



NEWSLETTER

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Another Year Has Ended and a New Year is Approaching

We have made it through another school year, but every new year brings new challenges for local education agencies. The 2019-20 school will be no different. Many of you have had teachers, administrators, and data entry staff retire as well as staff just moving on to new positions.

With these changes training is a critical element for the new school year. If you have new data entry staff please be sure to have them attend an eSchool training in August. We are currently scheduling training dates and they will be posted in ASTIS on the ARKSPED portal web page as soon as they are finalized. You can access it at:

<https://arksped.k12.ar.us/>

ADE SUMMIT 2019

IDEA Data & Research is **NOT** presenting at the ADE Summit. We will present the information on Cycles 2-7 via a Webinar in late August or early September. Watch for a Commissioner's Memo announcing the dates or check the lists of training opportunities posted in ASTIS in the ARKSPED Portal.

Disproportionality Institute

There was a great turnout for the 2019 Disproportionality Institute. Over 150 district and state staff attended and everyone learned a lot from Dr. Edward Fergus' workshop.

All the materials from the Institute are posted on the Special Education Data & Research webpage under Disproportionality Institute.

Special Education Data Summit

IDEA Data & Research is currently looking for a fall date (late August, or early October) to host a one-day Data Summit. As soon as date and location can be finalized we will send out a hold the date notification.

The one-day Data Summit would cover topics such as understanding the federal reporting requirements, significant disproportionality, and early childhood reporting changes that could impact your district.

Important Resources



Season 2: Episodes 1-5

Episode 1: RDA Determination Matrix

Episode 2: Using Excel to Examine Your Data

Episode 3: APR and Significant Disproportionality Comparison

Episode 4: Key Dates in 2019-20 for APR Disproportionality

Episode 5: Key Dates in 2019-20 for Significant Disproportionality

You can access Season 1 and Season 2 by clicking on the links on the Special Education Data & Research web page or via the IDEA Data & Research YouTube Channel.

Subscribe to our YouTube Channel to receive notifications of new postings.

IDEA Data & Research Office (501) 683-7219

If you need training on eSchool or MySped Resource, please contact Khala Quarles at the number above or email her at kpquarles@ualr.edu to request a spot on the training waiting list. Once we have enough individuals on the list, we will then schedule a training at APSCN computer lab in Little Rock. Make sure to give us the names of the individuals to be placed on the list, email and mailing addresses, phone numbers, and LEA name and number.

DIS/APSCN
(501) 682-HELP (4357) Option 3
1-800-435-7989 Option 3
DIS.CallCenter@arkansas.gov

Special Education Home Page
<http://www.arkansased.gov/divisions/learning-services/special-education>

Important links from the Special Education home page:

The IDEA Data & Research web page is where you can find Data Dictionaries, Training Opportunities, the LEA Annual Performance Report, links to recorded webinars, and more. Please visit regularly as we are always adding new information.

ARKSPED Portal

A secured web portal where LEAs can access MySped Resource to review, submit data, download documents such as the eSchool user guides. The ARKSPED Portal also provides access to the **School Age and Early Childhood Family Outcomes Survey** as well as the **ASTIS workshop registration system**.

[Click here to visit the ARKSPED Portal](#)

Just for Fun Recipe

For those of us who are trying to drop some pounds here is a sugar free

Four Ingredient Peanut Butter Cookies.

- 1 Cup Natural Peanut Butter.** I use Smuckers it contains peanuts and a little salt.
1/2 Cup Granulated Swerve. Swerve is a zero-calorie sweetener with erythritol. If you use a different zero-calorie sweetener you will need to convert the amount. Search the web for a sweetener conversion table.
1 Egg
1 teaspoon Vanilla Extract

Instructions

Preheat oven to 350 degrees.

Combine the ingredients in a large bowl. Stir to mix well.

Make 12-15 balls using the cookie dough. (If you prefer really flat cookies you should aim for 15. Slightly thicker cookies will result in about 12 cookies). An ice cream scoop works well, so does rolling the balls in your hands.

Line a cookie sheet with silicone baking mats. You can also use parchment paper. Place the cookie dough on the cookie sheet. Make sure the cookies do not touch.

Use a fork and press down on each ball of cookie dough. Create crisscross imprints in the cookie dough to flatten the balls.

Bake for 12-15 minutes until the cookies are golden brown. Mine were ready around 13 minutes.

Remove the cookie sheet from the oven. Allow the cookies to cool for 1-2 minutes on the cookie sheet before removing. The cookies will need to firm up BEFORE you handle them. If you handle them too soon they will crumble. Use your judgment on timing if 1-2 minutes does not appear to be enough.

After 1-2 minutes place the cookies on a cooling rack to fully cool.