

Child Care Connection

MSDH Child Care Licensure Bureau

July 2025

"Bridging the gap between Child Care Providers and MSDH Child Care Licensure Bureau in order to provide a safe and healthy environment for Mississippian children and families."

#summersurvivalms

FOLLOW US:



Summer brings new places, new activities, and new risks.
Follow our tips for a healthy and safe summer.



Sun and Heat Safety

Mississippi is about heat and mosquitoes in summer. Sunburn, heat stroke, dehydration and skin damage can strike quickly, and be especially dangerous for older adults.

- [Heat and Sun Safety](#): Drinking plenty of fluids and using the right sunscreen are just two of the ways to stay safe and cool this summer.
- [Heat Exhaustion and Heat Stroke](#): Know the signs of heat exhaustion, and what to do if it strikes.



Stay Hydrated

A healthy adult needs 10 or more eight-ounce cups of water a day, but if you're outdoors in the heat of summer, you could **need much more water per day** to stay healthy and avoid dehydration dangers.

All your body's functions are affected by water and thirst. Plentiful water is needed for your body to process prescription medications and over-the-counter medicines as well. Drink up!

- **Drink before you're thirsty** if you're headed outdoors for any length of time, especially if you'll be active. Water that's already in your body is immediately available when you need it most.
- **Carry water with you** when you leave home. Even if you're not active outdoors, thirst can build up over time in hot weather.
- **Avoid sweetened drinks and alcohol** if you're thirsty. The best thirst quencher is plain water.
- **Sports drinks** and specialized hydration drinks can be beneficial if you are very active or losing a lot of water through perspiration. Prefer plain water for most of your drinking, though – it's what your body needs most.



Disease-Carrying Ticks and Mosquitoes



Midsummer through September is peak season for West Nile virus and infections like [dengue](#) carried by mosquitoes. WNV symptoms are usually mild, but severe illness can occur, and Mississippi has seen many deaths from WNV over time. Prevention is your best defense!

- [Mosquito-Borne Illnesses](#): Protect yourself from West Nile virus and related diseases with the right repellent and precautions.
- [Ticks and Rocky Mountain Spotted Fever](#): Removing ticks and preventing tick bites to avoid tick-borne illnesses.



At the Beach and in the Water

Lakes, pool and beaches are the focal points of summer fun, but they carry serious risks. Most drownings occur in the summer months, and it's the leading cause of accidental death among children ages 1–4. Salt water carries its own risks: *Vibrio* bacteria – in food or seawater – flourish in summer months, and bring the risk of serious illness.

- [Water and Boating Safety](#)
- [Vibrio Infections: How to stay safe](#)



Seafood and Summer Food

Hot weather and safe food don't mix; Mississippi has most of its food-borne illness outbreaks, including Salmonella, in the summer. If your plans include seafood, *Vibrio* bacteria make food safety especially important.

- [Summer Food Safety: Grill, chill and beyond](#)
- [Vibrio and Seafood Risk](#)



Hurricane Season

- Late August is Mississippi's prime time for hurricanes. Even a landfall outside of Mississippi can bring high winds and dangerous flooding. **Prepare now!**


