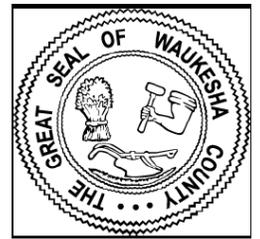




WAUKESHA COUNTY CHILD CARE CERTIFICATION

OCTOBER/NOVEMBER 2008



SPOTLIGHT ON A PROVIDER:



Christine Murray

Has been living in Waukesha since she was in the third grade.

Christine has been providing care for children for over twenty-nine years. The main reason she decided to start her business was to take care of her son while he was sick and have a steady income at the same time. At four weeks old, her son started to have continuous ear infections and no day care wanted to provide care for him while she went to work. Christine decided to open up her own in-home childcare business and has been providing care for children every since. Christine's son is now thirty-three and has two children. He has a daughter who is twelve and a son who is ten. Christine stated that she loves being a grandmother. Christine also has a daughter who is twenty-eight years old and was born on Thanksgiving Day. Christine's daughter works for a dentist and is a model.

Christine wakes up at 4:00am every morning and exercises before the children arrives. Christine stated that she has lost 149 pounds within the last year. Christine enjoys scrap booking and making her own Christmas cards. She also enjoys making fleece tie blankets. Christine stated, "In this business you have to have patience and love working with kids". Christine has one opening for an infant and she does provide care 2nd and 3rd shift.

We thank you, Christine Murray, for all you do for children and their families.

WELCOME, JENNIFER

We are very excited to welcome Jennifer Mantei to our Shared Services Unit. She will be taking over Jane Pittman's duties as the certifying social worker. Jennifer has been with the county for eight years. She started out as an intern in the Access Unit in January 2001 and was offered a position in August 2001. Over the years she has had many duties in the access unit which included; CPS (Child Protective Services), access phone intake, child welfare contact and parent teen program. More recently, Jennifer has been working with the crisis after hour's program. Over the years Jennifer has had a couple of part time jobs but working for the county has always been her number one choice. Jennifer is married (3 years), has a dog and a son who is 15 months old. Jennifer wanted all the providers to know that she is excited to meet everyone. Jennifer will be a great asset to our unit.

Facing Frustration

We all get frustrated sometimes, but it can be particularly devastating to your little one when he's trying something new. Here are a few ways to support him through a challenging situation:



- **Engage with your child.** Instead of giving directions for "fixing" things, invite him to explain the problem and what he's trying to do about it. Sometimes just talking helps to clarify the issue.
- **Help your child label his feelings.** Doing so lets him know it's OK to have those feelings, and you can even tell him that you feel frustrated sometimes, too.
- **Don't be too serious.** While you don't want your child to feel like you're discounting his feelings, you can lighten up the situation by being playful. You might say, "That puzzle piece is so tricky. Silly puzzle piece!"
- **Take a break.** Sometimes the best way to deal with a tough situation is to have your child walk away and focus on something else for a while. He can always return to the first activity later.

What Makes It Rain?

Science Teaches Children About The World Around Them

Volume 59

When you think of science, what comes to mind? Is it looking under a microscope? Mixing different liquids and finding out what happens? Perhaps it was the class where you actually got to “do” something? There are many different types of science. That’s because in its simplest meaning, science is the way you study or learn (or think) about something. Science is all about studying, finding out, and making sense of the “hows”, “whats”, and “whys” of the world that we live in. For young children, science mixes well with their natural sense of curiosity. Young children learn through their senses – smelling, tasting, touching, hearing and seeing. Science uses all of these senses and it is also fun. Science can help children learn how the light from the sun helps flowers grow, how water becomes ice, and about other things in their environments. More Than Discovering Science has an even more important role for children than just showing them what and how things happen. Science teaches children how to learn. It uses thinking (cognitive) skills, and promotes creativity. By using the imagination, creativity, testing, experimenting, and observing, children get ideas that help them learn basic facts and rules about the world around them. Science is about experimenting - learning by trial and error, not giving up, following steps, and coming up with results. Science uses many math skills as well—guessing, measuring, comparing, organizing, observing. Science helps children come up with their own answers (and ideas) rather than being given them. It’s what true learning is all about.



The Giant Encyclopedia of Kindergarten Activities. © 2004 by Gryphon House, Inc.



