

ECL Monthly

news & updates

August|2022

2022 August						
Notes	Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
1 Wash your face and talk about eyes, nose and mouth.	2 Practice getting legs by pulling them just out of reach.	3 Practice getting legs by pulling them just out of reach.	4 Make a sack of your child's making rocks & play it back for them.	5 Tell your child the names for getting dressed.	6 Show your child the names for getting dressed.	7 Show your child the names for getting dressed.
8 Explore the texture of corn on the cob.	9 Play Follow the Leader. Will your child copy your actions?	10 Read a book together.	11 Visit a farmer's market, point to the fruits and vegetables.	12 Visit a farmer's market, point to the fruits and vegetables.	13 Move around and be noisy inside your child's sounds.	14 Sing Old MacDonald Had a Farm.
15 Encourage your child to wash their hands with soap.	16 Read a book together.	17 Say "Hi" to a friend.	18 Get noisy! Make silly noises in a can or bucket.	19 Go swimming or play in the pool.	20 Play "I'm gonna get it" with your child.	21 Take turns making silly sounds back and forth.
22 Practice body parts. Tickle belly or toes.	23 Have a bubble bath. Say and sign "bubble".	24 Play in front of a mirror today.	25 Drive your car around the house.	26 Play "I'm gonna get it" with your child.	27 Take turns making silly sounds back and forth.	28 Read a book about fish. Practice the sign.
29 Fill a pan with water to splash in. Add an ice cube if it's hot out.	30 Find people who are happy and sad in books.	31 Practice animal sounds when reading books together.				

Early Communicator Calendar

2022 August						
Notes	Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
1 Wash your face and talk about eyes, nose and mouth.	2 Lash the corners of your eyes as you look at an object.	3 Say "Hi" to the mailman.	4 Family movie night. Watch the names of your favorite characters.	5 Turn on the lights. Guess the names of your favorite characters.	6 Turn on the lights. Guess the names of your favorite characters.	7 Turn on the lights. Guess the names of your favorite characters.
8 Play Follow the Leader. Will your child copy your actions?	9 Read a book together.	10 Make a book together.	11 Visit a farmer's market, talk about the fruits and vegetables.	12 Make popcorn together. Say "pop".	13 Exercise together. How many jumping jacks can you do?	14 Sing Old MacDonald Had a Farm.
15 Encourage your child to wash their hands with soap.	16 Blow bubbles. Pop them on your feet. Practice body parts.	17 Pretend to go fishing. Practice sign for "fish".	18 Get noisy! Say silly words in a can or bucket.	19 Go swimming or play in the pool.	20 Make bubbles together. Talk about what you're doing.	21 Say "Hi" to a friend.
22 Practice body parts. Tickle belly or toes.	23 Have a bubble bath. Say and sign "bubble".	24 Include your child in cleaning up. Say "up" and "down".	25 Drive your car around the house.	26 Play "I'm gonna get it" with your child.	27 Take turns making silly sounds back and forth.	28 Read a book about fish. Practice the sign.
29 Fill a pan with water to splash in. Add an ice cube if it's hot out.	30 Find people who are happy and sad in books.	31 Practice animal sounds when reading books together.				

First Words Calendar

2022 August						
Notes	Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
1 Wash your face and talk about eyes, nose and mouth.	2 Follow steps for washing your hands. First, Then...	3 Play "Hi" to the mailman. Talk about what he does.	4 Family movie night. Watch the names of your favorite characters.	5 Turn on the lights. Guess the names of your favorite characters.	6 Turn on the lights. Guess the names of your favorite characters.	7 Turn on the lights. Guess the names of your favorite characters.
8 Play Follow the Leader. Will your child copy your actions?	9 Read a book together.	10 Make a book together.	11 Visit a farmer's market, talk about the fruits and vegetables.	12 Make popcorn together. Say "pop".	13 Exercise together. How many jumping jacks can you do?	14 Sing Old MacDonald Had a Farm.
15 Encourage your child to wash their hands with soap.	16 Blow bubbles. Pop them on your feet. Practice body parts.	17 Pretend to go fishing. Practice sign for "fish".	18 Get noisy! Say silly words in a can or bucket.	19 Go swimming or play in the pool.	20 Make bubbles together. Talk about what you're doing.	21 Say "Hi" to a friend.
22 Practice body parts. Tickle belly or toes.	23 Have a bubble bath. Say and sign "bubble".	24 Include your child in cleaning up. Say "up" and "down".	25 Drive your car around the house.	26 Play "I'm gonna get it" with your child.	27 Take turns making silly sounds back and forth.	28 Read a book about fish. Practice the sign.
29 Fill a pan with water to splash in. Add an ice cube if it's hot out.	30 Find people who are happy and sad in books.	31 Practice animal sounds when reading books together.				

