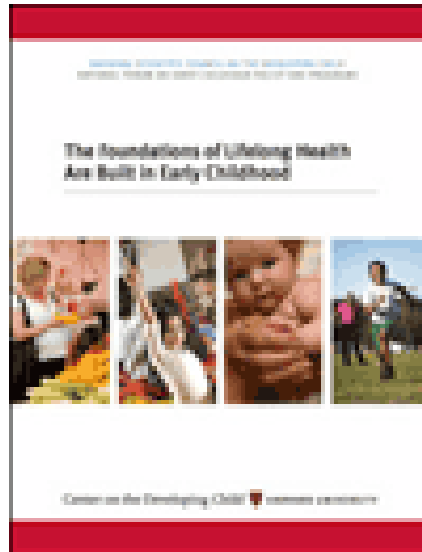


Highlighted Website-of-the-Month

<http://developingchild.harvard.edu/>



The Foundations of Lifelong Health Are Built in Early Childhood

A vital and productive society with a prosperous and sustainable future is built on a foundation of healthy child development. Health in the earliest years—beginning with the future mother’s well-being before she becomes pregnant—lays the groundwork for a lifetime of vitality. When developing biological systems are strengthened by positive early experiences, children are more likely to thrive and grow up to be healthy adults. Sound health also provides a foundation for the construction of sturdy brain architecture and the achievement of a broad range of skills and learning capacities. This publication was co-authored by the [National Scientific Council on the Developing Child](#) and the [National Forum on Early Childhood Policy and Programs](#).