



**HIPPY**  
Brevard | Orange

# HIPPY HIGHLIGHTS

**Edition 1, Issue 1**

**AUGUST 2022**

Home Instruction for Parents of  
Preschool Youngsters  
(321) 305-5879  
[www.cfchpkids.org](http://www.cfchpkids.org)



**HIPPY**  
Brevard | Orange



Central Florida Child  
Health Program, Inc



DIVISION OF  
**Early Learning**  
LEARN EARLY. LEARN FOR LIFE.



UNIVERSITY OF  
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State of Florida. Division of Early Learning

HIPPY in Brevard and Orange  
County is operated by Central  
Florida Child Health Program,  
Inc located in Rockledge, FL

# Welcome Back to HIPPY!

Hello HIPPY Families,

We are pleased to bring you our first ever quarterly **newsletter**. We hope you will find it informative and interesting. A newsletter is a great way to share information and provides another fun way to connect with our HIPPY families and supporters. We hope you enjoy the newsletter, and we appreciate any feedback or suggestions for topics to be featured in future newsletters. If you would like to contribute by writing something for an upcoming newsletter, please let us know that too.

With that being said, welcome to another year of HIPPY fun and learning! This will be our fourth year of operating the HIPPY program in Brevard and Orange County, and we are so excited to have you join us.

Despite the many challenges faced during the Covid-19 pandemic, our HIPPY families and staff preserved and overcame. Thanks to our HIPPY families' continued involvement we were able to provide services to children and families even during the pandemic. We had a front row seat to all the amazing growth HIPPY parents experienced with their children. We watched as parents actively played a part in their child's education, determined not to let anything get in the way. It was inspiring to see how dedicated parents were despite challenges so many were facing.

For the past two years, we met and role-played with families exclusively in a virtual format. We are thankful for the technology that allowed us to maintain that connection with families even when we could not be face to face. This year, we are so excited to offer a hybrid format for meetings and role-play. We will begin working with families in their homes again. However, the decision whether we meet virtually, or in-person will be for you to decide. We want to ensure families are comfortable and can decide what is best for them. We will also offer both virtual and in-person Group Meetings this year and are making plans now for upcoming meetings.

As we move forward into this new year, we want to thank you for your support. Whether you have been doing HIPPY for a while or are brand new to the program, your involvement means a lot to us. We love connecting with families and can't wait to get to know you more. We look forward to watching everyone learn and grow over this coming year. Hip-Hip Hooray for HIPPY!

Sincerely,

Tammy Ssesanga, HIPPY Program Coordinator

## Group Parent Meeting Virtual:



August 18, 2022 at 11:00am and 6:00pm

## Cocoa Library Event:



**Early Childhood Development Community Services Event**  
**Thursday August 25 from 10-12pm**

Please join us for a fun filled morning with craft activities and community partners such as Early Head Start, Early Learning Coalition, Early Steps, Head Start, and Hippy Program-Home Instruction for Parents of Preschool Youngsters. Program is for children and families

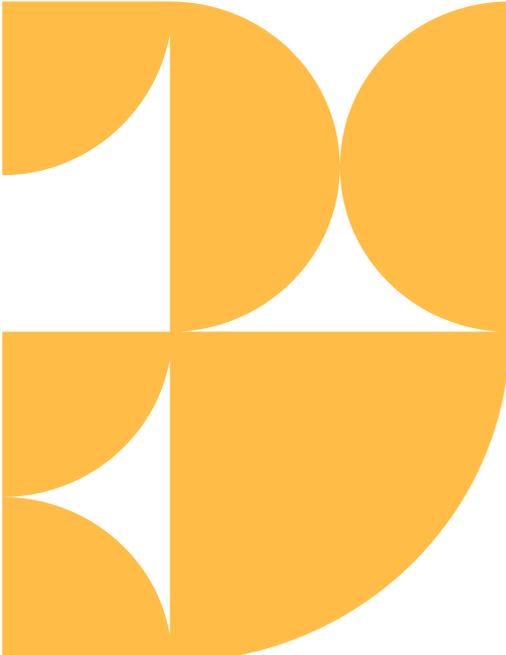
Catherine Schwelnsberg Rood Central Library  
308 Forrest Ave. Cocoa, FL 32922 (321) 633-1722

Any person requiring special accommodations to participate in any class or event due to a disability may arrange for accommodations by contacting the location at which the event is held at least seven days prior to the event. This flyer is intended to be ephemeral in nature, as a result if you need 508 compliant information contact the location and it can be provided.

