

The **Building Blocks Project** is based upon a systems approach for improving outcomes for young children and their families.

Evidence-based practices provide for quality early learning opportunities, essential family and caregiver supports, and adequate provider resources to enhance early literacy and overall child development, family confidence and competence, and community capacity.

Strategies include:

- **Learn & Play**© Parent/Child Groups
- Triple P Positive Parenting Program
- HealthySteps for Young Children
- Community Collaborative Supports, including Early Learning Stations; Staff Development Opportunities; and Bright Beginnings Before and After School Program, Transportation Scholarships, and Literacy Bus.

Visit www.rcdc4kids.org to learn more about **Building Blocks Programs** and training available in your community.

History of Russell Child Development Center

Russell Child Development Center (RCDC) began in 1965 when a group of parents and concerned citizens in Garden City, Kansas opened a daycare facility for children of all ages with developmental disabilities. The first location was the Optimist Building. Later, Mrs. Ruth Ball rented the home of her parents, Vashti and Marion Russell, to the facility for \$1 a year asking only that it be named in their honor. Thus, the name “Russell” Child Development Center. This home was later lost to urban renewal and RCDC moved three more times, settling at 621 Garden City Avenue for a number of years. As RCDC outgrew its home, plans for a new preschool facility were made. The original Community Development Block Grant building at 714 Ballinger opened for classes in 1980.

Over the years, Russell Child Development Center, as a community based not-for-profit agency, has also had the privilege of becoming the parent organization for three additional early childhood programs: Targeted Case Management, Child and Adult Care Food Program, and most recently the Building Blocks Early Childhood Block Grant.

The main office for RCDC remains at 714 Ballinger in Garden City, with satellite offices in Dodge City, Scott City and Liberal. Thanks to the vision and dedication of many Southwest Kansas individuals, Russell Child Development Center has flourished. The organization has had a positive impact on the lives of countless children and their families over the years, enjoying a reputation of providing high quality services with integrity. With continued support and responsible stewardship, Russell Child Development Center anticipates a long and bright future ahead.



Learn & Play Project ©

Parent and Child Play Groups



714 Ballinger

Garden City, KS 67846

620-275-0291 or 888-877-3717

Fax: 620-275-0364

www.rcdc4kids.org



PROGRAM OVERVIEW

Learn & Play© is a FREE parent and child activity time supporting development in all domains with a focus on early literacy.

Evidence-based curriculum is part of the program and includes early screening for possible developmental delays. Attendance is free and the groups are open to anyone in the community with children from birth to 5 years of age.

Contact:

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Groups are held twice a month with partnering schools, churches and libraries in 28 locations across 19 Southwest Kansas counties

Learn & Play© Locations include:

Deerfield
Dighton
Dodge City
Elkhart
Garden City
Hanston
Hugoton
Ingalls
Jetmore
Lakin
Leoti
Liberal
Meade
Minneola
Plains
Satanta
Scott City
South Gray
Spearville
Stanton
Sublette
Syracuse
Tribune
Ulysses



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