Expanding Language Calendar

Tried & True Tips from a Therapist

by Priscilla Molina & Sarah Ford, Consultants, Early Childhood Special Education (ECSE), Education Service Center, Region 20

Let's Go to School!

How Transition from ECI to the Local School District Works

The Individual with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA) was created to ensure that all children with disabilities have available to them a free and appropriate public education as

Links to Transition Resources

[Texas Transition: Early Childhood Special Education](#)



well as ensure that children with disabilities rights are protected. Through this, children with developmental disabilities, delays, or medical diagnoses may be eligible for Early Childhood Intervention (ECI) services. ECI

supports children and families from birth up to three years old. A child and family's individual needs would be addressed through an Individualized Family Services Plan (IFSP). Upon turning three years of age, children that will continue to need services and supports may be eligible for Early Childhood Special Education (ECSE) services. ECSE services are for children between the ages of three through five that have been evaluated and meet one of the 13 disability categories identified in the IDEA. There must be an educational need for school-based services in order to be eligible for ECSE. An Individualized Education Program (IEP) is developed for each eligible student that focuses solely on disability related needs. Not all children who are referred by an ECI program will qualify for Special Education services with the Local Education Agency (LEA). The LEA is defined as the local school district or charter school.

The transition process begins when a child is getting ready to move from one program to another, ECI to school based services (ECSE). At least 90 days before the child's third birthday a transition conference is held to address if special education services are needed. Parents of the child, family members, ECI Service Coordinators, Evaluation personnel, and a representative from the Local Education Agency (LEA), would be part of the transition conference team. During the transition conference, the team will discuss the rights of the parents/guardians, explain the referral process, steps, and timelines for a school-based evaluation, answer any questions that parents/guardians may have, and discuss possible placement options if the child is to be eligible for ECSE services. The entire transition process from beginning to end must be completed by the child's third birthday.

[ECTA Center Transition Federal Requirements](#)

[IDEA Individuals with Disabilities Education Act](#)

[TEA Resources on Special Education](#)

[Child Find Texas](#)

[ECTA Center for Families](#)

[Parent Companion](#)

Spotlight Story - Ricardo Gallegos, Jr.

by Amy Chavez



About 20 years ago, little Ricardo Gallegos, Jr. (Ricky) was enrolled with the Easter Seals ECI program for speech therapy at the recommendation of his pediatrician. At the time, Ricky's mom, Amanda Casillas-Gallegos, was employed with San Antonio Water System (SAWS).

Between the experience she had with Ricky and her own research, Amanda and Ricky chose to represent Easter Seals in the SAWS *Be Someone's Hero Charity Campaign*. In 2003, Ricky was the poster child for the campaign (pictured above left) and Amanda donated to Easter Seals every year through the same campaign while employed with SAWS. Amanda stated, the ECI program turned her son into a "chatterbox" and "I'll take all the chatter he has to give!"

What began as a speech referral to Easter Seals, became diagnoses of hearing loss, ADHD, dyslexia, dysphagia, and short-term memory loss. "I'm very appreciative that I found the information I did when he was young. I want parents to not be afraid of stigmatization. I'd rather know what's going on with my child than not," Amanda said. "I think speech therapy helped him so much and led him to be the man he is today." Ricky attended school in Edgewood ISD where he said math and science were "easier" than reading and writing, and he "struggled" with Spanish.