July 2025 Trainings

| Date | Time | Training Topic | Location | Trainer |
|-----------------------|--------------------|---|--|------------|
| July 1 st | 9:00am-12:00pm | Child Care Regulations Part 1 | Southaven, MS | J. Dockery |
| July 1 st | 12:30pm-3:30pm | Child Care Regulations Part 2 | Southaven, MS | J. Dockery |
| July 2 nd | 9:00am-12:00pm | Directors' Orientation | Southaven, MS | J. Dockery |
| July 2 nd | 12:30pm-3:30pm | Playground Safety | Southaven, MS | J. Dockery |
| July 7 th | 9:30am-12:30pm | Child Care Regulations Part 1 | Tupelo, MS | J. Dockery |
| July 7 th | 1:00pm-4:00pm | Child Care Regulations Part 2 | Tupelo, MS | J. Dockery |
| July 8 th | 9:30am-12:30pm | Directors' Orientation | Tupelo, MS | J. Dockery |
| July 8 th | 1:00pm-4:00pm | Playground Safety | Tupelo, MS | J. Dockery |
| July 10 th | 9:00am-12:00pm | Regulations Governing Licensure of Child Care Family Homes for 5 :OR Fewer Children | Virtual (ONLY for Family Homes Centers) | J. Dockery |
| July 7 th | 5:30pm-8:30pm | Child Care Regulations Part 1 | Madison, MS | S. Smith |
| July 8 th | 5:30pm-8:30pm | Child Care Regulations Part 2 | Madison, MS | S. Smith |
| July 9 th | 9:30am-12:30pm | Playground Safety | Laurel, MS | S. Smith |
| July 10 th | 5:30pm-8:30pm | After School Regulations | Laurel, MS | S. Smith |
| July 12 th | 8:30am-11:30pm | Child Care Regulations Part 1 | Laurel, MS | S. Smith |
| July 12 th | 11:30pm-2:30pm | Child Care Regulations Part 2 | Laurel, MS | S. Smith |
| July 12 th | 2:30pm-5:30pm | Directors Orientation | Laurel, MS | S. Smith |
| July 14 th | 5:30pm-8:30pm | CCDF Health & Safety | Port Gibson, MS | S. Smith |
| July 15 th | 5:30pm-8:30pm | Infant & Toddler Regulations | Port Gibson, MS | S. Smith |
| July 9 th | 9-12 pm | Child Care Regulations Part 1 | Hattiesburg, MS | J. Smith |
| July 9 th | 1-4 pm | Child Care Regulations Part 2 | Hattiesburg, MS | J. Smith |
| July 10 th | 9-12 pm | Playground Safety | Hattiesburg, MS | J. Smith |
| July 10 th | 1-4 pm | Directors Orientation | Hattiesburg, MS | J. Smith |
| July 9 th | 9:30am-12:30pm | Child Care Regulations Part 1 | Virtual | M. Jordan |
| July 9 th | 1:00pm-4:00pm | Child Care Regulations Part 2 | Virtual | M. Jordan |
| July 10 th | 5:30 pm-8:30 p.m. | Director's Orientation | Virtual | M. Jordan |
| July 11 th | 9:30 a.m.-12:30 pm | Playground Safety | Virtual | M. Jordan |
| July 14 th | 5:00pm-8:00pm | Child Care Regulations Part 1 | Virtual | M. Jordan |
| July 15 th | 9:30am-12:30pm | Child Care Regulations Part 2 | Virtual | M. Jordan |

| | | | | |
|-----------------------------|------------------|-------------------------------|---------|-----------|
| July 18th | 9:30am-12:30pm | Child Care Regulations Part 1 | Virtual | M. Jordan |
| July 18th | 1:00pm-4:00pm | Child Care Regulations Part 2 | Virtual | M. Jordan |
| July 19th | 9:00am-12:00pm | CCDF Health & Safety | Virtual | M. Jordan |
| July 21st | 9:30am-12:30pm | Child Care Regulations Part 1 | Virtual | M. Jordan |
| July 21st | 1:00p.m.4:00p.m. | Child Care Regulations Part 2 | Virtual | M. Jordan |
| July 22nd | 9:00am-12:00pm | Director's Orientation | Virtual | M. Jordan |
| July 25th | 9:30am-12:30pm | Playground Safety | Virtual | M. Jordan |



Proposed Updates to Child Care Regulations **MEETING**



Wednesday, July 2nd
2:00p.m. - 4:00p.m.

ZOOM

<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/84977686877?pwd=DT8Zio8XSb0eN821FBSZ0wasRFmgaW.1>

SUPER SATURDAY

Professional Development

July 12, 2025

Join us for a fun day of learning! Attendees can earn up to seven (7) hours of professional development. Register for session via the lift-ED portal. Please register for ONE training per session.

