

Families as Advocates and Leaders

<https://parentsatthetable.org/storage/app/media/resources/Early%20Childhood/Families%20as%20Advocates%20%26%20Leaders.pdf>

This concise resource packs in a lot of information, including sections on what family advocacy looks like, the benefits of family advocacy to children, families, and programs, strategies for growing family advocates, and additional resources.

Enhance Parents' Advocacy and Leadership Skills

<https://eclkc.ohs.acf.hhs.gov/family-engagement/article/enhance-parents-advocacy-leadership-skills> (English)

<https://eclkc.ohs.acf.hhs.gov/es/compromiso-de-la-familia/article/mejorar-las-habilidades-de-los-padres-para-el-liderazgo-y-la-defensa> (Spanish)

Explore this website to learn about the many ways in which to support family members as advocates and leaders in early childhood programs and at home. While the focus of this resource is on Head Start and Early Head Start programs, the ideas may be applied to many early childhood settings.

Build Your Advocacy Skills

<https://www.naeyc.org/our-work/public-policy-advocacy/build-your-advocacy-skills-and-knowledge>

This NAEYC website offers a suite of resources and tools to help gain the necessary knowledge and skills to effectively advocate for children, families, and early childhood priorities.

APHA Legislative Advocacy Handbook

https://phern.communitycommons.org/cc_resource/apha-legislative-advocacy-handbook-a-guide-for-effective-public-health-advocacy/

This resource provides a detailed guide on engaging in advocacy, including understanding legislative and regulatory processes, effective communication with policymakers, and coalition building. It offers practical tips and guidelines for both individuals and organizations. While the emphasis of this resource is public health, the information and examples are also relevant to early childhood education.

Early Childhood Advocacy Toolkit

<https://startearly.org/app/uploads/pdf/EarlyChildhoodAdvocacyToolkit.pdf>

This advocacy toolkit is designed to help family members, student groups, practitioners, and other advocates to get involved in the public policy-making process by educating key audiences about, and developing support for, early childhood initiatives. Sections focus on types of advocacy, framing and communicating messages, working with the media, and more.

Early Childhood Advocacy for Beginners

<https://mccormickcenter.nl.edu/library/early-childhood-advocacy-for-beginners-part-i/>

<https://mccormickcenter.nl.edu/library/early-childhood-advocacy-for-beginners-part-ii/>

This 2-part resource from the McCormick Center for Early Childhood Leadership offers practical tools, ranging from reflecting on your own story and keeping up with what's happening to accessing resources to building your own advocacy toolkit.

GUMDROP: What Makes an Awesome Leader?

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=KdL4o7wU0CQ&list=PLzvRx_johA-YabI6FWcU-jL6nKA1Um-t&index=7

Enjoy hearing what students would advocate for.

Natural Resources is a free, one-way listserv that is distributed monthly. Each issue features readily available and free resources on a specific topic related to children from birth through Grade 3 and their families. Resources in English and Spanish are highlighted. Natural Resources is compiled and distributed by Camille Catlett. Past issues are archived at <https://scriptnc.fpg.unc.edu/natural-resources-monthly-newsletter>. To subscribe or unsubscribe, suggest resources, or get more information, please contact Camille Catlett at camille.catlett@unc.edu.