**NOTE:** This word document contains three parent/guardian letters customized for different age groups. Please choose the version that is most appropriate, edit as needed and then print the letter for the children in your care to take home to their families.

Dear Families of Infants 0-6 Months:

Before young children begin to count the Cheerios on their trays or put blocks in the shape sorter, they are learning important early math concepts from their everyday interactions with caregivers. When caregivers incorporate language about math concepts into these interactions from the start, the roots of math concepts begin to grow and provide a solid foundation for learning math skills in the preschool years.

Today, we talked about **OFF** and **ON** during diaper time. You can reinforce this lesson at home. Young infants understand **OFF** and **ON** though routines. The daily routine of diapering is a great time to practice **OFF** and **ON**.

Before you place your baby on the changing table, say or sing: “(Child’s name), time for a fresh diaper!” Hold your arms out and touch your baby’s hands, encouraging your baby to reach for you. As you place your baby on the changing table, say: “(Child’s name) is **ON** the changing table.” As you remove the diaper, say: “Diaper is **OFF**.” As you fasten the diaper, say: “Diaper is **ON**.” Hold your arms out touch your baby’s hands, encouraging your baby to reach for you. As you pick your baby up, say: “(Child’s name) is **OFF** the changing table.”

Dear Families of Infants 6-12 Months:

Before young children begin to count the Cheerios on their trays or put blocks in the shape sorter, they are learning important early math concepts from their everyday interactions with caregivers. When caregivers incorporate language about math concepts into these interactions from the start, the roots of math concepts begin to grow and provide a solid foundation for learning math skills in the preschool years.

Today, we talked about **OFF** and **ON** during diaper time. You can reinforce this lesson at home. As young infants begin to roll and crawl, diapering can become a challenge. Singing a song can make infants more cooperative. Before you place your baby on the changing table, say or sing: “(Child’s name), time for a fresh diaper!” Hold your arms out and wait a few seconds to see if your baby puts his or her arms up. If this doesn’t happen, encourage your baby to reach for you. As you place your baby on the changing table, say: “Child’s name” is **ON** the changing table.”

Begin singing “Diaper Change Time” to the tune of *Frère Jacques*: “Diaper change time, diaper change time, diaper is **OFF**, diaper is **OFF**. (Child’s name) has clean pants. (Child’s name) has clean pants. Diaper is **ON**, diaper is **ON**.”

As you remove your baby’s diaper, sing the first two lines of the song: “Diaper change time, diaper change time, diaper is **OFF**, diaper is **OFF**.” As you fasten your baby’s diaper, sing the last two lines of the song: “(Child’s name) has clean pants. (Child’s name) has clean pants. Diaper is **ON**. Diaper is **ON**.” Hold your arms out toward your baby and wait a few seconds to allow your baby to put his or her arms up. If this doesn’t happen, touch your baby’s hands and encourage your baby to reach for you. As you pick your baby up, say: “(Child’s name) is **OFF** the changing table!”

Dear Families of Infants 12-18 Months:

Before young children begin to count the Cheerios on their trays or put blocks in the shape sorter, they are learning important early math concepts from their everyday interactions with caregivers. When caregivers incorporate language about math concepts into these interactions from the start, the roots of math concepts begin to grow and provide a solid foundation for learning math skills in the preschool years.

Today, we talked about **OFF** and **ON** during diaper time. You can reinforce this lesson at home. As young infants begin to roll and crawl, diapering can become a challenge. Singing a song can make infants more cooperative. Before you place your baby on the changing table, say or sing: “(Child’s name), time for a fresh diaper!” Hold your arms out and wait a few seconds to see if your baby puts his or her arms up or vocalizes. If this doesn’t happen, encourage your baby to reach for you. As you place your baby on the changing table, say: “Child’s name” is **ON** the changing table.”

Begin singing “Diaper Change Time” to the tune of *Frère Jacques*: “Diaper change time, diaper change time, diaper is **OFF**, diaper is **OFF**. (Child’s name) has clean pants. (Child’s name) has clean pants. Diaper is **ON**, diaper is **ON**.”

As you remove your baby’s diaper, sing the first two lines of the song: “Diaper change time, diaper change time, diaper is **OFF**, diaper is **OFF**.” As you fasten your baby’s diaper, sing the last two lines of the song: “(Child’s name) has clean pants. (Child’s name) has clean pants. Diaper is **ON**. Diaper is **ON**.” Hold your arms out toward your baby and wait a few seconds to see if your baby puts his or her arms up or vocalizes. If this doesn’t happen, touch your baby’s hands and encourage your baby to reach for you. As you pick your baby up, say: “(Child’s name) is **OFF** the changing table!”