

**Learning through play**  
Taking a hands on approach

**Building literacy**  
Developing cognitive thinking skills

**21st century classroom**  
Advancements in technology

**MEDIA PLANET**

March 2011

# EARLY EDUCATION

## CREATING BUILDING BLOCKS FOR SUCCESS

Save The Children ambassadors Jennifer Garner and Mark Shriver help revive education in struggling communities

3  
TIPS



**All the places  
your child will grow**

**NECPA Accredited Schools**

The National Early Childhood Program Accreditation • [www.necpa.net](http://www.necpa.net)



## A Love of Learning Begins with Early Childhood Education

### The Right Choice for Your Child

There are many choices available when it comes to child care. But, according to The National Association for the Education of Young Children (NAEYC) and other experts in the field, an early childhood education program has far-reaching, positive effects on a child's growth.

Studies prove that a foundation in early childhood education, which focuses on learning through play, better prepares a child for future academic success, develops stronger social skills, and instills greater self-awareness and confidence. High quality early childhood education programs are instrumental in a child's growth—academically, socially, physically, and emotionally.

As the leader in early childhood education, KinderCare® Learning Centers have been helping children learn through play and fun for forty years. With curriculum-based programs, highly trained, nurturing teachers, and a focus on whole child development, KinderCare is a choice parents can feel good about.

Learn more about choosing the right program for your child at <http://kndr.cr/decision>

[www.KinderCare.com](http://www.KinderCare.com) 800-700-2141



facebook.com/kindercare



twitter.com/kindercare



THE NATION'S NEWSPAPER

**USA TODAY**

A GANNETT COMPANY

4 · MARCH 2011

NEWS

QUESTION  
& ANSWER

**Wendy Collie**  
President,  
KinderCare  
Learning Centers

### What differentiates early childhood education programs from day care?

What sets high-quality early education programs apart is the focus on a rich learning environment that supports the healthy development of the whole child cognitively, socially, emotionally and physically and ensures children have the skills necessary to enter school ready to learn.

- Look for a low teacher-to-student ratio allowing teachers to focus on individual learning.
- Look for developmentally appropriate curriculum and a language-rich environment
- Check to see that the program is accredited—accredited programs demonstrate their commitment to go beyond a state's minimum licensing requirements and meet rigorous national standards.
- Spend time with teachers and the center director—make sure they are qualified, engaged, and can help your child develop the skills he/she will need in school and beyond.