

# Early Learning with Families - ELF 2.0

## Community Partnerships

**Tahra Goraya, MA**  
**Western Office Director**

[www.zerotothree.org](http://www.zerotothree.org)

## EARLY EXPERIENCES MATTER



Mission	Our mission is to ensure that all babies and toddlers have a strong start in life.
What We Do	<p>We are a national, nonprofit organization that provides <b>parents, professionals and policymakers</b> the knowledge and know-how to nurture early development.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• We train professionals and build networks of leaders</li><li>• We influence policies and practice</li><li>• We raise public understanding of early childhood issues</li></ul>
Why We Do It	<p><b>Early experiences matter.</b> The care and resources that parents and other adults provide for infants and toddlers has an enduring effect on their health and development. Investments in high quality care and services yield significant social and economic benefits today and in the future.</p>
How We Do It	<p><b>All our work is:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Grounded in research and experience</li><li>• Multidisciplinary</li><li>• Collaborative</li><li>• Culturally responsive</li><li>• Clinically Informed</li><li>• Accessible</li></ul>



## OUR MISSION

ZERO TO THREE is a national, nonprofit organization that provides parents, professionals and policymakers the knowledge and know-how to nurture early development.

**Our mission** is to ensure that all babies and toddlers have a strong start in life.

[Click here](#) to learn more about ZERO TO THREE.

## SUPPORT US



Donate Now

## TAKE ACTION

5.7k



« NEW! Click "Like" to join us on Facebook!

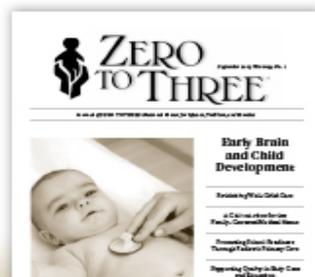
### New Resources from ZERO TO THREE!

#### Changing the Course for Infants and Toddlers: A Survey of State Child Welfare Policies and Initiatives

This report by ZERO TO THREE and Child Trends presents findings from a 2013 survey of state child welfare agencies about the policies and practices that guide their work in addressing the needs of infants and toddlers who have been maltreated. It identifies innovations in policy and practice, and highlights key challenges, gaps, and barriers that child welfare agencies across the country face in meeting the needs of very young children who have experienced maltreatment. Three short companion pieces offer highlights from the survey and recommendations for states around core issues. [Learn more](#)



### September 2013 Issue - Early Brain and Child Development



#### New Issue Now Available!

ZERO TO THREE is delighted to collaborate with the American Academy of Pediatrics (AAP) for the September 2013 issue of the Journal, which explores the emerging science of early brain development and opportunities for health care providers, early education professionals, parents and communities to collectively promote early social and emotional development. [Order Now!](#)

## FIND IT FAST

Select a Key Topic

## SHOP OUR BOOKSTORE



[CLICK HERE](#)

## TRAINING & DEVELOPMENT



PROFESSIONAL  
TRAINING &  
DEVELOPMENT  
OPPORTUNITIES  
AVAILABLE

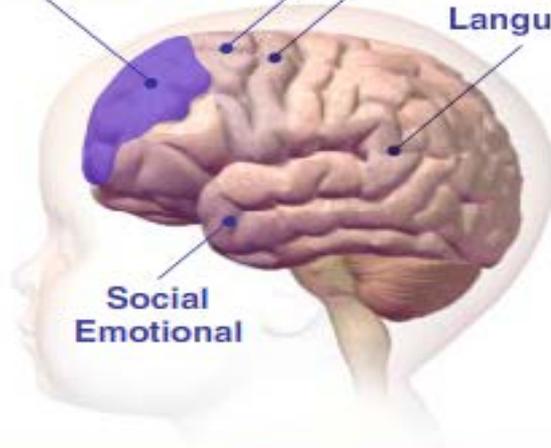
[LEARN MORE >>>](#)

# INTERACTIVE BABY BRAIN MAP

## Baby Brain Map

© 2007 ZERO TO THREE

Cognition and Learning  
Movement (gross)  
Movement (fine)  
Language  
Social Emotional



Select age: 18 to 24 months ▼

Welcome to our Baby Brain Map.

Please select the age group you would like to explore from the menu above.

Then click on the section of the image you are interested in.

### Cognition and Learning

What should I be teaching toddlers?

How much memory can their brains hold?

