



Arts & Crafts Corner



Patriotic Flag Pennant:

www.crafts.kaboose.com

You will need a brown paper grocery bag, ruler, pen or pencil, scissor, crayons (red/white/ blue/ yellow), 2 gold chenille stems and tape.



1. Place brown paper bag flap side down on the work surface. Use ruler or other straight edge (we used a large piece of craft paper) to draw a line from the top center of the bag to the bottom corner. Draw another line, again from the top center of the bag, this time going to the other bottom corner. There should now be a triangle drawn on the bag.
2. Cut out the triangle and then make 4 notches along the short edge of the triangle to wrap around the chenille stem flagpole. The notches should be about $\frac{3}{4}$ " long.
3. Next, use a blue crayon to draw a square in the upper left corner of the flag. The area should measure roughly 3.5" x 4.5". Use a white crayon to draw a simple five-pointed star in the center of the blue area. Color the star white and the area around the star blue.
4. To draw on the flag's stripes, use a ruler to mark with a red crayon at one inch intervals. Using those as guides, draw horizontal lines across the flag. Color your stripes red and white, alternating each color.
5. To make the flag pole, twist the two chenille stems together to make one thick chenille stem. Turn the flag over and place the chenille stems along the edge of the triangle with the notches. Line it up evenly, and then fold the notches over the chenille and tape in place. Bend the ends of the chenille stem in to avoid sharp edges and to give it an even appearance.
6. Take one of the scraps from the left over brown bag and cut out a 6" x 3" piece. Color that piece with the yellow crayon, and then cut it into $\frac{1}{2}$ " x 6" strips. You should 6 strips.
7. With the flag still upside down, tape the strips onto the back of the flag, two at one end, two in the middle, and two at the other end.

Vacation Photo Frame:

www.crafts.kaboose.com

You will need a map of your most recent vacation destination, wooden picture frame, white acrylic paint, white craft glue, water, paintbrush, scissors, scrapbook embellishments (stickers) relating to your trip and acrylic sealer spray.



1. Remove glass from frame and paint the outer and inner edges of the frame. Let dry.
2. Cut sections of your maps. Lay sections over the frame to be sure you don't cut them too small. Overlap different sections to cover entire surface of frame.
3. Once you have enough sections of the map to cover the entire frame, position them where you want and bend the excess map around the frame edge. This will create creases for you to trim with scissors.
4. Trim the edges so that your map pieces fit perfectly onto your frame.
5. Put some white craft glue into a small dish and add enough water to thin it to painting consistency.
6. Working with one section at a time, paint a thin layer of glue mixture onto a small section of the frame. Lay the map for that section down on top of the glue mixture and add a little glue mixture on top. Continue this process until all map pieces have been glued down.
7. Once all map pieces are dry, spray the entire surface with acrylic sealer.
8. Add scrapbook embellishment stickers to decorate. Replace the glass and insert your favorite picture.

Nutritious Nibbles: Spring Snacks



Marble Pops:

- 2 cups milk
- 3 oz. package instant vanilla pudding mix
- 2 mashed bananas
- 2 cups chocolate milk
- 4 oz. package instant chocolate pudding mix
- 1 cup miniature semisweet chocolate chips
- 18 paper drink cups
- 18 wooden popsicle sticks



In a small bowl add 2 cups milk to the vanilla pudding mix and beat well. Stir in mashed bananas and beat until combined. In another small bowl, mix chocolate milk with chocolate pudding mix and beat until combined. Fold in miniature chocolate chips. Spoon 1/2 of the banana pudding mixture into the drink cups. Layer chocolate mixture over the banana mixture. Repeat with remaining banana mixture and blend with a knife to marble. Place wooden sticks in the center of the popsicle mixture and freeze until solid. To serve, peel away the drink cups. Makes 18 popsicles

Fruit Sparklers:

- 24 large blueberries
- 24 strawberries
- 3 bananas, cut into 8 slices
- 24 cherries
- 24 large marshmallows
- 8 wooden skewers
- 8 red, white and blue ribbons (1 foot in length)



Place fruit and marshmallows on a wooden skewer in a red, white and blue pattern (use four of each item on a skewer). Tie red, white and blue ribbons to the bottom of each skewer.

Thank you to all the providers who returned the technology survey, which was attached to the June 2010 newsletter. Your input is greatly appreciated! We received 9 out of 45 surveys. To those who forgot, we hope to hear from you soon. Please call Jennifer Mantei or Karen Narlow if you need a new survey form. We will total the survey results at the end of July and get back to you with the results. This is your certification program so we want to hear from you on how to improve the program. Thanks again for all your hard work as a child care provider!