Location:

Highland Baptist Church
2513 North 7th Street
Laurel, MS 39440

Time: 7:30 am - 4:00 pm



Scan this code to register
through the lift-ED portal

Sessions

| | Infants Location | Preschool Location | Directors Location | School Age Location | Health & Safety Location | Director Designee Location |
|---------------------|---|---|-----------------------------------|---------------------|-------------------------------|----------------------------|
| 7:30 am - 8:00 am | Registration | | | | | |
| 8:00 am - 10:00 am | Educational Interactions: Intro to Infants | Making Lesson Planning Easy | The Enrollment Factor | STEAM | Health & Safety | Director Designee ALL DAY |
| 10:00 am - 12:00 pm | ELS: Approaches to Learning for Infants nd Toddlers | The Power of Play | Marketing Your Child Care Program | | | |
| 12:00 pm - 1:00 pm | LUNCH ON YOUR OWN | | | | | |
| 1:00 pm - 3:00 pm | Music is in the Air for Infants and Toddlers | ELS: 3 & 4- Year Old Physical Development | Mastering the Budget | STEAM - if needed | Health and Safety - if needed | Director Designee ALL DAY |
| 3:00 pm - 4:00 pm | ALL- Taking Care of Children and Me | | | | | |

MISSISSIPPI

lift



Greetings Early Childhood Educators:

The MDE, through the Office of Early Childhood, is offering a free 90-minute virtual training, *Introduction to Brigance Early Childhood Screen III: 3-5 Years*. This virtual training will provide participants with a plethora of knowledge about how to administer the Brigance Early Childhood Screener.

Introduction to Brigance Early Childhood Screen III: 3-5 Years will cover key topics including preparation for screening, the administration process, completing the data sheets, analyzing the screening results, and administering the self-help and social-emotional scales.

This training is available to all public, private, and head start administrators, principals, district leaders, directors, teachers, and assistant teachers of early childhood classrooms. One contact hour will be provided for those who attend the full training.

Registration will be on a first-come-first-served basis at <https://gsmu.mdek12.org/public/course/browse>. Registrants will need to verify that they are registering for the correct date and time, as multiple offerings will appear in the GoSignMeUp course listing page.

Contact the Professional Learning team at earlychildhoodtrainings@mdek12.org if there are questions regarding registration.

See the dates and times below. You will receive an email with a link the day before the training.

July 15, 2025

12:00 p.m. - 1:30 p.m. Virtual Training

6:00 p.m. - 7:30 p.m. Virtual Training

July 22, 2025

12:00 p.m. - 1:30 p.m. Virtual Training

6:00 p.m. - 7:30 p.m. Virtual Training

Thank you,

JILL DENT, Ph.D., Executive Director----Office of Early Childhood Education

601-359-2932 | mdek12.org



MSDH Monthly Safety Topic: Avoiding Carbon Monoxide Dangers

Carbon monoxide is an invisible and odorless gas that comes from any heater that burns fuel. Carbon monoxide buildup can cause illness and death by suffocation.

Cold weather brings people indoors seeking warmth. Any heater that burns fuel, such as your furnace, gas water heater or a portable butane or gas heater, produces carbon monoxide that can leak into the air. Mild exposure to carbon monoxide can cause symptoms such as nausea, dizziness or headaches. Severe poisoning can result in brain or heart damage or even death.

Have furnaces and heaters inspected every year. Carbon monoxide is invisible, odorless and tasteless. Inspection helps protect yourself and your family.

Install a carbon monoxide detector in your house, and plan to check its battery every time you check your smoke detector batteries.

Precautions you can take to prevent carbon monoxide exposure:

- Never burn anything in a stove or fireplace that is not vented properly
- Never heat your house with a gas oven
- Never run a generator indoors, in an enclosed space such as a basement, or near a window
- Do not warm your car up in a closed garage
- If your garage is attached to your house, close the door to the house even while you warm up the car

Carbon monoxide is one of the most common industrial hazards. Most carbon monoxide exposure comes from internal combustion engines. Forges, blast furnaces and coke ovens also produce carbon monoxide.

Suggestions for business employers and the public:

- Install an effective ventilation system to remove carbon monoxide.
- Maintain appliances and equipment in good order. Have a certified heating and ventilation technician check your furnace for proper ventilation and exhaust.
- Install carbon monoxide monitors and regularly test the air in areas where carbon monoxide is generated. Check monitors monthly for proper function.
- Make sure your workplace has an evacuation plan in place. Each office on each floor should designate a captain to be responsible for conducting an accurate head count of the floor's staff. Such a plan greatly assists fire officials in determining if a building is empty.

