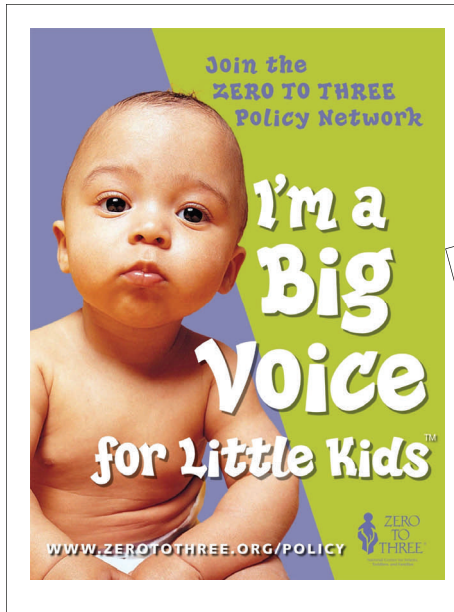


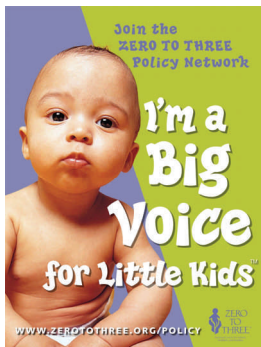
# JANUARY 2010



## ZERO TO THREE Policy Network Advocacy Developmental Milestone Calendar

**What does quality early learning look like?**  
Your members of Congress need to know, and YOU can tell them! Congress plays a vital role in establishing and supporting quality early childhood programs such as Head Start, Early Head Start, and child care. Now, Congress is considering a new federal funding stream, the Early Learning Challenge Fund. But do they know what quality looks like in the real world? Your advocacy challenge this month is to write an email to your members of Congress to help them understand what quality is and how they can help support it. ➔

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1 Happy New Year!	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
31						



# JANUARY 2010 ADVOCACY DEVELOPMENTAL MILESTONE

## **Take Action Now!**

**What does quality early learning look like?** Your members of Congress need to know, and YOU can tell them! Congress plays a vital role in establishing and supporting quality early childhood programs such as Head Start, Early Head Start, and child care. Now, Congress is considering legislation about the ***Early Learning Challenge Fund***, a new federal funding stream to promote high-quality state early care and education systems. But do your members of Congress know what quality looks like in the real world? Your advocacy challenge this month is to write an email to your members of Congress to help them understand what quality is and how they can help support it.

- ✦ [CLICK HERE](#) to send emails to your members of Congress.
- ✦ We've provided talking points to help you compose your email, but write what you know. Be sure your email reflects your own personal story about what quality early learning looks like, and how quality programs have benefitted the families you work with and your community.

## **Background**

If made into law, the ***Early Learning Challenge Fund (ELCF)*** would provide new federal funding to help states build high-quality, comprehensive early learning and development services for young children. The Fund is designed to:

1. Promote standards reform of state early learning programs serving children birth to 5;
2. Establish a high standard of quality across early learning settings;
3. Fund and implement quality initiatives;
4. Increase the number of disadvantaged children entering kindergarten ready to learn; and,
5. Increase parents' ability to access comprehensive and high quality early learning programs.

## **Additional Resources**

- [Early Learning Guidelines for Infants and Toddlers: Recommendations for States](#) by ZERO TO THREE
- [Seizing the Potential: Quality Child Care for Infants and Toddlers](#) by ZERO TO THREE

## **Tell Us About It!**

We are eager to hear about your experiences advocating for babies and toddlers, so that we can continue to improve the support we give you