

October 2022



Blue Mountain Early Learning HUB

bluemountainearlylearninghub.org

MORROW UMATILLA UNION COUNTIES

Newsletter

EARLY CHILDHOOD PARTNERSHIP TEAM MEETINGS (ECPT)

Umatilla County

Tuesday, October 11

1:00 - 2:30 pm via Zoom

<https://imesdmeet.zoom.us/j/95752073228?pwd=Z2RDQUdOL3FtSjd3VFRsNHRRYTVUZz09>

ID= 957 5207 3228; password = 852035

Union County

Wednesday, October 12

1:00 - 3:00 pm via Zoom

<https://eou.zoom.us/j/91278523074>

<https://www.facebook.com/Union-County-ECPT-836224543130112/>

ECPT-836224543130112/

Morrow County

Thursday, October 13

12:00 - 1:30 pm via Zoom

<https://umchsorg.zoom.us/j/84557647294?pwd=aUdoZys3TVBBUHh5eHZwOUh4cDRydz09>

ID= 845 5764 7294; password = 114923

PARENT ARTICLE: *Are you raising a young Picasso?*

I've yet to meet a child that doesn't love the opportunity to jump right into any and every art project. It's never too early to let your child explore and experience art. In fact, it has many developmental advantages, even for toddlers. Often people underestimate a young child's ability to experiment and learn from the process of creating an art project. I'm not talking about mixing acrylic paint to get the just the right shade of blue to duplicate Van Gogh's Starry Night. I'm thinking more like fingerpaints, and a paper taped down on the picnic table in the back yard.

Children love paint and there are many brands of kid safe paint on the market. Introducing your child to art can be as simple as a piece of butcher paper, paints, and the knowledge that they can do whatever they like with them. Yes, art can be messy. In my experience the bigger mess it makes the more the children enjoy it. For my own children, to contain the mess I would use the "splat mat" that we kept under the baby's place at the table. (It is a thin rubber mat that is easy to clean.) As we would pull the mat out into the middle of the kitchen floor you could feel their excitement build. Some of my children's most prized masterpieces were empty shipping boxes that they painted and/or decorated in their own way. Sometimes the end project was an overly wet painted box that disappeared during nap time. But even if the end product was not display worthy, the process was still a great learning activity. As the kids painted, I would point out the way the colors mixed to make new colors, the shapes they were making, or even just remind them that the paint went on the box, not the floor. When the children

decided they were done it was easy enough to run them a bath and wipe down the mat. I'd have happy kids that were ready for a nap and a mess that was easy to clean up.

Try putting yourself in your child's shoes for a moment. Not to point fingers or place blame, but most of a young child's life is spent being told by an adult what they can't do. "Don't eat the dog's food," "It's not safe to run in the parking lot," "Don't pull the cat's tail." We often fall into the trap of worrying so much about keeping our kids safe that we don't allow them the freedom to try things on their own. The more experience I receive as a parent and an educator, the more apparent it is that the benefit of natural consequences. If the child is safe, it is okay to stand back and let them find out that when they apply too much paint that their paper is going to turn an ugly brown or rip. Sometimes the joy is in not hearing the "don't".

Imagine the sheer delight of having someone hand you a bucket of water and a paint brush or spray bottle and letting you do whatever you want! You could paint the sidewalk, the fence, the car! You might watch in wonder as the water evaporates and magically disappears on the hot sidewalk, or even notice how it mixes with the dirt to make a new paint medium. All the sudden you are a scientist. A two- or three-year-old scientist that loves exploration and is basking in the ability to take risks and be creative. Can you think of anything more exciting? You can give your child that confidence to think outside the box. I'm sure Picasso's mom once questioned her child's skills at some point too.

Blue Mountain Early Learning Hub Governing Board:

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Lidwinner Machado,
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Kim Huling, Business

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Yvonne Morter, Health

Erin Stocker, Education

Dorothy Powell, Migrant &
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MORROW UMATILLA UNION COUNTIES

COOKING WITH KIDS: *Baked Tortilla Chips*

Ingredients

- 2 whole-grain corn tortillas (6 to 8 inches)
- 1/8 teaspoon salt (optional)
- 1/4 teaspoon oil (optional) or cooking spray (optional)
- 1/8 teaspoon seasoning (try garlic powder, onion powder, cumin, chili powder or a mixture) (optional)

Directions

Wash hands with soap and water.

