



# Early Intervention Clearinghouse

<http://eiclearinghouse.org>

Spring 2013 • Volume 26, Issue 1 (Special Issue)

## The EI Clearinghouse is your Information Station

The Illinois Early Intervention (EI) Clearinghouse is a free resource for families considering or receiving EI services. Our goal is to support you in promoting your child's development and full participation in family and community activities.

**How can we serve you?** We identify and provide information and resources (DVDs, podcasts, books, tip sheets) for parents that support them in nurturing their young child. We help explain EI services and the EI system in Illinois. Our Web site ([eiclearinghouse.org](http://eiclearinghouse.org)) has an online library catalog of free lending materials related to



parenting, parenting with special needs, typical and atypical child development, specific disabilities, and more. We understand that as parents you may want to know as much as possible about your child's developmental progress and condition, as well as what to expect in the future.

### How can you reach us?

We are open Monday through Friday (8 a.m. to 5 p.m.) to answer questions and help you find information; you can contact us by e-mail ([illinois-eic@illinois.edu](mailto:illinois-eic@illinois.edu)) or by phone (877-275-3227). Our library materials are free for you to borrow. You can order them online or call us; we will mail them to you or send them to your local library for you to pick up. You simply return them through your public library. Many resources

are available in Spanish as well as English. We have one-page information sheets that provide jumping off points for discussion with others involved in your child's life. Our Web site each week presents breaking news on effective practices, medical research, parent education, and national and state policies related to developmental delays or disabilities. Our mission is to serve as a source of information that you and your families can use to face the joys, challenges, and milestones of parenting in the early years. Check us out!

Borrowing materials from the EI Clearinghouse is as easy as **A-B-C**:

**A** Access the Online Library Catalog at our Web site: [eiclearinghouse.org](http://eiclearinghouse.org)

**B** Books and DVDs are available for checkout for four weeks each and can be mailed directly to you.

**C** Contact us to let us know which materials we can send your way!

Phone: (877) 275-3227

E-mail: [Illinois-eic@illinois.edu](mailto:Illinois-eic@illinois.edu)

# Clearinghouse Resources Can Help You Navigate the Early Intervention System

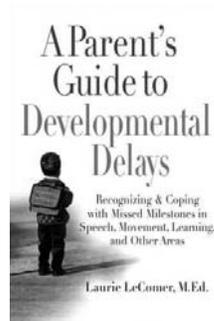
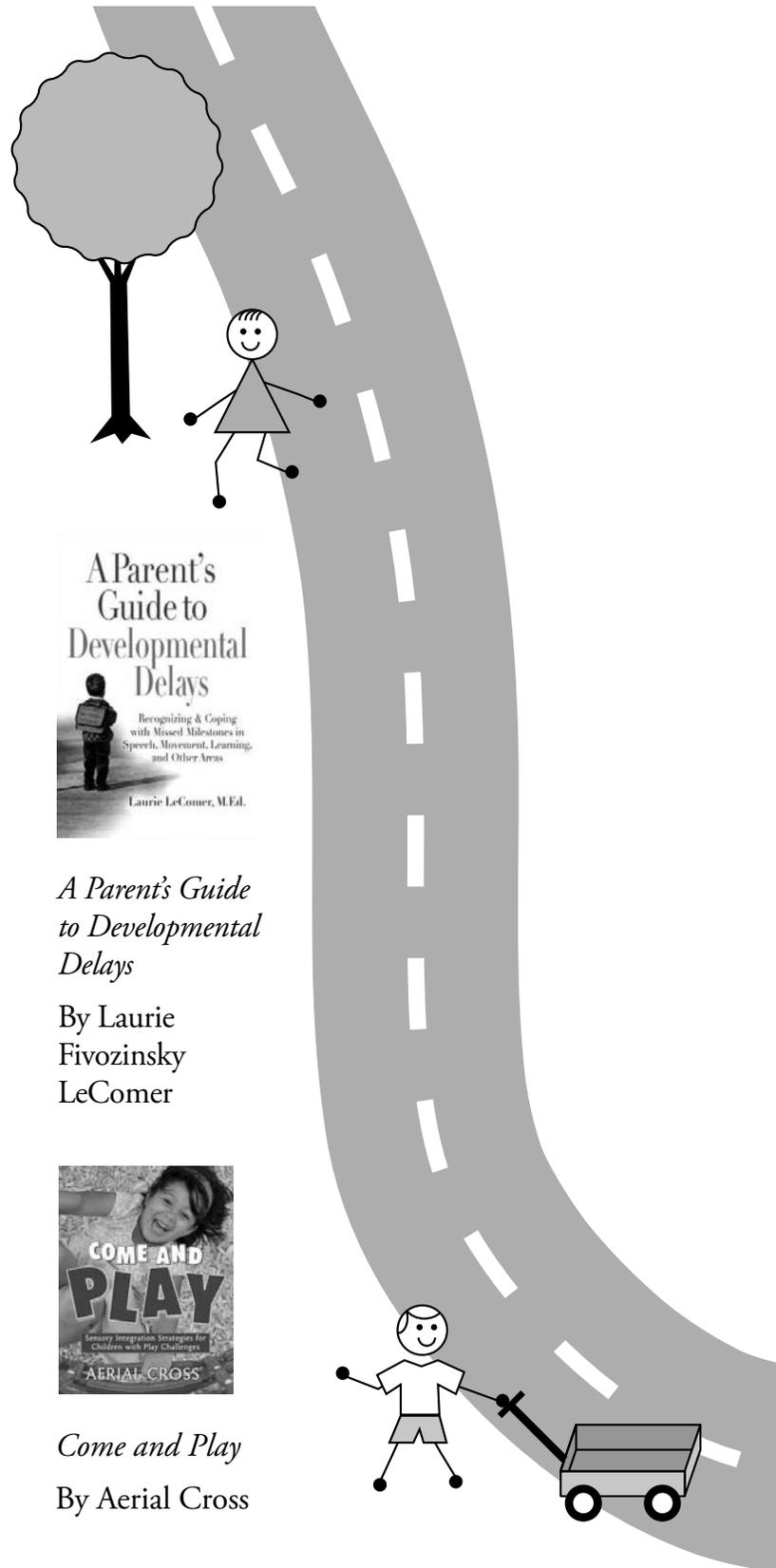
The challenges of raising a child can be confusing and overwhelming. No matter where you are in that process, the Clearinghouse is here to serve as your information resource. Use this road map to help you identify some of the important steps along the way and lead you to the Information Station, the Early Intervention Clearinghouse.

