



EARNED INCOME TAX CREDIT (EITC) PROGRAM

The **Earned Income Tax Credit (EITC)** is a tax credit for low-to-middle income individuals and families. An individual or family making as little as \$10 could qualify, but you must file an income tax return to receive it – even if the Internal Revenue Service (IRS) doesn't require filing for your income level. An individual earning up to \$13,460 a year or a family earning up to \$43,352 a year may qualify. If you qualify for EITC, you also qualify to have your taxes prepared for free at one of many free tax preparation sites - including many local social service offices at: www.dss.virginia.gov/localagency/. Call 1-800-906-9887 to find the tax preparation site closest to you.

The EITC Program is not widely known; therefore, please share this information with staff, co-workers, and families in your programs. For more information on the EITC Program, visit: www.dss.virginia.gov/community/eitc.cgi.

VIRGINIA SMALL BUSINESS FINANCING AUTHORITY - CHILD CARE FINANCING PROGRAM

If you are a **regulated** child care provider, you may be eligible to apply for a low-interest rate loan through the Virginia Small Business Financing Authority's Child Care Financing Program. Loan proceeds can be used to meet or maintain child care standards or to make quality enhancements to a child care program (e.g., playground equipment, infant care equipment, necessary renovations or repairs to comply with Department of Social Services health and safety standards, buses for transporting children, and education materials). Financing for this program is provided by VDSS through Child Care and Development Block Grant funds. For more information, including application materials, eligibility requirements, etc., visit the Virginia Department of Business Assistance website at: www.vdba.virginia.gov, select "Financing" or call 1-866-248-8814.

NEVER SHAKE A BABY

With the goal of preventing Shaken Baby Syndrome (also known as Abusive Head Trauma) through education, VDSS provides a Web page dedicated to Shaken Baby Syndrome awareness, prevention, education, resources and assistance. Please visit the VDSS web page at: www.dss.virginia.gov/family/cps/shaken_baby.cgi.





1-2-3 READ! VIRGINIA

The **1-2-3 READ!** storybook-based curriculum is a research-based early literacy curriculum developed by Child Development Resources (CDR) that has been proven to result in children, birth to age 3 years, achieving significant, measurable gains in their language and cognitive development. **1-2-3 READ!** is designed to build emergent literacy in infants and toddlers through a carefully planned set of experiences that lay the foundation for reading and writing success.

The **1-2-3 READ! Virginia Early Literacy Training** is an interactive, practical two-day training designed for you if you work with infants and toddlers in a group setting.



Who Should Attend?

Family/Home or Center-based caregivers who work with infants and toddlers (birth to 36 months) in group settings and who have not previously attended a **1-2-3 READ!** two-day training. **Registration is restricted to individuals who have not attended 1-2-3 READ! training in the past.**

What Will You Learn?

- Strategies for expanding children's language through storytelling and one-on-one conversations
- How to select and use books and print materials with infants and toddlers
- How to infuse literacy activities within a child's daily routines
- How to use story props to engage infants and toddlers in early literacy experiences
- Strategies for involving families in literacy activities, and MUCH MORE!!!

What Will You Receive?

- A certificate of attendance that can be used toward continuing training clock hours required by the Virginia Department of Social Services
- *A Guide for Using the 1-2-3 READ! Curriculum Modules*
- Three curriculum module booklets and accompanying children's books
- Teacher Resource: *Story Stretchers for Infants and Toddlers: Experiences, Activities, and Games for Popular Children's Books*
- An opportunity to apply for follow-up on-site coaching and additional literacy materials

For more information visit the **1-2-3 READ!** website www.123read.cdr.org or contact Lisa McKean (757) 566-2840 or lisam@cdr.org.

How Much Does It Cost?

\$15.00 per person. Each registered participant must attend both full days of the training. Once you register, your space is reserved and attendance is expected. **No refunds!**

1-2-3 READ! Virginia is a program of Child Development Resources (CDR), www.cdr.org and is supported by the Virginia Department of Social Services (VDSS) grant no. 93.575, with funds made available to Virginia from the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services.