



## A NEWSLETTER FROM YOUR TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE CENTER

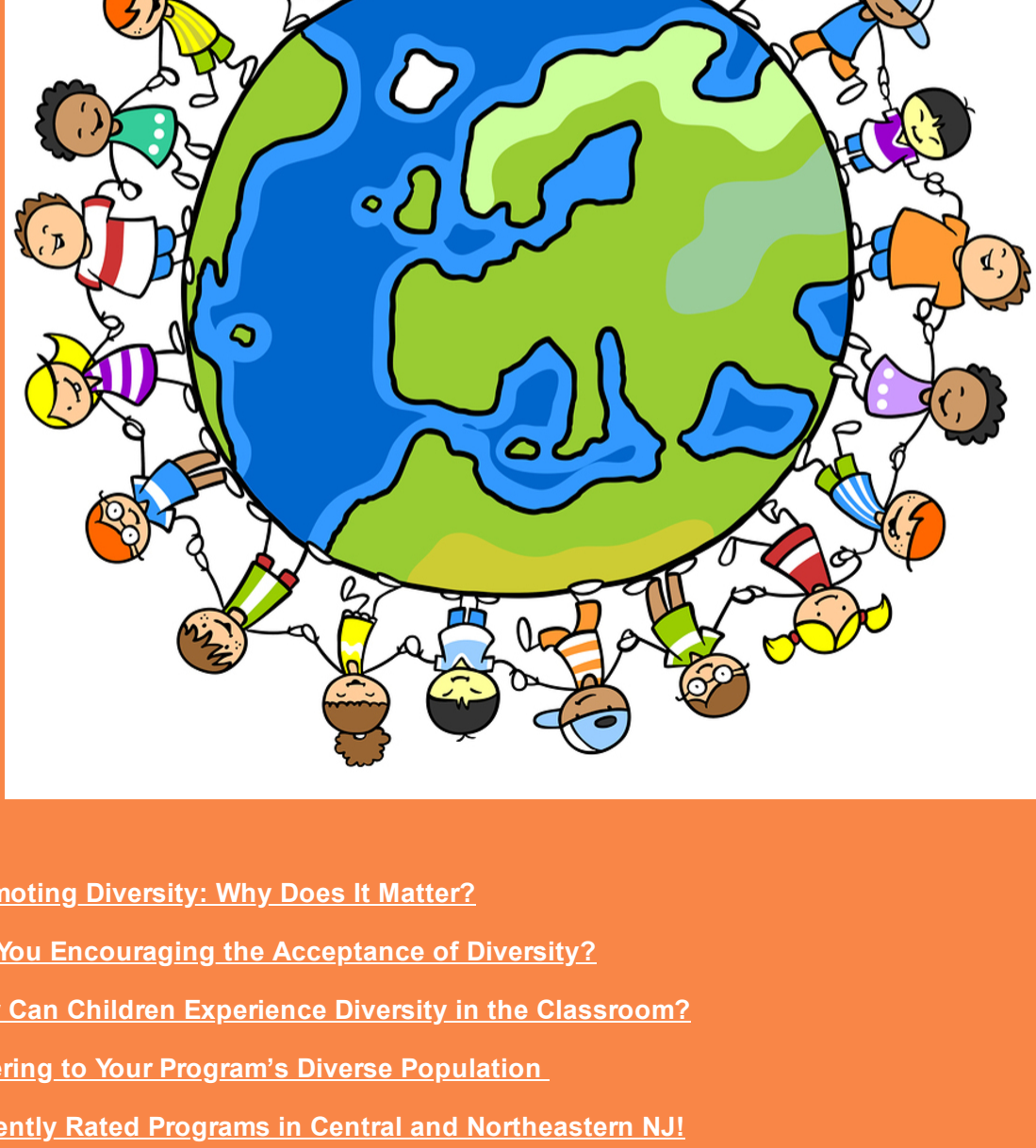
at Prevent Child Abuse-New Jersey

Volume 3  
Issue 6

Supporting Essex, Hudson, Mercer, Middlesex, Monmouth, Ocean and Somerset Counties

January 2019

### Celebrating Our Diversity



[Promoting Diversity: Why Does It Matter?](#)  
[Are You Encouraging the Acceptance of Diversity?](#)  
[How Can Children Experience Diversity in the Classroom?](#)  
[Catering to Your Program's Diverse Population](#)  
[Recently Rated Programs in Central and Northeastern NJ!](#)  
[Upcoming Grow NJ Kids TA Center Events](#)  
[About PCA-NJ](#)

#### Promoting Diversity: Why Does It Matter?

As young children's brains develop in the first five years, they acquire self-awareness and begin to notice the differences among people. They also start to form opinions of those differences based on their experiences, making them sensitive to prejudice and racism. (kidsmatter.edu.au)

With the current climate of discord in our country, it is even more critical that we prepare the next generation to create a world that is more accepting of differences. In our work with the youngest and most impressionable population, we can offer experiences in the classroom that will increase their awareness and acceptance of diversity. The classroom staff play a crucial role in this process by providing access to materials and display that represent diversity in a positive way and by guiding children as they become aware of the differences among people.

We hope that the content of this newsletter will help you see diversity differently and motivate you to promote acceptance of diversity in your classroom.

