

# WHY DOES QUALITY MATTER?

Your child's development during these early years are foundational for their future success

## What is quality early childhood education?

- + Educated & experienced teachers
- + Low teacher to child ratios
- + Research based curriculum
- + Quality interactions
- + Whole child development
- + Developmental assessments
- + Partnership with the family
- + Health, safety & nutrition
- + High-quality physical environment
- + Leadership and management

## What is included in whole child development?



## Better Beginnings Star Rating System

High quality early childhood education sets the stage for how well our children learn, how they think of themselves and how they interact with their world. We as parents, child care providers, educators and citizens have a responsibility to make sure all of our children have the very best experiences they can. Better Beginnings, Arkansas's Quality Rating Improvement System, has been developed to do just that!

Better Beginnings is designed to improve the level of quality in childcare and early childhood education programs across the state. Better Beginnings distinguishes the quality of each Arkansas child care facility by a 1, 2 and 3-star rating system.

Helen R. Walton Children's Enrichment Center has been providing Level 3, high quality early childhood education for nearly 20 years.



### How is quality defined?

Early childhood programs are rated on the following metrics:

#### EARLY CHILDHOOD ENVIRONMENT



space and furnishings



learning activities



interaction



personal care routines



language and literacy



program structure

#### BUSINESS AND LEADERSHIP



human resources & development



center operations



child assessment



fiscal management



program planning & evaluation



family partnerships



marketing, PR and technology