

## FAMILY ENGAGEMENT IN EDUCATION IS CRITICAL TO ACADEMIC SUCCESS

By age 3, 85% of a child's core brain structure is formed, but less than 4% of public educational funds are dedicated to this period.  
(Schiavelli & Benchoff, 2001)



### WHAT THE PARENTS SAY

"I have been able to use ideas from the sessions immediately."

"It is so nice to be educated as a parent on the topics that will help my baby learn."

"I like having the time to walk with other parents."

Quality early learning requires the commitment of families, schools, and community members in order for children to reach their potential as they are set on the path to success in school and life.

### WORKING IN PARTNERSHIP WITH

Lancaster County School Districts  
Wellspan Ephrata Hospital  
Lancaster General Hospital  
Early Childhood Innovative Connections  
Lancaster County Early Learning Centers  
Popovsky Studios  
Local area Libraries  
United Way of Lancaster County

### WHAT HOSPITALS SAY

"Plant the Seed of Learning has allowed schools and medical professionals to partner with each other to better support our families and their understanding of brain development and the crucial influence of play on child development."

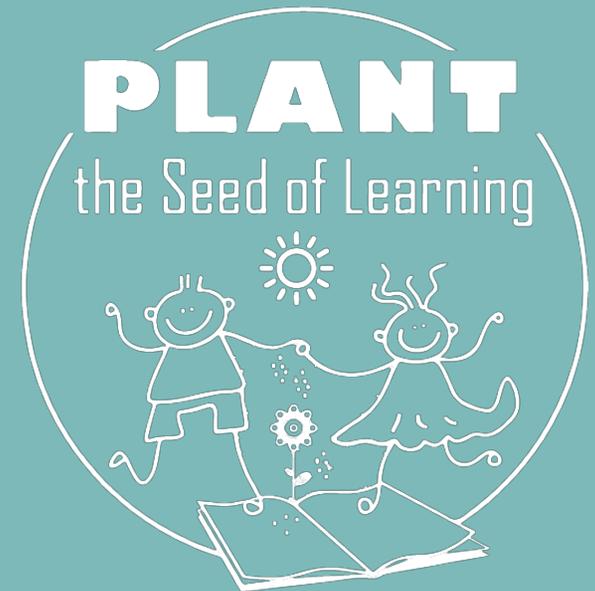
### WHAT EDUCATORS SAY

"Working with other educators and professionals in the county has benefited our students tremendously"

"Through collective impact, we have been able to share resources to assist our families with the transition to kindergarten."

Proud Partner with

United Way  
of Lancaster County



## BONDING THROUGH LEARNING

Free Family Learning Sessions  
Designed for children ages 0-2

Please see our website for session locations and registration information.

Our goal is to influence our future learners in Lancaster County through meaningful activities that empower and educate both parents and children.



[planttheseedoflearning.org](http://planttheseedoflearning.org)

# Our Impact

- 250 TAKE-HOME BAGS DISTRIBUTED TO FAMILIES EACH YEAR, FULL OF EDUCATIONAL TOYS AND BOOKS FOR PARENTS TO TAKE HOME.
- 77% OF CHILDREN WHO PARTICIPATED IN PTSL SINCE BIRTH SCORED PROFICIENT ON THE KINDERGARTEN READINESS ASSESSMENT WHILE THE COUNTY AVERAGE FOR PROFICIENCY IS 26%.
- 94% OF PARENTS WHO PARTICIPATED IN PTSL REPORT INCREASING READING AND PURPOSEFUL PLAY WITH THEIR CHILD TO AT LEAST FIVE TIMES PER DAY.
- LAUNCHED A MONTHLY NEWSLETTER IN LATE 2018 FOCUSED ON PROVIDING EVIDENCE-BASED INFORMATION ON CHILD DEVELOPMENT AND PARENTING.

Register for sessions by visiting [planttheseedoflearning.org](http://planttheseedoflearning.org)  
And select "Plant the Seed of Learning".



# SESSION DESCRIPTIONS

Developmental toys & books will be provided to families at each learning session.

## **MAKING MUSIC WITH YOUR CHILD**

An awareness of music is critical to a baby's language development. It introduces them to sounds and encourages memory retention. At this session you will be exposed to songs and developmentally appropriate toys that encourage the addition of music in everyday play.

## **PLANT THE SEED OF SCIENCE**

Children will have the opportunity to visit stations that develop the five senses. Families will receive information about guided play that inspires scientific discovery.

## **THE BRAIN AND LITERACY**

Families will learn about the stages of brain development and how books and toys can be used to stimulate brain growth.

## **YOUR BABY CAN TALK**

Filling homes with conversation is crucial for later academic success. Ways to foster this conversation are discussed. Toys that promote stimulating talk are also found at each station.

## **Infant Massage**

During this presentation, families will learn about how infant massage supports healthy development. Touch is the most developed of the five senses at birth, and there is research to suggest that infant massage has enormous benefits for helping babies grow and thrive.

## **A SCRIBBLE OR A MASTERPIECE**

There are many stages to writing development. At this session, families will have the opportunity to experience different modes of writing during playtime. Writing is a cause and effect experience related to brain development.

## **NURSERY RHYMES AND PUPPETS**

Children will have many opportunities to play with a variety of puppets while learning nursery rhymes. Parents will learn how nursery rhymes are connected to brain development.

## **MATH ALL AROUND US**

Families will be provided with math tools that encourage reasoning and mathematical acquisition. You will learn how to foster infant curiosity to encourage brain development.

## **VISION DEVELOPMENT**

Vision is developed through a process of examining, touching, and exploring. At this session, families will learn about activities that encourage vision development.

## **Social Emotional Learning**

Participants will understand how social – emotional development unfolds in the first two years of life and how to support it in young children. Areas of the brain involved in social interactions and emotional reactions will be identified. Care givers will learn about the role of relationships and attachment on social-emotional development.