## 1. Assessing Your Child

Frequent assessments help you and the rest of the Early Intervention (EI) team to understand your child's changing strengths, needs, interests, and skills. Did you know that you assess your child all the time? You notice what he is trying to do and what he does easily. You know what she likes and doesn't like. You probably know how your child learns best and when he may need help. You observe and respond to your child's interests, needs, and abilities all the time—at home, at the park, and at the grocery store! And because your baby or toddler is growing rapidly, the other team members need to hear from you on a regular basis. Have your child's routines changed? What do you think is important for your child to learn now?

## 2. What Happens During a Typical EI Visit?

You and your family are active participants in early intervention visits. You will want to review notes from the last meeting and consider any new information about your child that the provider may need to know. For example, did practices suggested at the last visit help your child? Do you need to discuss changing the priorities and desired outcomes for your child and family?



*A Parent's Guide to Developmental Delays*

By Laurie Fivozinsky LeComer



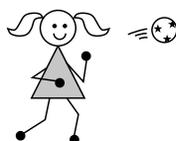
*Come and Play*  
By Aerial Cross

### 3. Natural Environments: Where All Children Belong

By law, children from birth to 36 months who have or are at risk for developmental delays are entitled to receive early intervention (EI) services in their natural environments. Natural environments are settings that include the same activities and routines that children of similar ages without disabilities take part in. The activities might take place at home or other places the family and the child go during the course of their everyday lives. An EI service provider helps parents adapt daily routines and activities. The EI service provider may bring in toys or adaptive equipment but most often uses items in your home or in places where you would like to go with your child. By observing your child in a natural environment, she can help your child meet outcomes under your Individualized Family Service Plan (IFSP). The EI service provider can also support your child's caregiver if your child goes to child care.

*The Early Intervention Guidebook for Families and Professionals: Partnering for Success*

By Bonnie Keilty



[eiclearinghouse.org](http://eiclearinghouse.org)

#### Information Station



Early Intervention Clearinghouse

*More information is available on each of the E.I. topics listed on this roadmap. Please visit the Resources tab on our Web site.*

### 4. Developing Family-Centered Outcomes with Your EI Team

Families are an important part of the early intervention (EI) team. The EI team chooses outcomes that relate to your family's main concerns. Identifying priorities for your family as well as your child helps you know what you want and need out of EI. Before you and the other members of your child's team prepare or revise an IFSP, ask yourself two things: "What benefits do I want my child to receive from EI?" and "What will be different or better for my child and family when these changes occur?" You and your IFSP team may want to review these questions every few months.



*The First IEP: Parent Perspectives*

By Deborah Chen and Annie R. Cox

*For a virtual tour of the EI Clearinghouse, visit [eiclearinghouse.org/resources/videos/eic-tour.html](http://eiclearinghouse.org/resources/videos/eic-tour.html)*

## Illinois Early Intervention Clearinghouse

Early Childhood and Parenting Collaborative  
University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign  
Children's Research Center  
51 Gerty Drive  
Champaign, IL 61820-7469

# Illinois Calendar

**June 6, 2013**  
800-260-0702

*Parent Empowerment Calls:*

*Our System of Care is Planning a Family-Run Organization*

**Contact:** Parents can call the toll-free number above from noon to 1 p.m. and use access code 274598 to get information they need to advocate for and support their children.

**June 10–14, 2013**  
Jacksonville

*Parent Infant Institute*

**Information:** University of Illinois at Chicago, 800-322-3722

**August 6, 2013**  
Webinar

*Apps for Young Children and Families*

**Contact:** Illinois STARNET, [www.starnet.org](http://www.starnet.org)

**August 1, 2013**  
800-260-0702

*Parent Empowerment Calls:*

*Our Schools Are in Session; We Can Partner With Them*

**Contact:** Call the number from 12–1 p.m. and use access code 274600.

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Opinions expressed in *Early Intervention* are the responsibility of the author and are not necessarily those of the Illinois Department of Human Services or the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign.

Early Intervention (ISSN 1058-8396) is published quarterly.