What's Inside This Issue:

- Hot Topics: Center on the Social & Emotional Foundations for Early Learning
- Day Care Certifier Corner: Monitoring Visits
- YoungStar Review
- Professional Development, Networking & Training Corner
- Child Care Certification: Test Your Knowledge Answers
- Recall Items

HOT TOPICS: **Center on the Social & Emotional Foundations for Early Learning**

Wisconsin has become a State partner in the Center on the Social and Emotional Foundations for Early Learning (CSEFEL). Demonstration sites in the State have been chosen and implementation of the pyramid model at those child care programs will begin in 2010. CSEFEL is funded by Head Start and the Child Care Bureau, it is a national resource center that disseminates research and evidence-based practices of early childhood programs. The focus is promoting social emotional development and school readiness of young children ages birth to 5 years. They have developed training materials, videos and print resources around the Pyramid Model for Supporting Social Emotional Competence in infants and young children. Materials for this pyramid model are available for downloading from the websites listed below. Resources are available and include scripted stories for social situations, tools for building relationships, book lists, information on teaching social/emotional skills and tools for developing behavior support plans. The website has good information on social and emotional growth within children. Additional information about this program will be distributed later in the year or early next year, as Wisconsin looks towards integrating this model into more early childhood programs within the State. Please visit the following websites for additional information on this topic.

www.collaboratingpartners.com
www.vanderbilt.edu/csefel/
www.challengingbehavior.org

**Materials are available for download on the above websites.*

DAY CARE CERTIFIER CORNER: **Monitoring Visits**

Just a friendly reminder that Jennifer Mantei and Jenny Homp plan to conduct unannounced monitoring visits to ensure all providers are working correctly with the Wisconsin Shares Child Care Subsidy Program. The main goal of these monitoring visits is to verify that providers are accurately tracking/maintaining W-2 attendance records and following all certification guidelines. This is a team effort to eliminate child care fraud in Waukesha County. The following article is from 'SHARING THE NEWS', March 2010 Edition. This article summarizes the need for increased monitoring visits to investigate and eliminate child care fraud. Please contact Jennifer Mantei or Karen Narlow with any additional questions or concerns related to this topic. We look forward to helping serve all of our certified child care providers!

Program Integrity Changes: Efforts & Child Care Providers

<http://dcf.wisconsin.gov/childcare/wishares/newsletter/pdf/newsletter0310.pdf>.

"You have likely heard a lot recently about child care fraud, investigations, monitoring visits, and payment suspensions. This article should clear up some of the confusion and offers tips on how to correctly work with the Wisconsin Shares child care Subsidy Program.

Even before recent actions, the Department and its local agencies (counties, tribes, and agencies under contract) have been able to request and review attendance records as part of their regular monitoring. If the records were found to be inaccurate, the agency had the authority to refuse payment or suspend authorizations for up to six months or both.

Beginning last July, new laws went into effect that tightened reporting requirements for providers and gave the Department and local agencies more authority to enforce the rules. DCF sent out a letter to all providers as a payment insert last October that explained the new rules. A copy of that letter can be found at http://dcf.wisconsin.gov/childcare/wishares/pdf/provider_letter1006.pdf

Here are the key changes:

Children of Employees-- DCF can no longer pay for children whose parents work for the provider if more than 40% of all children enrolled have parents who work for the provider. We will check every month for violations of this rule. If a provider violates this rule, they are given six weeks to come into compliance. If they continue to violate the rule after six weeks,

DCF will end all authorizations for the children whose parents work for the provider. Additionally, local agencies have the authority to refuse new authorizations if they will put the provider in violation of this rule.

Written Attendance Records-- DCF has always required providers to maintain accurate attendance records so that the amount billed to the Wisconsin Shares Program can be verified. The new law adds to this requirement by stating that:

- the attendance records must be **on site and available** to DCF, the county/tribe, or its agent.
- the attendance records must show the **actual** start and end times for each child (no rounding).
- the attendance records must be **kept for at least three years** after the child has stopped attending.

When state or local agency staff pick up attendance records, they should show you identification and leave a receipt stating the dates of the records that they picked up.

