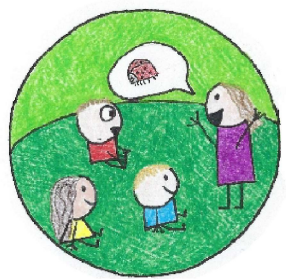


Loving Beginnings Childcare

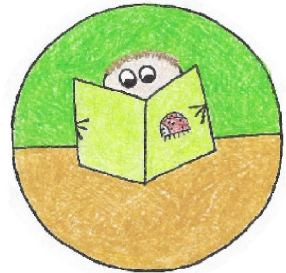
4432 40th CT NE Salem, OR 97305

(503)409-7434

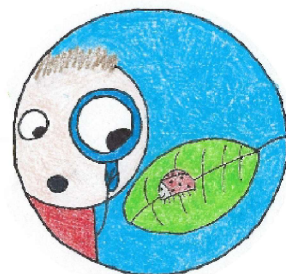
Februaury 9, 2017



Inspire



Learn



Discover

Good afternoon Chair Lively, Vice-Chair Hack, Vice-Chair Piluso, and members of the committee. I am Josie Emmrich. I am a teacher and owner of a certified, in-home child care and preschool, that serves 5 Preschool Promise children. Thank you for the opportunity to be here today. I am honored to highlight work from Marion & Polk Early Learning Hub in the implementation of Preschool Promise. This program provides more preschool opportunities for children and families.

The first five years of life are critical to shaping the brain development of children. Early experiences provide a direct impact on children's learning development. It is our responsibility as a community to ensure that the experiences a child has during those early years create a strong foundation for future success. For this reason, the Preschool Promise program is essential to helping families access quality environments for our most vulnerable children to grow and develop.

Children and families are benefiting from the early learning and home based preschool collaboration, as well as the programs that serve them. Preschool Promise has helped me raise the quality of my program by giving me access to resources not typically available to in-home child care providers. Resources to help me purchase high-quality learning materials, pay for additional support staff that improves adult child ratios, access to paid sick time, vacation, saving for retirement and buying health insurance. These opportunities help me direct my focus on educating children. Operating a small home based preschool allows me to provide individualized care to meet the unique learning needs of young children. This leads to better learning outcomes. I have truly enjoyed being able to work with families who normally don't qualify for services like free preschool. As a result of Preschool Promise, our community will see an increase in children, who begin school ready to learn.

Thank you for your time,

Josie Emmrich
Preschool Promise Teacher