



## Exemptions Newsletter Winter 2018



MAY YOUR DAYS  
BE MERRY AND  
*bright from the start!*



### **HOLIDAY COOKIES**

Treat your family and friends to something sweet this season. This

# CAPS has moved to DECAL

www.caps.dec.al.ga.gov

1-833-4GA-CAPS



The Child Care and Development Block Grant (CCDBG) Act of 2014 requires that DECAL conduct monitoring visits to **category 1 - Government owned/operated** and **category 7 - Day Camp** exempt programs receiving subsidy payments through the CAPS program.

Last Spring DECAL hosted a webinar that provided an overview of what to expect during these monitoring visits by DECAL's Child Care Services (CCS) staff. For more information click the button below, or **view the recorded webinar posted on the Resources tab of the Exemptions webpage.**

**CCDF Monitoring Visits: Overview for Exempt Programs**

list pulls together all-time favorite cookie recipes that are sure to please.

If you can make a basic sugar cookie, you'll love how surprisingly easy it is to master these recipes.

## Top 10 Holiday Cookie Recipes!



## Baby Talk

(Issue No. 77 October 2017)

Resources from the Frank Porter Graham Child Development Institute  
University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill

### The Basics of Infant and Early Childhood Mental Health

This resource introduces infant and early childhood mental health, discusses why it is important, and provides policy recommendations.

**<https://www.zerotothree.org/resources/1951-the-basics-of-infant-and-early-childhood-mental-health>**



### Infants, Toddlers, and Screen Media

Increasingly, early childhood professionals are being pressured by family members who use screen media with their children at home and want help building the technology skills children will need to use later. But not all screen media are healthy for children and exposing very young children to screen media can have lasting impacts on their learning. This article offers definitions, research, and ideas for professionals and families to use.

**[http://www.communityplaythings.com/resources/articles/2016/child ren-and-screen-media](http://www.communityplaythings.com/resources/articles/2016/child-ren-and-screen-media)**



**Bilingual Babies: Study Shows How Exposure to a Foreign Language Ignites Infants' Learning**



A recent study from the University of Washington highlights the cognitive benefits infants experience when exposed to foreign languages.

<http://www.washington.edu/news/2017/07/17/bilingual-babies-study-shows-how-exposure-to-a-foreign-language-ignites-infants-learning/>



### **Brain Development of Children from 0-6 years – Facts Every Family Member and Teacher Should Know**

This comprehensive guide to the brain development of children from 0 to 6 years is packed with insightful tips and important facts every parent should know.

<https://www.adam-mila.com/brain-development-children-0-6-years/>

### **New FREE app for teachers and parents: *Milestone Tracker***

As an early care and learning provider, you know the importance of tracking children's developmental milestones, but did you know there's a new, **FREE** app from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) to help make it easy, fun, and a great way to engage parents? CDC's new *Milestone Tracker* app helps teachers and parents better understand each child's skills and abilities, track and celebrate developmental milestones, and share developmental progress from ages two months through five years.



The app offers:

- \* Parent and teacher-friendly, interactive checklists adapted from the American Academy of Pediatrics;
- \* Photos and videos that illustrate developmental milestones;
- \* Activities for supporting early development in the classroom and at home;
- \* Tips for taking action when there is a developmental concern; and
- \* Appointment and developmental screening reminders.

For more information on developmental monitoring and free materials and training for your classrooms, click the button and visit our website.

## **Developmental Milestones and Monitoring**

**Teachers Crave Good Professional Development**

Child Care Information Exchange | [exchangeeveryday@ccie.com](mailto:exchangeeveryday@ccie.com)

December 18, 2017

*Throw your dreams into space like a kite, and you do not know what it will bring back, a new life, a new friend, a new love, a new country.*

*-Anais Nin*

In an article in The Guardian, teacher Ross Morrison McGill makes a compelling case for why quality professional development should be available for all educators:

"Teachers, young and old, new and established should be given the time to develop; to share and to train in order to meet the needs of an evolving audience. This should not be left to those joining the profession, nor those 'on a course' or on some sort of 'leadership pathway.' Training and good quality development should be available to all.

My work is never complete. I never finish the to-do list; I always have something new to learn, something else to share with others or another strategy or resource to create, disseminate and evaluate. This is the true nature of the profession. Disseminating, learning, reflecting. We should all be given the time to learn frequently and in a robust, supportive and challenging manner that provides regular development that leads somewhere useful for the individual. At the moment, I do not think this exists for every teacher."

Source: "**Professional development for teachers: how can we take it to the next level**," by Ross Morrison McGill, The Guardian, January 29, 2013

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Did you know that the  
**Georgia Professional Development System  
for Early Childhood Educators (GaPDS)**  
includes the Professional Development Registry (PDR) and training  
registration for DECAL trainings?

[Click here to learn more!](#)

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**Child Care Services Exemptions Unit  
CCSExemptions@dec.al.ga.gov  
770/293-5977**

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