Suspension of Payments-- The new law gives DCF and local agencies the authority to withhold Wisconsin Shares payments to providers that they reasonably suspect have violated rules of the Wisconsin Shares program. While this law gives a lot of authority to DCF and its agencies, payments will only be suspended if, after an investigation has started, there is strong evidence that a provider is intentionally violating the rules.

When payments are suspended, the provider has the right to appeal. The provider can also continue to care for children (unless their licensing or certification is revoked or suspended) and should continue to send in attendance report forms. All payments, including those for prior weeks that haven't been mailed yet, will be withheld by DCF until the investigation is complete.

DCF is committed to eliminating fraud and waste in Wisconsin Shares and knows that doing so will help all of the honest hardworking providers we partner with. If you have information about child care fraud, please call **1-877-302-FRAUD**."



In June 2009, the Wisconsin Legislature directed DCF to develop a Child Care Quality Rating System and present it to the Legislature for approval to implement. YoungStar is the DCF proposed five-star quality rating and improvement system for licensed and certified child care programming in Wisconsin. YoungStar ratings have been developed in cooperation with child development and child care experts. Factors in the ratings are proven to have a positive impact on child development. They include: provider educational qualifications, learning environment and curriculum, business and professional practices, and support for the physical, nutritional and health care needs for all young children. You can see the YoungStar proposal overview at on the Internet at: <http://dcf.wisconsin.gov/youngstar/default.htm>. DCF believes YoungStar will help all parents to make informed decisions about child care, increase help for providers seeking improvement, and link provider quality to reimbursement in Wisconsin Shares.

On June 23, 2010 the bi-partisan Joint Committee on Finance unanimously passed YoungStar, Wisconsin's Child Care Quality Rating and Improvement System. This plan to rate providers has won the approval so subsidies will be based on provider performance. Additional details of the Young Star program will be posted as it is related to our day care staff.



Waukesha County Fair
July 21 to July 25, 2010

For additional information on ticket prices, daily hours or fair events please visit their website at:

<http://www.waukeshaountyfair.com/>

Professional Development, Networking & Training Corner:

SAVE THE DATE Child Care Provider Recognition Event

4C (Community Coordinated Child Care) 320 W. Vine Street Milwaukee, WI
Call 414-562-2650 to register or go online at www.4c-milwaukee.org

- **CPR** (Cost \$60)- 7/8/10 at 6:00 p.m., 7/13/10 at 10:00 a.m., 7/24/10 at 10:00 a.m.
- **SIDS** (Cost \$17)- 7/10/10 at 11:30 a.m.
- **SBS** (Cost \$17)- 7/10/10 at 9:00 a.m., 7/22/10 at 1:00 p.m.
- **CA/N** (Cost \$17)- 7/10/10 at 9:00 a.m., 7/26/10 at 6:30 p.m.
- **WMELS** (Cost \$80)- Starts 7/10/10 at 9 a.m. and ends 7/31/10
- **Organizing Staff & Children's Records** (Cost: \$15)- 7/13/10 at 6:30 p.m. and 7/20/10 at 6:30 p.m.
- **Communicating Polices to Parents** (Cost: \$15)- 7/14/10 at 6:30 p.m.
- **"C" is for Circle Time** (Cost: \$17)- 7/24/10 at 9:00 a.m.
- **Information on the Environmental Rating Scale** (Cost:\$17)- 7/15/10 at 1:00 p.m., 7/31/10 at 9:00 a.m.

WECA These workshops are **FREE!**

Call Judy Mays at 414-278-9322 to register or go online at www.Wisconsinearlychildhood.org

- 7/8/10 at 6:30 p.m. **Hearing & Literacy** (Dunwood YMCA- 217 W. Dunwood Road, Milwaukee, WI)
- 7/14/10 at 6:30 p.m. **Healthy Children, Healthy Adults** (Mary Linsmeier School- 2927 S. Chicago Ave. Milwaukee, WI)
- 7/21/10 at 6:30 p.m. **Effects of Healthy, Safe Environments: Brain/Child Development** (Columbia/St. Mary's Children's School- 2330 N. Prospect Ave. Milwaukee, WI)

The Day Care Certification staff would like to take a moment to thank our certified child care providers. Child care providers truly make a difference in the life of a child so thank you for being a valued member of the Certified Day Care team.

Please save the date of October 5, 2010 for the "Child Care Provider Recognition Event." This annual event is our way of thanking the child care providers of Waukesha County for all the hard work and dedication that goes into caring for children. As always, this is a **FREE** event so please join us for an evening of food, fun, training and social networking.



