



# Child Care Tips:

*Partnering with families- Community Resources Washington County*

*Building partnerships with families is critical to bridge the home and school connection. Working together on behalf of the child is key to the success that child will experience. Through cooperation with families, the teacher and parents gain each other's trust. Providers can then encourage parents to offer opportunities for the skills taught in school to be reinforced at home. Additionally, parents can help you to develop goals and incorporate them into both settings. Children whose parents are involved in their education have the best educational experiences and less behavior issues. While building this relationship, offer these community resources to parents as they need them.*

### Contacts for School Readiness

**Washington County Free Library** 301-739-3250 [www.washcolibrary.org](http://www.washcolibrary.org). Regular programming includes multiple/various Story Times and an individual tutoring program called "The Learning Connection."

**Washington County Board of Education** 301-766-2800 [www.wcboe.k12.md.us](http://www.wcboe.k12.md.us) contact for educational programs for birth-21.

**Washington County Museum of Fine Arts** 301-739-5727 [www.wcmfa.org](http://www.wcmfa.org). Offers various art, lecture, and music programs including children's art classes.

**Discovery Station** 301-790-0076 [www.discoverystation.org](http://www.discoverystation.org) Creates hands-on learning experiences that stimulate a curiosity for discovery, exploration and investigation.

### Web Resources

[www.readyatfive.org](http://www.readyatfive.org) offers suggestions for activities to do with infants, toddlers and preschoolers to ensure they enter school ready to learn.

[www.bornlearning.org](http://www.bornlearning.org) helps caregivers explore ways to turn everyday moments into learning opportunities.

### Healthy Families/Healthy Children

**Washington County Hospital** 301-790-8000  
[www.washingtoncohospital.com](http://www.washingtoncohospital.com)

**Washington County Health Department**  
240-313-3210, WIC 240-313-3335  
[www.washhealth.org](http://www.washhealth.org)

**Washington County Recreation**  
240-313-2805, [www.washcomd.net/recreation](http://www.washcomd.net/recreation)

**Healthy Families Parenting**  
240-313-327 [www.washhealth.org](http://www.washhealth.org)

**Department of Social Services**  
240-420-2100

[www.dhr.state.md.us/washington.hmt](http://www.dhr.state.md.us/washington.hmt)

Purchase of Care 240-420-2330

Food Stamps 240-420-2330

Medical Assistance 240-420-2330

**Brook Lane: A Continuum of Mental Health Services** 301-733-0330, [www.brooklane.org](http://www.brooklane.org)

**The Mental Health Center** 301-791-3043  
[www.thementalhealthcenter.net](http://www.thementalhealthcenter.net)

### Just For Fun

**Chamber of Commerce** 301-739-2015  
[www.hagerstown.org](http://www.hagerstown.org)

**Washington County Recreation** 301-791-1404  
[www.washcomd.net/recreation](http://www.washcomd.net/recreation)

**Washington County Arts Council** 301-791-3132  
[www.washingtoncountyarts.com](http://www.washingtoncountyarts.com)

**Hagerstown Convention Visitors Bureau**  
301-791-3246 [www.marylandmemories.org](http://www.marylandmemories.org)

### References

Washington County Information for Citizens [www.washco-md.net](http://www.washco-md.net)

Challenging Behaviors in Early Childhood Settings: Creating a Place for all Children. Susan Bell et al., 2004

A Guidance Approach for the Encouraging Classroom, Dan Gartrell, 2004