#### Are You Encouraging the Acceptance of Diversity?

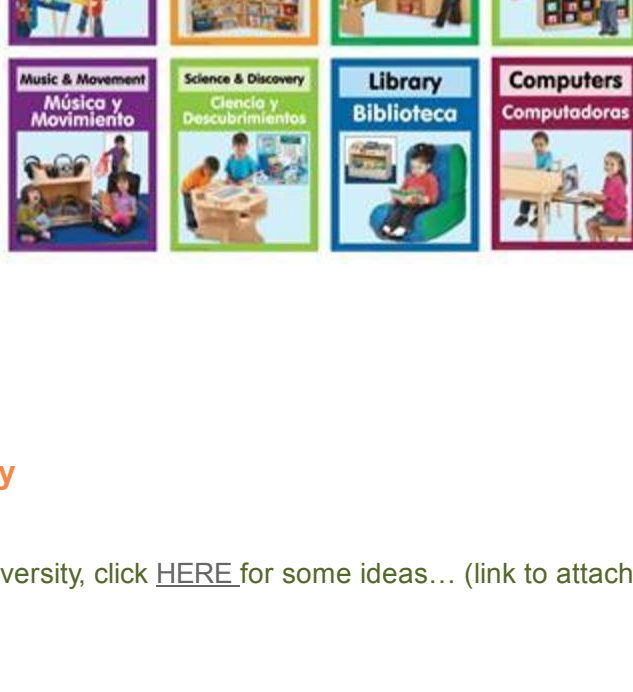


There are various tools that you can use to help you determine whether you are promoting the acceptance of diversity or not.

The Environmental Rating Scales (ERS), such as the ECERS, ITES, and FCCERS, are a great resource to help you realize concrete ways of supporting diversity in your classroom. If you have already started to make attempts at promoting diversity, the ERS item titled "Promoting Acceptance of Diversity" can still help you evaluate your classroom in this area.

#### How Can Children Experience Diversity in the Classroom?

When being purposeful, diversity can be experienced in any area of the classroom through play materials and displayed items. Click [HERE](#) to find out more...



#### Celebrating Diversity

To help you celebrate diversity, click [HERE](#) for some ideas... (link to attachment 2)



#### Catering to Your Program's Diverse Population

We live in a country of immigrants. So how do we cater to all the children who show up at our doors?

\*Create a family survey that includes questions about language spoken at home, foods eaten at home, etc...

\*Establish policies that welcome children from different backgrounds:

- Home language policy that helps Dual Language Learners feel welcomed (GNJK Standard 2.2.3).
- Meals policy that respects children's dietary restrictions and needs (GNJK Standard 1.3.3).
- Absenteeism policy that considers children who might be absent due to a special holiday.
- Inclusion policy that describes how you serve children and families with special needs.

\*Encourage staff to receive training on cultural competency and cultural humility.

\*Invite families to be involved in a parent group that allows them to provide input on program policies, procedures, and practices (GNJK Standard 3.4.2).



Children from ABC Daycare in Union City celebrate their diverse cultural backgrounds.

#### Recently Rated Programs in Central and Northeastern NJ!



Congratulations to all of our partner centers and family childcare providers that recently achieved their star rating! Your success, growth, and commitment to quality exemplify true leadership and teamwork, and you are an inspiration to all of those who are working to reach the stars.

#### 4-Star Programs

Denise Armour, Essex County  
Adria Janni, Mercer County  
Westminster Nursery School, Ocean County

#### 3-Star Programs

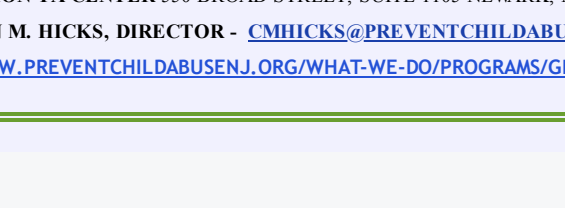
Tania Amador, Essex County  
Victorina Estrada, Mercer County

[Click here for upcoming GNJK TA Center Events](#)

**Prevent Child Abuse-NJ (PCA-NJ)** operates a broad range of preventative services designed to support the improvement and quality of professional workforces and programming, resulting in significant positive impacts on family functioning and health in all 21 counties. PCA-NJ programs include:

- Grow NJ Kids TA Center
- Healthy Families
- Parents as Teachers
- Parent Linking Program
- Enough Abuse
- The Period of Purple Crying
- Human Trafficking Prevention
- Middlesex County Council for Young Children
- Essex Pregnancy and Parenting Connection
- Parent Education and Technical Assistance

For more information visit [www.preventchildabuseNJ.org](http://www.preventchildabuseNJ.org)



[Subscribe to our Newsletter](#)

CONTACT US ANY TIME!

CENTRAL REGION TA CENTER, 103 CHURCH, SUITE 210, NEW BRUNSWICK, NJ 08901 732.246.8060  
NORTHEAST REGION TA CENTER 550 BROAD STREET, SUITE 1105 NEWARK, NJ 07102 973.371.5301

COLLEEN M. HICKS, DIRECTOR - [CMHICKS@PREVENTCHILDAUSENJ.ORG](mailto:CMHICKS@PREVENTCHILDAUSENJ.ORG)  
[HTTPS://WWW.PREVENTCHILDAUSENJ.ORG/WHAT-WE-DO/PROGRAMS/GROW-NJ-KIDS/](https://www.preventchildabuseNJ.org/WHAT-WE-DO/PROGRAMS/GROW-NJ-KIDS/)

Share this email:



[Manage](#) your preferences | [Opt out](#) using TrueRemove™  
Got this as a forward? [Sign up](#) to receive our future emails.  
View this email [online](#).

103 Church Street Suite 210  
New Brunswick, NJ | 08901 US

This email was sent to .  
To continue receiving our emails, add us to your address book.