## Group Parent Meeting Virtual:



October 20, 2022 at 11:00am and 6:00pm



## 20-21 End of the Year Celebration

We had a wonderful end-of-the-year celebration for our HIPPY kids on June 16<sup>th</sup>, 2022, at Wickham Park. Twelve families in attendance (31 kids and 23 adults) participated in our activity stations based on the book "My Five Senses" by Alikì. All the HIPPY children and parents received certificates of participation and prizes. Special graduation certificates were given to **Justice Freund** for completing 2 years of HIPPY, **Wade Weatherspoon** for completing 3 years of HIPPY, **Emely Bautista** for completing 2 years of HIPPY, and **Giadia Hellyer-Foster** for completing 2 years of HIPPY.

We would also like to express our most sincere appreciation to **Walmart** of Merritt Island, **Publix** of Merritt Island, and **Target** of Merritt Island for donating food and gift cards that made this event possible. Extra special shout out and thank you to private donor **Mrs. Glenna Resnikoff** for her faithful and much-appreciated gifts and donations.

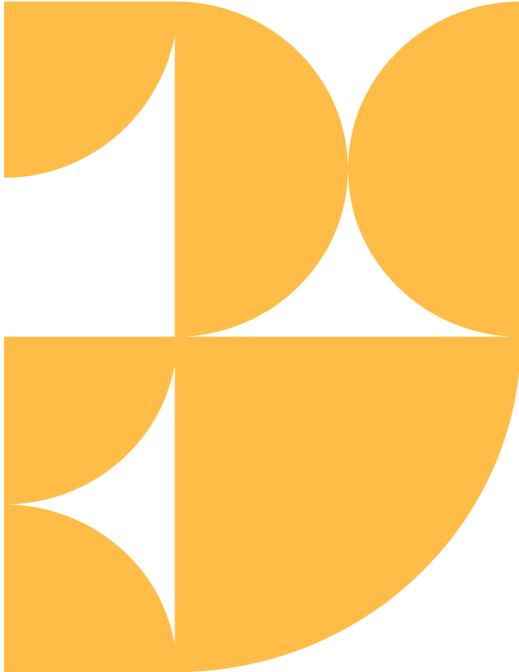


This event would not be as fantastic

without our special guests, **Zeta Gibbs**, **David Jenkins**, and **Martha Pessaro**, committee members of the Native Rhythms Festival, who shared their talents with the "hearing" activity that included rain makers and shakers for the children to play (made by **Linda Resnikoff**), rhythm drumming was provided by our guests. We would also like to give a huge shout-out to **Naomi Ssesanga** for the beautiful face painting she did for the children. Last, but certainly not least, a special thank you to our guest presenter, **Mr. Javier Molinares**, Co-Founder of the Brevard

Hispanic Center. Mr. Molinares and BHC hosted an amazing Christmas party for the Brevard HIPPY families in December 2021. A big thank you to our staff Linda, Tiffany, Diamond, and Wasilika, for organizing the activity stations, teaching the children about their 5 senses, and providing a lot of support.

It was fun to get together, fellowship, and celebrate our kiddos' hard work. We look forward to next year's end-of-the-year celebration and hope there will be double the families in attendance.



## Role Play...Pull Pages... Family Feedback

### **The 5 Rs:**

Rapport  
Review  
Role Play  
Referrals  
Reminders

### **The 3 C's:**

Confirm  
Complete  
Correct

As we begin a new year and enroll new families to HIPPY, we would like to revisit the importance of weekly role plays. The program requires all parents to participate in role-playing before starting a new week's worth of activities with their youngsters. The benefit of using this tool is that modeling each activity prepares parents for the tasks at hand, provides feedback opportunities for parents who may need help explaining the instructions to their children and enhances the parent's confidence in teaching their children the curriculum as intended. There will be a YouTube channel coming soon that goes over the entire role play process, including what the 5R's and 3C's stand for.

Pull Pages and Family Feedback forms are essential to the program. Pull Pages are to be collected every week before role play. Each Home Visitor will tell you what page (from the previous week's activities) they need to collect. This is only for years 1 - 3. Once received, pull pages will go into your child's folder as a part of the State Office's requirements and show your child's participation in the program.

For Little Learners, we use a Family Feedback form that asks detailed questions about specific activities from the week completed, which then goes into your child's folder for the same purpose as the Pull Pages.

