



Regional Early Intervention Collaborative
Essay Contest
www.njeis.org

New Jersey Early Intervention Week May 16-22, 2010

New Jersey Early Intervention Week was created to recognize that all children have special and unique gifts that deserve the care and attention of their families and communities. The state also recognizes how the New Jersey Early Intervention System (NJEIS) plays an essential role in supporting families to ensure that all infants and toddlers have the opportunity to develop, grow and ultimately lead productive lives in the community. In that spirit, participants are asked to compose an essay outlining: “***What I’ve Learned About My Child and Family during our time in Early Intervention***” Essays should describe the following points:

- Describe what has been the most rewarding experience for your child and family as a part of the New Jersey Early Intervention System;
- What strategies have you learned that have helped your child’s development and you as a parent;
- How has a New Jersey Service Coordinator and/or an NJEIS Provider supported your family.

Family Link, Inc. REIC Guidelines

Essays must be typewritten, double spaced, and between 250 and 500 words. Only **one** entry per household. Essays must include the experiences of a child and family that have received NJEIS services within the past 12 months (**January 1, 2009 to present**). Each entry must be submitted with a registration form (available via email or on our website) detailing the authors name, address, telephone number, New Jersey Early Intervention Service Coordinator, New Jersey Early Intervention Provider Agency or agencies and month and year of when services began. **Submissions sent without this information will not be eligible. Submissions are to be sent to:**

Family Link, Inc., REIC
2333 Morris Avenue, Suite A-204
Union, NJ 07083

Attn: Essay Contest

Or email

carmelab@njeis.org monicaa@njeis.org

Prizes Awarded

Gift Certificates in the following amounts are to be awarded to two winning essays:

- Grand Prize: \$100 Toys-R-Us
- First Prize: \$50 Toys-R-Us



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FAMILY LINK Essay Contest Eligibility and Entry Rules

Participants must be a New Jersey resident living in the Family Link region (Essex, Morris, Union, Sussex and Warren Counties), and have a child that has received New Jersey Early Intervention Services within the past 12 months (**January 1, 2009 to present**).

Employees of the Department of Health and Senior Services, the four Regional Collaboratives and its Board of Trustees, Single Point of Entry Service Coordination Units, County Special Child Health Service Coordination Units and Regional Service Provider Agencies and their immediate families are not eligible for this contest.

All entries must be in Family Link's office by 5 pm on Friday, **May 7, 2010**.
Submissions sent via email must have a registration form attached to the email.

Family Link Prizes

Gift Certificates in the following amounts are to be awarded to two winning essays.

- Grand Prize: \$100 Toys-R-Us
- First Prize: \$50 Toys-R-Us

All entrants will receive a Certificate of Participation and winners will be notified via email and/or mail by **Friday, May 28th, 2010**.

Essays will be judged on content and overall relevancy to the topics. Essays should embody the mission of the NJEI system and commemorate the triumphs experienced by the family. Decisions of the judging panel will be final.

All submissions become the property of Family Link to be used at its discretion.



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Family Link, Inc., REIC
 New Jersey Early Intervention Week Contest Entry Form 2010

Guidelines Essays must be at least 250 words in length, however no more than 500 words. Submissions must be typewritten and double-spaced. Only **one** entry per household will be accepted including households where two or more children have received or are receiving New Jersey early intervention services. Essays must detail the experiences of a child and family that were determined to be eligible for services within the New Jersey Early Intervention System within the past 12 months (**January 1, 2009 to present**). Each entry must be submitted with this entry form detailing the author's name, address, telephone number, month and year of initial New Jersey early intervention eligibility. **Submissions sent without this information will not be eligible. Submissions sent via email must have a registration form attached to the email. No essays will be accepted via fax.**

Author's Name _____

Address _____

County: _____

Telephone Number _____; Alternate Number _____

Email address if applicable _____

Child's Name _____; Date of Birth _____

Month and Year of Eligibility for NJEIS services _____

Service Coordinator: _____

Practitioner/Agency: _____

Essay Word Count _____

I certify that the information provided is factual. I certify that I am the author of this essay. I agree to abide by the rules of FAMILY LINK, REIC New Jersey Early Intervention Week Essay Contest. I understand that my essay will become the property of the FL-NJEIS to use at its discretion. I understand that the decision of the judges is final.

Signature _____

Date _____

Mail to: Family Link, REIC; 2333 Morris Avenue, Suite A-204, Union, NJ 07083 or

Email: carmelab@njeis.org or monicaa@njeis.org