Activity: Growing sponge grass

You'll need:

- Sponges (small ones - buy small ones or take one large sponge and cut it)
- Scissors
- Container - foam tray, small dish
- Water
- Grass seed
- Small spray or squirt plastic bottles
- Sunny area - window or place that gets sunlight

What you and child(ren) do:

- Take small sponge or a pieces of sponge
- Soak it in water
- Place the sponge in the container
- Sprinkle the grass seeds on the sponge
- Place it in a sunny space
- Water it a little every day
- Watch as the grass begins to grow!

Skills/Topics/What is being learned:

- The sun helps plants grow
- Water helps plants to grow
- How to observe changes every day
- How to grow things

Words used: sun, water, sprinkle, grow, wait and observe

The Giant Encyclopedia of Kindergarten Activities. © 2004 by Gryphon House, Inc.

RECALLS - SEE WWW.CPSC.GOV

These are the recalls that pertain to toys and children's equipment from September, 2008. We urge you to look at the Consumer Product Safety Commission's website yourself to see if some of the older recalls affect you. Recalls on carseats are available at: www.nhtsa.gov.

Toy Police Cars Recalled by TCB Imports Due to Violation of Lead Paint Standard



Recalled 9-25-2008. Manufactured in: China

Hazard: The red paint on the toy cars contains excess levels of lead, violating the federal lead paint standard.

Description: This recall involves toy police cars with a friction function. When the toy car is pushed forward, the car builds momentum. When released, the car moves forward on its own. The cars were sold in red/white and purple/white color combinations. The cars measure 8 inches by 4 inches by 4 ½ inches. Item number TF820 is printed on the product's packaging. **Sold at:** Dollar and discount stores nationwide from May 2008 through August 2008 for about \$1. **Consumer Contact:** For additional information, contact TCB Imports, Inc. at (888) 674-5497 between 9 a.m. and 5 p.m. PT Monday through Friday, or visit the firm's Web site at www.tcbimports.com

Four-Wheeled Ride-On Vehicles Recalled by Razor USA Due to Throttle Controller Defect



Recalled 09-25-2008

Manufactured in:

China **Hazard:** The control module for the throttle can fail and cause the electric ride-on vehicle to unexpectedly surge forward, posing a risk of injury to the user or a bystander.

Description: This recall involves Razor® Dirt Quad electrically powered ride-on vehicles. Product ID numbers included in the recall begin with 103110-01 or 103110-02. The product ID numbers are located on the bar code affixed to the right step of the vehicle, on the charger and on the retail packaging. Product ID numbers beginning with 103110-03 or later are not included in this recall. **Sold by:** Authorized dealers nationwide from August 2006 through September 2007 for about \$400. **Consumer Contact:** For additional information, contact Razor USA at (800) 813-3155 anytime, or visit the firm's Web site at www.razor.com/recall

Simplicity Brand Drop Side Cribs Recalled By Various Retailers Due To Serious Entrapment And Suffocation Hazard To Infants and Toddlers



**Recalled 9-17-2008.
Manufactured in:** China

Retailers:

AAFES, of Dallas, Texas
Babies"R"Us, of Wayne, N.J.
Burlington Coat Factory/Baby Depot, of Burlington, N.J.
K's Merchandise (out of business)
Meijer Distribution Inc., of Grand Rapids, Mich.
Nebraska Furniture Mart, of Omaha, Neb.
ShopKo, of Green Bay, Wis.
Target, of Minneapolis, Minn.
Wal-Mart Stores Inc, of Bentonville, Ark.

Importer/Distributor: Simplicity Inc., of Reading, Pa. (this company is no longer in business) **Hazard:** Due to sizing problems with the crib's hardware, the drop side can come off the tracks. When the drop side detaches or partially detaches, it creates a hazardous gap, which can lead to infant entrapment and suffocation. **Incidents/Injuries:** SFCRA and CPSC are aware of nine incidents in which the drop side detached on cribs that are part of this recall. There have been no injuries. **Description:** This recall of Simplicity drop side cribs involves models that used a different style of hardware from those cribs [recalled](#) in September 2007. The recalled model numbers include: 8620, 8745, 8748, 8755, 8756, 8778, 8810, and 8994. The recalled drop side cribs have a date code, which can be found on a label on the headboard under the mattress support, which ends in 05DH, 05GB, 06DH, 06GB, 07DH or 07GB (examples: 1806 DH or 0507 GB). The recalled model names include: Aspen and Crib N Changer Combo, Gabrielle, Camille, Providence and Shenandoah. Only the brand name "Simplicity" can be seen on the label on the headboard. **Sold by:** Department stores, children's stores and mass merchandisers nationwide from January 2005 through August 2008 for between \$150 and \$300. **Consumer Contact:** For additional information, contact:

AAFES - (800) 866-3605 – www.AAFES.com

Babies "R" Us - (800) 869-7787 –
www.babiesrus.com

Burlington Coat Factory/Baby Depot -
www.babydepot.com

Meijer Distribution Inc. - (866) 280-8419 –
www.meijer.com

Nebraska Furniture Mart – 800-359-1200 -

www.nfm.com

Shopko - (800) 791-7333 – www.shopko.com

Target - (800) 440-0680 - www.target.com

Wal-Mart - (800) 925-6278 - www.walmart.com

SFCA Media Contact: Amanda Lahan, (202) 466-6210, amanda.lahan@pbnco.com



Pottery Barn Kids Recalls Children's Metal Water Bottles Due to Choking Hazard

Recalled 09-16-2008. Manufactured in: Taiwan.

Manufacturer: Pottery Barn Kids, of San Francisco, Calif. **Hazard:**

The sip top on the water bottles can pull off, posing choking hazard to young children. **Description:**

The metal water bottles are about 9 inches tall and have a black rubber pull sip top. The following water bottles are included in this recall. The style number and "Pottery Barn Kids" are printed on a white sticker on the bottom of the water bottle.



Color	Style Number
Lavender	5795141
Pink	5795166
Pink	9121591
Navy	5795158
Navy	9211583
Green	5795133

Sold at: Pottery Barn Kids' stores nationwide, Pottery Barn Kids' catalog, and online at www.potterybarnkids.com from January 2007 through August 2008 for about \$10. **Consumer**

Contact: For additional information, contact Pottery Barn Kids toll-free at (877) 800-9720 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, or visit the firm's Web site at www.potterybarnkids.com

CPSC Focuses On Safety in the Nursery and Around the House for Baby Safety Month

Pillows Pose One of the Greatest Dangers Where Babies Sleep

"Parents should be especially vigilant when preparing for a new baby," said Acting Chairman Nancy Nord. "Babies represent our most precious and vulnerable population."

Nursery Safety

- To reduce the risk of SIDS and suffocation, place baby to sleep on his or her back in a crib that meets current safety standards.
- To prevent suffocation never use a pillow as a mattress for baby to sleep on or to prop baby's head or neck.
- Infants can strangle to death if their bodies pass through gaps between loose components, broken slats and other parts of the crib and their head and neck become entrapped in the space.
- Do not use old, broken or modified cribs.
- Regularly tighten hardware to keep sides firm.
- Infants can suffocate in spaces between the sides of the crib and an ill fitting mattress; never allow a gap larger than two finger widths at any point between the sides of the crib and the mattress.
- Never place a crib near a window with blind or curtain cords; infants can strangle on the cords.

Safety Around the House

Properly set up play yards according to manufacturers' directions. Only use **the mattress provided with the play yard. Do not add extra mattresses, pillows or cushions to the play yard, which can cause a suffocation hazard for infants. Look for a toy chest that has a support that will hold the hinged lid open in any position in which it is placed or buy one with a detached lid or doors.**

- Small Parts – For children younger than age three, avoid toys with small parts, which can cause choking.
- Magnets – For children younger than age eight, avoid building sets with small magnets. If magnets or pieces with magnets are swallowed, serious injuries and/or death can occur.
- Select toys to suit the age, abilities, skills and interest level of the intended child. Look for sturdy construction, such as tightly-secured eyes, noses and other potential small parts.
- For all children younger than age eight, avoid toys that have sharp edges and points.
- Verify that furniture is stable on its own. For added security, anchor to the floor or attach to a wall.
- Use outlet covers and outlet plates to help prevent electrocution.

CPSC encourages parents to routinely check toys and nursery products against CPSC recall lists and remove recalled products from your home. Sign-up for automatic e-mail recall notifications at www.cpsc.gov