Preheat oven to anywhere between 375 to 450 degrees F.

Choose your version:

Plain - Sprinkle with salt or other seasonings, if desired.

Cooking spray - Spray lightly with cooking spray. Sprinkle with salt or other seasonings, if desired.

Oil - Brush oil on one side of each tortilla. Sprinkle with salt or other seasonings, if desired.

Cut each tortilla into 8 wedges. Arrange in a single layer on baking sheet.

Bake for 5 to 10 minutes depending on oven temperature. Watch closely to avoid burning.



- DO YOU HAVE AN IDEA FOR A WAY TO SERVE CHILDREN AND FAMILIES?
- DO YOU HAVE A PROJECT YOU WOULD LIKE TO IMPLEMENT BUT YOU NEED FUNDING TO GET IT STARTED?
- DO YOU WANT TO BRING SOME PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT TO THE AREA?

To learn more about the types of projects that can be funded visit our website.
Applications are due on a quarterly basis and will be approved while funds last.

[https://www.bluemountainearlylearninghub.org/
community-grants](https://www.bluemountainearlylearninghub.org/community-grants)



BLUE MOUNTAIN EARLY LEARNING HUB

COMMUNITY GRANTS

Blue Mountain Early Learning Hub

Join a Professional Learning Team

Prenatal thru 3rd grade

Come learn from your peers. Find out what practices others are doing in the classroom. See what is going on with Conscious Discipline. Sign up for a PLT in your community at:
bluemountainearlylearninghub.org



PosterMyWall.com

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Community Service Spotlight



The Umatilla County Special Library District's **Take Off! - A preschool learning outreach program**

If you are a preschool teacher in Umatilla County and you haven't met Monica Hoffman, you (and your students) are missing out on a great service. Reading aloud to children is the most fundamental activity that helps level the academic playing field for all children regardless of race, gender, class, working or single parents, or whether English is their first or second language

If children are read to from the time they are born until they enter kindergarten they are set for success! Research tells us that children immersed in "pleasurable language experiences" at a young age, enter school at a decided advantage.



The Take Off! program supports childcare providers and preschool teachers in helping young children develop the language and early literacy skills they need in order to successfully begin kindergarten.

Some of their **Available Services:**

- **Rotating Book Boxes** available for sites to borrow for one month at a time. Toddlers boxes are filled with board or cloth books perfect for our littlest ones. Spanish book boxes are also available.
- **Story time programs** Upon request they will arrange a special story time that includes songs, music, fingerplays and rhymes.
- **Provider/Caregiver Trainings** These programs assist in implementing practices that encourage development of early literacy skills. They are user friendly and actively engage participants.
- **Parent Presentations** These offerings help inform and support parents in their role as their child's first and most important teacher. Today's kindergarten readiness skills are defined and explained so that parents feel better prepared for their child's entrance into school.
- **Each child served receives a FREE children's book**



WE ARE ENROLLING

MATRÍCULA ABIERTA!

Looking for an Early Education Program for your child?

¿Anda buscando un programa de educación temprana para su estudiante?

Let Blue Mountain Kids help you find the best environment for you and your child.

Deje que Blue Mountain Kids le ayude a identificar el mejor ámbito para usted y su estudiante.

Visit: BlueMountainKids.org

Presente ahora su solicitud
Estamos aceptando solicitudes para las edades 0 a 4.

Accepting application for ages 0-4

APPLY NOW

Social media links:

Facebook www.facebook.com/takeoffprogram

Pinterest www.pinterest.com/takeoffprogram

Instagram www.instagram.com/takeoffandread/?hl=en

To sign up for services in Umatilla County, or for more information please contact:

Monica Hoffman, Early Literacy Program Manager
(541) 612-2052 ~or~ takeoff@ucslid.org

*If you have a community service you would like to suggest for the Community Service Spotlight please contact
Lara Arriola at lariola@umchs.org*