### Answer

Toddlers at this age are beginning to understand that symbols stand for objects and things that they experience. This process is referred to as symbolic representation. For example, they are able to look at pictures of family members and recognize a specific individual without confusing the picture with the actual person. In addition, you might see the toddler in pretend play saying "hello" to

### What you can do

- Provide a secure and supportive environment. Toddlers who feel safe, trusting and comfortable will freely explore the environment. Cognitive growth comes from ongoing exploration.
- Encourage exploration in an environment that offers a variety of sensory experiences, such as sand and water play, play-dough

## Podcast Series

### [Little Kids, Big Questions](#)

[Creating Healthy Connections: Nurturing Brain Development From Birth to Three](#)

[Our Families, Ourselves: How Our History Influences How We Raise Our Children](#)

[Night-Night...or Not: Talking About Babies, Toddlers, and Sleep](#)

[Early Experiences Count: How Emotional Development Unfolds Starting at Birth](#)

[Beyond "Use Your Words!": How Babies Begin to Develop Self-Control in the First Three Years](#)

[Turning On or Tuning Out: The Influence of Media on Young Children's Development](#)

[Across the Generations: The Role of Grandparents in Young Children's Lives](#)

[Feeding the Body and the Mind: Nurturing Healthy Eating Habits from the Start](#)

[Daddy, Papi, Papa, or Baba: The Influence of Fathers on Young Children's Development](#)

[Shh, Shh, It's Okay: Coping With Crying in Babies and Toddlers](#)

["I Like Me!": Developing Self-Esteem in the Early Years](#)

[Sharing the Care: How Partnering with Your Child's Caregiver Supports Healthy Development](#)

[www.zerotothree.org](http://www.zerotothree.org)

## Little Kids, Big Questions: A Parenting Podcast Series From ZERO TO THREE™

[Home](#) > [About Us](#) > [Funded Projects](#) > [Parenting Resources](#) > [podcast](#)

This podcast series is made possible with generous support from **MetLife Foundation**.

*A ZERO TO THREE Podcast Series on Early Childhood Development*

ZERO TO THREE's podcast series, ***Little Kids, Big Questions***, addresses some of the most common (and challenging) issues facing parents of babies and toddlers, such as: helping a baby learn to sleep through the night; dealing with a picky eater; and learning to set limits on children's behavior. These questions—and more—are covered in this series of **12 podcasts**, hosted by Ann Pleshette Murphy, a past contributor to ABC's Good Morning America Parenting Segment and Vice President of the ZERO TO THREE Board of Directors.



Each podcast features an interview with an expert that focuses on how to apply the research of early childhood development to your daily interactions with your baby or toddler.

Download the podcasts below, and check out the additional resources on each topic to learn more. Or, [click here](#) to go directly to iTunes to download the podcasts.

[Take a short survey](#) to let us know what you think of the new series.

### Podcast Group I

1. **Shh, Shh, It's Okay: Coping With Crying in Babies and Toddlers**  
Featuring Pamela High, M.D.

Podcast: [English](#) [Espanol](#) Transcript: [English](#) [Espanol](#) [Resources](#)

2. **Night-Night...or Not: Talking About Babies, Toddlers, and Sleep**  
Featuring Jodi Mindell, Ph.D.

Podcast: [English](#) [Espanol](#) Transcript: [English](#) [Espanol](#) [Resources](#)

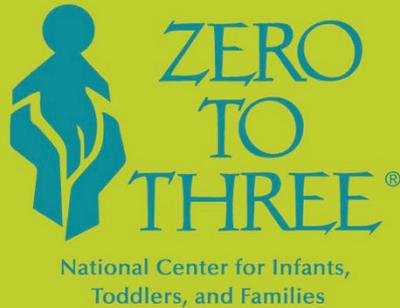
3. **Early Experiences Count: How Emotional Development Unfolds Starting at Birth**  
Featuring Ross Thompson, Ph.D.

# No Step is Too Small

Become a member of the  
CA Infant-Toddler  
Advocacy Workgroup

Sign-up to receive the  
ZERO TO THREE  
Western Office Newsletter





# Thank You

**Tahra Goraya, MA**  
**Director, Western Office**  
**[Tgoraya@ZEROTOTHREE.org](mailto:Tgoraya@ZEROTOTHREE.org)**

[www.zerotothree.org](http://www.zerotothree.org)