



Beyond Bubbles and Blocks:

Tips for MA EI Home Visitors



Did you know?

The DPH Early Intervention Training Center is looking for training facilitators! Every month we do two day long face to face new hire orientation trainings for EI specialists coming into our system. These day long trainings are held regionally throughout the state and cover topics like functional assessment, writing high quality outcomes, and PIWI. We are looking for additional trainers, both professionals and parents, to join our training team. If you are interested or would like more information please email Emily Webb at

Emily.webb@state.ma.us.

“Some babies are easy to comfort, others cry for hours every day no matter what you do. Listening to a baby cry is very hard on parents. You may wonder what’s wrong, and feel that you should be able to solve the problem.” All Babies Cry fact sheet

Tips and Techniques...

Many families may benefit from receiving the "[All Babies Cry](#)" fact sheet. It is available in English, Haitian Creole, Spanish, Portuguese, Vietnamese, Russian and Arabic. "This fact sheet provides helpful tips for parents and caretakers on how to soothe a crying baby. It includes information on what to do if a baby won't stop crying and strategies for managing caretaker stress during these

situations. The fact sheet highlights the importance of never shaking a baby and the dangers associated with shaking. It provides resources for parents and caretakers including local hotlines and websites."

The fact sheet can be downloaded and ordered from the Massachusetts Department of Public Health free of charge in the seven different languages.

<https://massclearinghouse.eh.s.state.ma.us/PROG-INJPREV/SB3101kit.html>

Evaluation/ Assessment tip



Why is The Department of Public Health so focused on fidelity of administration?

The Department of Public Health is focused on fidelity of administration because the accuracy of our state’s data relies on accurate test scores. The only way to determine that scores are accurate is to administer each item to fidelity. Here in Massachusetts we use BDI-2 test scores to inform parents, inform school systems and other community collaborators, and develop IFSP’s. We also use our BDI-2 scores to inform The Office of Special Education (OSEP) federally on how children in our system are achieving the three federal child outcomes. OSEP uses this information to determine the effectiveness of Mass. Early Intervention services. Accurate scores matter for children, parents, community collaborators, providers, programs, and our system!

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