LENDING LIBRARY

Attention Certified Family Child Care Providers... Are you aware there is a lending library full of child care resources? We have books, toys, safety equipment and curriculum kits that you can borrow to use within your child care program. **The cost is FREE.** We currently have car seats, double strollers, pack and play cribs, crib sheets, safety gates, baby monitors, children's books and baby activity gyms. We are in the process of expanding this library by purchasing additional items so let us know what you need to improve your day care program. Be on the lookout for additional information in the upcoming newsletters to see what is available for your use. Please contact Jennifer Mantei at 548-7250 jmantei@waukeshacounty.gov or Karen Narlow at 970-4795 knarlow@waukeshacounty.gov if you would like to arrange a pick up date and time. **Please call and we will bring you your requested items.**

GROUP SIZE ESTIMATOR

Hello Certified Providers...Summer is in full swing so day care enrollment often changes during these months. Please remember to use the **Group Size Estimator** tool to ensure that you are within legal numbers for your day care business. The helpful website is listed below; feel free to contact Jennifer Mantei or Karen Narlow if you need further assistance with this fun tool. Also remember to update your Certification Staff whenever your numbers change because we will need to update your day care file. Thanks and good luck with your summer programs!

<http://www.dwd.state.wi.us/dwscpc/groupSizeEstimator/>

CERTIFIED PROVIDERS:

If a child care provider cares for 4+ children under the age of 7 who are not related to her/him then the provider **must** be licensed.

Related Children Under 7 Yrs Old	Unrelated Children Under 7 Yrs Old	Maximum Number (up to age 12) (Do not count own children over 7 yrs old)
0	3	6
1	3	6
2	3	6
3	3	6
4	2	6
5	1	6
6	0	6

WHEN CHILDREN UNDER 2 YEARS OLD ARE PRESENT-

# of Children Under 2 Yrs Old	Maximum # (Do not count own children over 7 yrs old)
1	6
2	6
3	5
4 - can only do this if one or more of the I/T is related to the provider	4

"Related" means the provider's natural, adopted or foster children, stepchildren, grandchildren, brothers, sisters, first cousins, nephews, nieces, uncles, and aunts or any children who reside in the home.

Providers may not care for more than 3 children under the age of 7 who are not related to them!

CHILD CARE CERTIFICATION: Answers to Test Your Knowledge

- When all children are using the equipment the child must have a choice of at least **3** activities indoors and at least **1** activity outdoors.
- A certified child care provider must serve a meal or snack at least once every **3** hours.
- The temperature inside the certified family child care home can not be more than **80** or less than **67**.
- Supervision of children is within **SIGHT** and **SOUND** when the children are outdoors.
- Attendance records need to be kept for **3** years.
- Substitute can work **240** hours before they are required to have additional training.
- One reason that a certified child care provider's recertification can be denied, suspended: **Not in compliance with Certification Standards**
- True:** A Certified child care provider should talk to each child's parent at least once a week about his or her child's development, activities, likes and dislikes.
- False:** A child under one year of age may use a sleeping bag or cot to nap.
- True:** A certified child care provider needs a signed written contract with each family specifying child care fees and when fees are due for services rendered.
- True:** If care is provided in a rental unit the certified child care provider must obtain landlord permission.
- True:** The certifying agency may prohibit the use of a cellular phone as the primary phone.
- True:** You need to report to the certification department any remodeling or construction on your child care premises that may have an affect on the children's health or safety.



RECALLS:

One Step Ahead Recalls Children's Stacking Toys Due to Choking and Aspiration Hazard

Infant Death Prompts Recall of Ring Slings Made by Sprout Stuff Due to Suffocation Risk

WASHINGTON, D.C. - The U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission (CPSC), in cooperation with Sprout Stuff, of Austin, Texas, is announcing the recall of about 40 Sprout Stuff infant ring slings. CPSC advises consumers to immediately stop using these slings due to a risk of suffocation to infants.

CPSC and Sprout Stuff are aware of one report of a death of a 10-day-old boy in the recalled sling in Round Rock, Texas in 2007.

The Sprout Stuff infant ring sling is fabric/natural muslin and comes with or without a shoulder pad. The sling is worn by parents and caregivers to carry a child up to two years of age. "Sprout Stuff" is printed on the back side of the tail's hem.

Sprout Stuff sold the recalled infant slings, which were made in the United States, directly to consumers between October 2006 and May 2007 for between \$35 and \$45. Sprout Stuff is directly contacting known purchasers of the recalled infant slings.