DHA Resource & Referral Centers

Our Services

Quality Professional Development

- Local Area Coaching
- Coaching & Training on Specific Topics
- Virtual & In-person Trainings

(Trainings are done through MDHS)

Quality Professional Development

- Computer Access for Career Development
- Access to Educational Resources for children ages 0-12yrs
- Information on Health, Social Services, & Job Training

Scan our QR code to find a center near you!



Children must be accompanied by a parent/guardian.

Makers Space

- Order Ellison Die Cutouts
- Lamination
- Poster Maker
- Resources for Completing School Projects.

Lending Library

- Developmentally & Age-Appropriate materials for ages 0-12yrs
- Mock Classroom Setup
- Supervised Play
- Storytime



Resource and Referral Network



**DELTA
HEALTH
ALLIANCE**

HEALTH • EDUCATION • COMMUNITY

Mississippi Lift is a program of Mississippi Department of Human Services.

RESOURCE & REFERRAL CENTER

WE ARE OPEN IN AN
AREA NEAR YOU!



Center Locations:

- | | |
|----------------|----------------|
| Leland, MS | Batesville, MS |
| Greenwood, MS | Senatobia, MS |
| Indianola, MS | Hernando, MS |
| Cleveland, MS | Grenada, MS |
| Belzoni, MS | Winona, MS |
| Clarksdale, MS | |

- * Technical assistance
- * Professional development
- * Lending library for childcare providers and families.

Scan our QR code for
more information!



New Trainings Available Now!

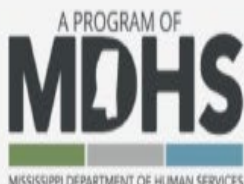
REGISTER TODAY

Find us on:
<https://portal.lift-ed.ms>

Mississippi
EARLY CHILDHOOD
INCLUSION CENTER

Professional Development
series are offered
in-person, statewide,
and virtually via Zoom.

Participants will receive four
contact hours upon successful
completion of the series.

