Research Connections promotes high quality research in child care and early education and the use of that research in policymaking. Our vision is that children are well cared for and have rich learning experiences, and their families are supported and able to work. To do this we:

- **Connect child care and early education:** The quality of both child care and early education makes an important difference in the development of young children. Focusing on just one is not enough. Research Connections promotes dialogue and collaboration among researchers, policymakers, and other stakeholders across these communities.

- **Improve the quality of research:** The child care and early education field is young and fragmented. By offering research, data sets, and syntheses from many disciplines in one place, the Research Connections' web site furthers the integration of the field.

- **Improve the quality of public policy:** Public policy is stronger when informed by evidence from research and guidance about how to use scarce resources. The Research Connections' web site makes it easy for policymakers to access all the current findings.

Research Connections offers technical assistance and promotes collaboration through:

- Creation of listservs on special topics, data sets, and instruments
- Online newsletters
- Presentations and workshops

Research Connections' web site is designed to serve both researchers and policymakers. The site is built on a relational database containing:

- A searchable research collection
  - Thousands of references drawn from 200 scholarly journals and 270 web sites
  - Easy identification of peer-reviewed articles
  - Access to full text of resources

- Data sets for secondary analysis
  - Survey, administrative, and major study data sets (Early Head Start Research and Evaluation data now available)
  - Value-added capacity for online analysis and quick tables
  - User guides
  - Special training opportunities (e.g., summer workshops)

- Specially developed syntheses to address research and policy questions

- A 50-state data tool to compare policies within and across states

Research Connections encourages researchers to contribute to the web site.

Log on to [www.childcareresearch.org](http://www.childcareresearch.org) for submission information.

For more information, send an e-mail to: contact@childcareresearch.org