOIN OUR NEW PAGE FOR  
COMMUNITY UPDATES  
FAMILY OPPORTUNITIES  
WHAT'S HAPPENING IN & AROUND  
CHILDREN'S BEDTIME STORIES  
SUMMER LEARNING FUN  
AND MORE...**



**SCAN ME**



**Our mission is to create a safe and informative social media environment for everyone. Join our page for information, upcoming bedtime stories by teachers, summer activities to keep learning from home, and more! Join us today!**



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