Consumers should immediately stop using the recalled slings and contact Sprout Stuff to return the sling for a full refund. Contact Sprout Stuff toll-free at (877) 319-3103 anytime, email the firm at sproutstuffrefunds@gmail.com or contact the firm by mail at Sprout Stuff Refunds, P.O. Box 612, Buda, Texas 78610. Do not attempt to fix these carriers.

Additional Message from CPSC: On March 12, 2010, CPSC issued a [warning](#) about sling carriers for babies. Slings can pose two different types of suffocation hazards to babies. In the first few months of life, babies cannot control their heads because of weak neck muscles. The sling's fabric can press against an infant's nose and mouth, blocking the baby's breathing and rapidly suffocating a baby within a minute or two. Additionally, where a sling keeps the infant in a curled position bending the chin toward the chest, the airways can be restricted, limiting the oxygen supply. The baby will not be able to cry for help and can slowly suffocate. CPSC has determined that a mandatory standard is needed for infant sling carriers. While a mandatory standard is being developed, CPSC staff is working with ASTM International to quickly develop an effective voluntary standard for slings. There currently are no safety standards for infant sling carriers.



McDonald's Recalls Movie Themed Drinking Glasses Due to Potential Cadmium Risk

WASHINGTON, D.C. - The U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission, in cooperation with the firm named below, today announced a voluntary recall of the following consumer product. Consumers should stop using recalled products immediately unless otherwise instructed. It is illegal to resell or attempt to resell a recalled consumer product.

Name of Product: "Shrek Forever After 3D" Collectable Drinking Glasses
Units: About 12 million

Manufacturer: ARC International, of Millville, NJ.

Distributor: McDonald's Corp., Oakbrook, Ill.

Hazard: The designs on the glasses contain cadmium. Long term exposure to cadmium can cause adverse health effects.

Incidents/Injuries: None reported.

Description: The "Shrek Forever After 3D" collectable drinking glass are 16 ounce glasses that came in four designs, Shrek, Fiona, Puss n' Boots, and Donkey.

Sold exclusively at: McDonald's restaurants nationwide from May 2010 into June 2010 for about \$2.

Manufactured in: United States

Remedy: McDonald's is asking consumers to immediately stop using the glass out of an abundance of caution. Visit www.mcdonalds.com for additional instructions on how to obtain a full refund.

Consumer Contact: For additional information, contact McDonald's toll-free at (800) 244-6227 between 9 a.m. and 5 p.m. CT Monday through Friday or visit the firm's website at www.mcdonalds.com



The following product safety recall was voluntarily conducted by the firm in cooperation with the CPSC. Consumers should stop using the product immediately unless otherwise instructed. It is illegal to resell or attempt to resell a recalled consumer product.

Name of Product: Animal Crackers Giant Stacking Toys

Units: About 2,700

Manufacturer: One Step Ahead, of Lake Bluff, Ill.

Hazard: The fabric covering the stacking ring's center pole can come apart at the seam exposing the foam material inside. The foam material poses choking and aspiration hazards to young children.

Incidents/Injuries: The firm has received one report of a 10-month-old child mouthing the toy's foam material. No injuries have been reported.

Description: This recall involves Animal Crackers Giant Stacking Toys. The multi-colored toy has five plush stacking rings that stack and rest on a stationary turtle base. The rings represent different animals including a frog, dog, cat, rabbit, mouse and chick. A fish is on top of the center pole. Each ring makes a different sound: rattle, jingle, crinkle and squeak. "One Step Ahead" is printed on a white tag attached to the toy. The toy measures about 19 inches high and 10 inches wide when assembled.

Sold at: One Step Ahead's catalog and on the firm's website at www.onestepahead.com from October 2008 through April 2010 for about \$35.

Manufactured in: China

Remedy: Consumers should immediately take the recalled toy away from children and return the toy's center pole to One Step Ahead for a \$50 merchandise certificate to be applied toward the purchase of another product(s) sold in the One Step Ahead catalog or online at www.onestepahead.com.

The firm is directly contacting consumers who purchased the recalled toy.

Consumer Contact: For more information, contact One Step Ahead toll-free at (866) 271-4536 between 8:30 a.m. and 4:30 p.m. CT Monday through Friday or visit the firm's website at www.onestepahead.com



Happy 4th of July!

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Very Special Thanks to
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Thank You For Caring