For the returning parents, this is just a refresher. For all of the new parents, we realize that the role-play format may not be what you expected and may feel a little silly or redundant sometimes. That is okay. We encourage you to trust the process. HIPPY has been around since the 1980s in the United States and has been successful in over 15 countries and in multiple languages.

If you have questions or comments, please communicate them with your Home Visitor. When the YouTube channel is up and running, your Home Visitor will provide you with the information. HIP-HIP HOORAY FOR HIPPIY!!!  
Our parents Rock!!!

# HIPPY Highlights

## Parent's Corner

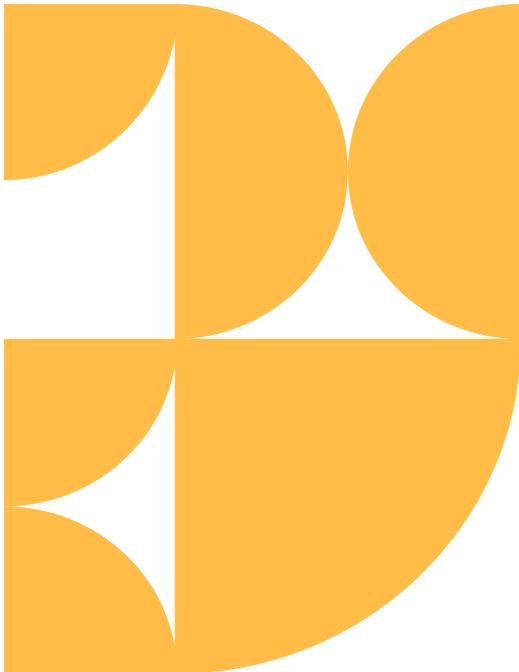
This is the section of our new monthly newsletter where we would like to start our HIPPY Parent's Corner. We want this area be a place where HIPPY parents can write about their family's experiences with HIPPY. It could involve success stories, overcoming obstacles and challenges, helpful tips and tricks, etc. We are a community and sharing personal experiences just might encourage someone who is on the same journey as you. The article does not have to be professionally written. It should just be genuine and from the heart.

If you are interested in contributing to our newsletter, please contact Tiffany Ruehman at [tiffany@cmsprimarycare.com](mailto:tiffany@cmsprimarycare.com). The submission deadline will be the 1<sup>st</sup> of the month before the next newsletter. If you have questions, call the office at 321-305-5870 and ask for Tiffany.

We look forward to all the wonderful and creative stories everyone will share. You may also send pictures with consent to publish/post.



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## Proud Mama New to HIPPY

James is new to HIPPY (He just started Year 1). After completing some of the first week's activities, his mom reached out to her Home Visitor to share their exciting experiences with the curriculum. Ms. Jazmin excitedly reported, "James did so good today with math. He liked when I traced his hand, and he took each color marker and made a mark on each fingertip where a fingernail should be and counted each one as he did it. I was shocked he actually knew that!" She also states, "He was so happy and excited to do it and can't wait to do the next one." Ms. Jazmin is thrilled with her son's interest in the activities after just one week. "We read the story again this morning on Facebook, he wanted to show his grandma," Ms. Jazmin happily exclaimed.

To James and his mom, we thank you for allowing us to share this beautiful story in the first edition of our newsletter.

HIPPY Parents: Hearing, seeing, and sharing these experiences in your own words is more powerful than anything a professional writer could ever do.



# New Staff Spotlight - Ms. Linda



Ms. Linda is HIPPY's new Program Assistant and a critical part of our team. She assists the HIPPY Program Coordinator with many aspects of the HIPPY Program. She answers the office phones so you may have the pleasure of speaking to her in the future. Ms. Linda also organizes the HIPPY curriculum/books to ensure everyone receives the materials they need. Her skills and personality are vital to our organization. For example, she was instrumental in fundraising for our year end celebration and assisting with planning and set-up.

Ms. Linda is also active in her personal life. She is a member of the Indian River Flute Circle and on the committee for the Native Rhythms Festival, which will be held at Wickham Park from November 11-13 of this year.



Her hobbies include music, repurposing, remodeling, and zero scaping (among many other talents). When asked what her favorite color is, her response was "green," which makes sense because Ms. Linda loves walking in the outdoors and being close to nature.

Ms. Linda always gives more than 100% and is an essential part of our team.

## HIPPY Staff – Who's Who?

Central Florida Child Health Program, Inc

Jacqueline Amos, CFCHP Executive Director

Linda Resnikoff, Administrative Assistant

Tammy Ssesanga, HIPPY Coordinator

Tiffany Ruehman, HIPPY Home Visitor