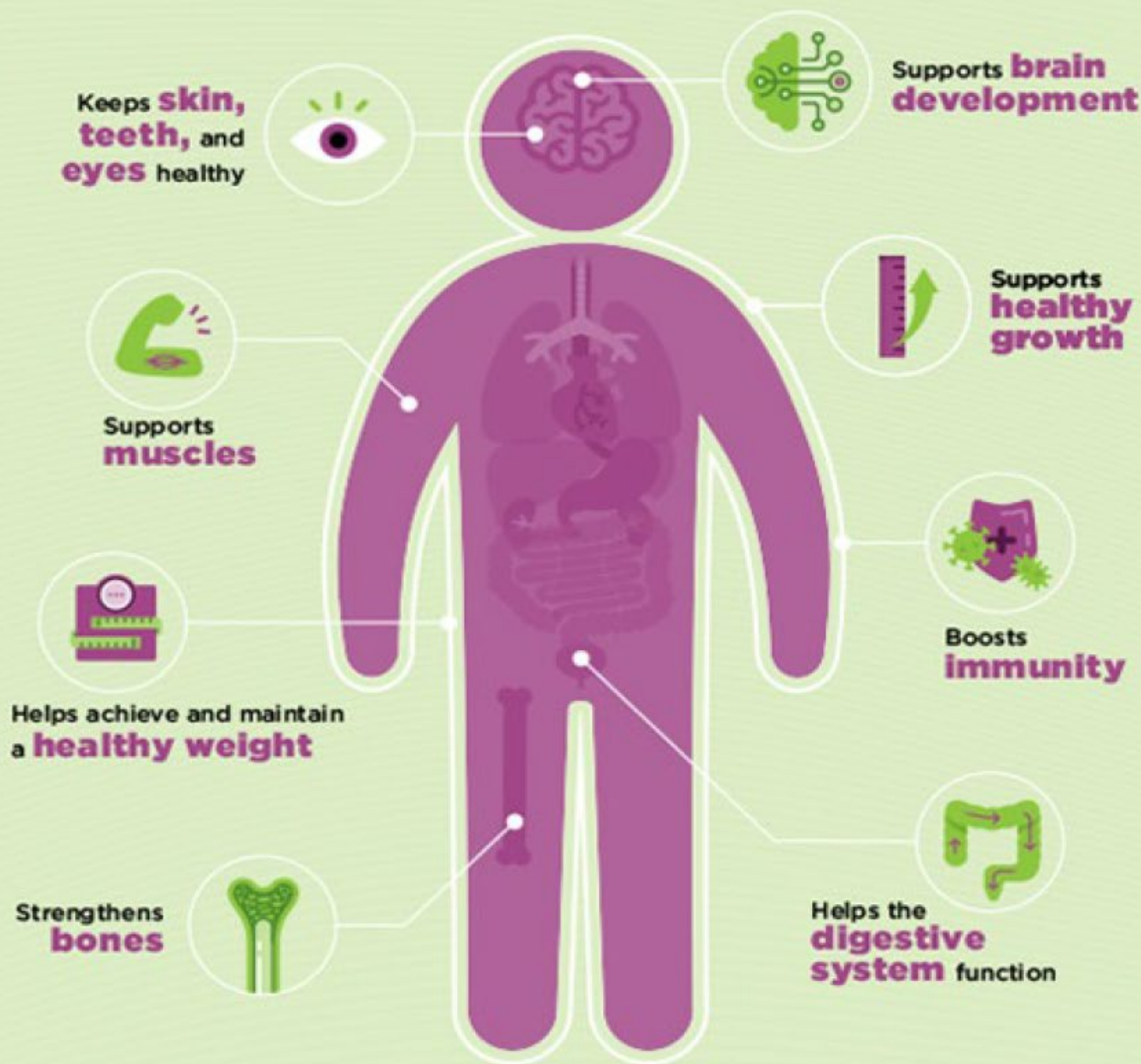


Follow the steps below

- 01 Professional Development Opportunities
- 02 Advanced Search
- 03 Sponsoring Organization
- 04 MECIC



Benefits of Healthy Eating for Children



TO LEARN MORE VISIT
cdc.gov/healthyweight/healthy_eating



April 2021

JULY

2025



| SUN | MON | TUES | WED | THUR | FRI | SAT |
|--|---|---|---|--|--|--|
| | | 1 It's the first day of July! What are you looking forward to this month? | 2 It's officially summer! What is the temperature outside today? | 3 The letter of the month is J! What sound does a J make? | 4 Happy Fourth of July! This evening take a peek outside and see if you see any fireworks. | 5 What are some traditional or special events for your family or community in July? Talk about why they are important! |
| 6 Go to the library & check out books about the beach! | 7 How many songs do you know are about summer? What are your favorite songs? | 8 Check out some books from the library about the beach and ocean animals. Are there any animals from the books that are new for your child? | 9 Name things that you would see on a beach. Do any of them start with J? | 10 July is pretty long. How many days are in the month of July? | 11 What would it be like to live on the beach? How would it be different than where you live now? | 12 There are lots of shapes on the beach! Look through your books about beaches. What shapes do you see on the beach in your books? |
| 13 Ask your adult for some water balloons and go outside to play tag with your friends! | 14 Go outside with a group of friends and pretend to play on the beach. What activities would you do on the beach? | 15 There are so many animals that can live on the beach! Draw a picture of a beach and talk about all the animals that are in the picture. | 16 Summer is really hot! Ask your guardian if you can make homemade popsicles! | 17 Go on a letter hunt! What are some things in your home that begin with the letter J? | 18 Check the temperature outside. What does it say? | 19 How many beach animals have you talked about this week? What do you think was the biggest animal you talked about? Smallest? |
| 20 How many of your library books have you read so far? How many are left? | 21 What are some things you can do on a beach? Can you do those same things at home? | 22 Summer is for family time. Ask your adult if you can take a family trip to the park! | 23 Look at your list from Monday. Which activity looked the most fun? | 24 Summertime calls for ice cream! What's your favorite flavor? | 25 Talk with your child about the summers of your childhood and share your favorite memory! | 26 It gets really hot in the summer. Be sure to keep cool! Ask your adult if there is a local community pool near by! |
| 27 July is almost over! How many days do we have left? | 28 Look through the calendar and count how many times we used the letter J! | 29 Does your child know his or her complete name? First name, middle name, and last name? | 30 What would your name sound like if it started with the letter J? | 31 Today is the last day of July! What month comes next? | | |

**WHAT WAS YOUR FAVORITE BOOK
THAT YOU READ THIS MONTH?**

Draw a picture of your favorite character from the book in this box!