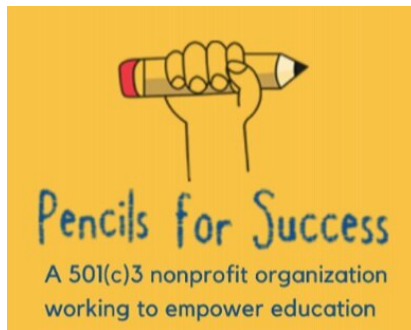
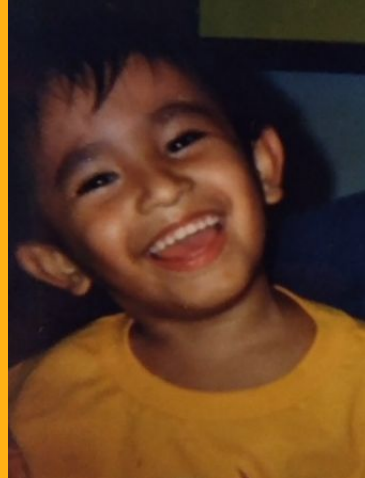
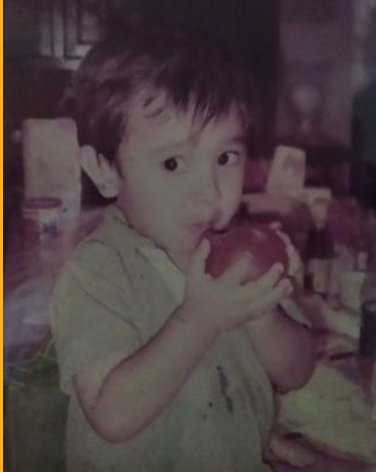
Ricky played the tuba for two years in his middle school band and four years in high school. He went on to letter in band and a construction group that volunteered with Habitat for Humanity. "He's always been inquisitive and willing to learn things," Amanda said. "He's also always wanted to volunteer and give back. I think those characteristics stemmed from his start at Easter Seals."

Post high school, Ricky attended Northwest Vista, which he said was an "amazing campus" in terms of the disability services on campus and professors who were "really nice" and willing to "go the extra mile to help out." He lived at home while attending Northwest Vista. Ricky graduated in May of 2020 with an Associates in Science.

Today, Ricky is enrolled at Texas A&M Corpus Christi working towards his Bachelor of Arts in Mechanical Engineering. He lives on campus and is on track to graduate in 2024. His village includes his family, supportive professors, and his on-campus accommodations. When

asked about future goals, Ricky responded, "I want to do something I can build with my hands and work on things. Maybe HEB Creamery, Toyota, or back to where I started at Habitat for Humanity."

Where will your ECI baby be 20 years down the road? Only time will tell. Ricky's advice, "parents who know and learn about everything that's going on with their child help their child succeed. Stick with it," he said. "You've got this!"



Pencils for Success!

The local chapter of Pencils for Success once again chose Easter Seals to be the recipient of their generous donation of school supplies just in time for back to school! Many families were able to benefit from the items collected.





Reminders



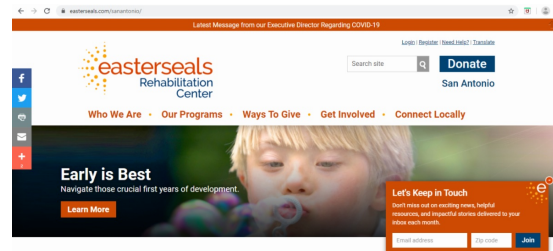
Is Your Child The
next
ECI
SuperStar?

We'd love to share your child's ECI journey!
If you'd like to be featured in the **"ECI Spotlight Story"** segment, click below.

[I'm a SuperStar!](#)

COVID-19 Updates

Check our [website](#) periodically for the latest memos from our Executive Director, Linda Tapia, click on the orange alert bar at the top on the page.



If you are in need help accessing resources, please contact your service coordinator. If you are in need of someone to talk to to help cope with the changes revolving around COVID-19, please contact your service coordinator to reach out to our counseling department. They will follow up with you to help in this critical time.

August Awareness Observations



Month-Long

- Children's Eye Health and Safety
- Children's Vision and Learning
- Digestive Tract Paralysis (DTP)
- Don't be a Bully Month
- Immunization Awareness
- Never Leave a Child Unattended in a Car, Purple Ribbon Month
- Spinal Muscular Atrophy Awareness

Days

- August 6 - National Wiggle Your Toes Day
- August 7 - Purple Heart Day
- August 8 - Happiness Happens Day
- August 8 - Severe ME Awareness Day (Severe & Very Severe Myalgic Encephalomyelitis).
- August 12 - International Youth Day
- August 13 - International Left-handers Day



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TEXAS
Health and Human
Services

Early Childhood Intervention

Easter Seals Rehabilitation Center
is a contracted provider of
Texas Early Childhood Intervention
Services and partially funded by
Texas Health and Human Services.

Easter Seals Rehabilitation Center | 2203 Babcock Road, San Antonio, TX 78229

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