



# NEWS!

From the Quality Support Program

VOLUME 4, ISSUE 4

NOVEMBER / DECEMBER 2021

## Boulder County's Current Colorado Shines Ratings

### Level 5

- 3 - Centers
- 3 - Family Home Child Cares

### Level 4

- 46 - Centers

### Level 3

- 4 - Centers
- 1 - Family Home Child Care

### Level 2

- 35 - Centers
- 8 - Family Home Child Cares

### Level 1

- 70 - Centers
- 48 - Family Home Child Cares

We appreciate all the amazing programs in our county. Thank you to everyone that has engaged with Colorado Shines to earn a level 2 and up!

## News

### Coming Soon: Submit Your Licensing and Trails Inquiry Background Check Application Online

Starting this December, the Office of Early Childhood (OEC) will launch a new online application and payment processing system for licensing applications and Trails Inquiry background checks.

The Office of Early Childhood (OEC) child care program users applying to become licensed or associated with a licensed facility will be able to access the new online system through the [Provider Hub](#). Users will be able to pay by credit card or eCheck for both licensing applications and Trails Inquiry background check payments.

### New center rules go into effect on December 1st!

Watch the [OEC rules & regulations page](#) for updates. A recording of the November 18th informational webinar and FAQs will be coming soon. New rules and regulations will be available December 1st.

### New QRIS Program Guide & Evidence Documentation

In-person Colorado Shines ratings will start in January 2022 using the Early Childhood Environment Rating Scale®, 3rd Editions (ITERS-3, ECERS-3, and FCCERS-3). Also coming in January is the official start of an updated Colorado Shines QRIS framework. [Click here to learn more.](#)

### Qualification Affidavit Expanded to Include Directors and Assistant Early Childhood Teachers

To continue to support Early Childhood Professionals, the OEC has expanded the Facility Qualifications Affidavit to include Large and Small Center Directors and Assistant Early Childhood Teachers in addition to Early Childhood Teachers. Child care programs must keep the Affidavit and the corresponding documents in the staff member's file for review and verification by licensing. [Click here to learn more.](#)

## Quality Opportunities for Continuous Learning

*\*Receive professional development clock hours toward your Professional Credential 3.0.*

### Registration Now Open for the 2022 Hybrid Rocky Mountain Early Childhood Conference (RMECC)

Join RMECC to celebrate the root system that shapes the early childhood field, and the ideas, innovation, and collaboration helping early childhood partners bloom together!

Virtual sessions on March 3 and 4, 2022

In-person sessions at the Colorado Convention Center on March 11 and 12, 2022 with virtual access to 3 general sessions.

Visit the [RMECC website](#) for more information.

### ContinuED.com

Courses led by expert trainers will help you stay up-to-date on best practices to implement for your program. Over 250 research-based online training courses; all IACET Accredited for CEUs; for teachers, directors & administrators, and family child care providers. Plus courses to earn or renew a CDA credential.

Explore the topics and course lists [here](#) with an unlimited course access to for a \$99/year subscription.

New users can take advantage of this [CODE](#) to take a one-hour course for free!

# Materials Corner: Sensory Play and Exploration

## Preschool 3+ years

**Materials:** washable sensory play materials, weighted lap pads or animals, theraputty, wobble chairs/cushions, foam paint, texture memory game.

**Tips:** support independent development and self-regulation with a variety of materials for play and general use.

## Infants/Toddlers birth-3 years

**Materials:** washable sensory play materials, sensory bean bags, baby sensory balls

**Tips:** Explore similar items with different textures, various weights and tones. This provides opportunities for stimulus and let's children control the intensity of the interaction for their own needs.

[Download the ELDG](#) for free to see development examples and suggested supports for your children!

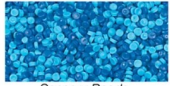


### ELDG: Approaches to Learning

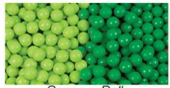
- **I. Initiative and Curiosity:** an interest in varied topics and activities, a desire to learn and independence in learning.

### ELDG: Physical Development & Health -

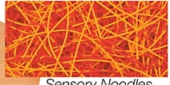
**I. Perceptual Development.** The developing ability to become aware of social and physical environment through the senses.



Sensory Beads



Sensory Balls



Sensory Noodles



Sensory Spirals



Sensory Stars



Sensory Balls

## REMINDER: Don't forget to update your Quality Improvement Plan for the new year!

- Login to your QRIS account
- Go to Quality Improvement, then Build My QIP
- Review each current QIP goals, making sure you visit all 6 categories
- Mark any old goals as complete, delete any that were not met and no longer apply, or edit to make changes to ongoing goals. If continuing on an existing goal add a note such as: "goal reviewed and updated Nov 2021."
- Add a Quality Improvement Goal for any new goals. Try to align the category, subcategory and criteria as it makes most sense to your goal. Note, the criteria is directly from the document evidence guide used for rating evaluations; your goal does not have to match a specific criteria.

## Other Support Contacts

Boulder County CCAP:

[ccap@bouldercounty.org](mailto:ccap@bouldercounty.org)  
303-678-6014

Boulder County Public Health -  
Covid Support

[healthceccovid@bouldercounty.org](mailto:healthceccovid@bouldercounty.org)

Office of Early Childhood

[cdhs\\_oec\\_communications@state.co.us](mailto:cdhs_oec_communications@state.co.us)

800-799-5876

Colorado Shines Support:

[cdhs\\_coshines@state.co.us](mailto:cdhs_coshines@state.co.us)

[pdishelp@cde.state.co.us](mailto:pdishelp@cde.state.co.us)

844-447-4441

M-F 8:30am-5pm

## Early Childhood Featured Reading

This issue's feature is an article is from Teaching Young Children, a journal from National Association for the Education of Young Children (NAEYC). **Planning for Positive Guidance: Powerful Interactions Make a Difference** shares some strategies to plan for positive guidance with the focus on interactions. You can find the [full article here](#) to print and share with staff and families.

## The Quality Support Team

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