

Did You Know...

Cookie Cutters are for MORE than just cookies?!

Let's Discover:

Put in a basket for the young child to play with and explore, generally the plastic type are best suited to this activity as they are not sharp.

Let's Chat:

What shape is the cookie cutter? What color is it? What does it feel like? What do you think we can use it for?

Let's Match:

Draw the cookie cutter on paper or card and then have the child match the cookie cutter to the shape.

Let's Create:

Grab a piece of paper and coloring utensil + the cookie cutter. Your little can use the cookie cutter to trace or color inside of to make a design.

Let's Eat:

Of course you can use them to cut out cookies as well! Make, bake, and decorate cookies for a friend or relative!

Let's Imagine:

Use in sand or dab in paint to make imprints and shapes!

 **First5**
Know early. Grow early.



First5 Rush County's
Early Learning Coalition

To learn more about First5 visit our website
www.rushcountyfoundation.org/first5/





RUSH EARLY LEARNING COALITION

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**90% OF BRAIN
DEVELOPMENT
HAPPENS BY AGE 5**
HERE'S WHAT YOU CAN DO
TO HELP YOUR CHILD:

What is First5 Rush County's Early Learning Coalition?

What is Early Learning?

Early learning is educational programming outside the home for children between birth and 5 years old. It is a high-quality daycare experience. It's not just babysitting. It's an interactive experience for the child which includes stimulating activities such as reading, singing, talking and playing.

Why is Early Learning Important?

Did you know that 90% of brain development happens in those first five years? This is the most important time in life for determining future success. These activities help children become ready for school and develop social and emotional skills. It also levels the playing field for low-income and disadvantaged children. With a focus on all aspects of a child's well-being, early learning can help detect and address health issues early on.

Teens who receive quality early learning opportunities as toddlers are less likely to use alcohol and drugs, get pregnant or become involved in criminal activity. And they are more likely to graduate high school and continue their education.

Businesses benefit from a stable workforce, as well as from having a future generation of educated, work-ready employees. Early childhood learning is a sound investment from a community's economic standpoint.



Read books and encourage your child to read with you.



Teach your child songs and sing with them.
Don't worry - it doesn't need to be on key!



Talk to your child and describe what you see.
Encourage them to ask questions.



Allow time for playing with your child,
help them try new things, and encourage them.



Be a role model for good behavior.



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