

# Jeff's Bio

Jeff A. Johnson opened Explorations Early Learning, a family child care program, in 2003 with his wife, Tasha, after directing a child care center and community center for a large non-profit agency for 16 years.

Their programs focused on building strong child-caregiver relationships and supporting emergent learning in a play-based and child-centered environment.

On August 14, 2013, they closed their family child care program and 'retired' to pursue their hobbies: speaking at early learning events, making toys, recording podcasts, creating other early learning content, and advocating for child-led play and caregiver self-care. These hobbies have become full-time jobs.

For years, Jeff presented regularly at early learning conferences across the United States, Canada, and Australia and even keynoted an international conference in Cork, Ireland. For the last few years he's started cutting back on in person events and focused more on online learning. He produces a number of popular early learning podcasts that currently have over 250,000 downloads a year. Toymaking, his preferred pass time, has led to a business that ships simple wooden toys across the USA and internationally. Another primary focus is creating and curating early learning content at the [Playvolution HQ](#) blog.

Jeff is the author of ten books:

- *Do-It-Yourself Early Learning* (Redleaf Press, 2006)
- *Finding Your Smile Again* (Redleaf Press, 2007)
- *Everyday Early Learning* (Redleaf Press, 2008)
- *Babies in the Rain* (Redleaf Press, 2009)
- *Keeping Your Smile* (Redleaf Press, 2010)
- *Let Them Play: An Early Learning (Un)Curriculum* (Redleaf Press, 2012)
- *Let's Play: (Un)Curriculum Early Learning Adventures* (Redleaf Press 2013)
- *Let's All Play: A Group-Learning (Un)Curriculum* (Redleaf Press 2015)
- *The Child Care Alphabet Book of Early Learning* (Explorations Early Learning LLC, 2007)
- *The Child Care Alphabet Book of Manipulatives* (Explorations Early Learning LLC, 2008)

For more information about Jeff, visit [www.explorationsearlylearning.com](http://www.explorationsearlylearning.com) or email him at [jeff@eeltoys.com](mailto:jeff@eeltoys.com).