



WAUKESHA COUNTY CHILD CARE CERTIFICATION

AUGUST 2008



SPOTLIGHT ON A PROVIDER:

Janet Soto

Has been certified for Waukesha County for 7 years

Janet was born in Puerto Rico and was raised in North New Jersey. When Janet was fifteen years old she moved to Waukesha and has resided here every since. Janet has two adult children; her daughter is twenty-nine with a two year old child. Her son is twenty. His baby is three months old. Janet has been married for seven years and has a nine year old son as well. She enjoys reading, biking, walking and riding on the Harley with her husband.

When Janet's mom moved back to Puerto Rico seven years ago, she decided to become certified so she could stay home with her son while he was young. Now her son is in the fourth grade and she still provides care because she really enjoys what she does. Janet stated that it was hard for her with her first two children because she was a single mom. Now it is a joy for her to help single parents and watch their children grow at the same time. Janet stated she loves watching the children grow. Janet explained that first she receives them when they are babies and eventually they grow and go off to school. Janet stated that she feels great knowing that she was a part of that whole process.

Janet's advice for other providers is, "You have to love your job and the kids. You also need to talk to other adults for help as well as having them as an outlet from the children." At this time Janet does not have any openings, however, she stated she might have two openings once school starts back in September 2008.

We thank you, Janet, for all you do for the children and their families.

COOL ART ICICLES

1. The night before, freeze a tray of ice cubes with popsicle sticks in each cube.
2. Fill old salt or pepper shakers with powdered tempera paint.
3. Cover a work table with newspaper.
4. Have the children sprinkle the powdered tempera paint onto pieces of shiny freezer wrap or finger paint paper.
5. Then have them hold the popsicle sticks and rub their ice cubes across the paper. Children love to watch the ice melt into the colors.



Do what we can, summer will have its flies.
~Ralph Waldo Emerson



GAMES FOR SCHOOL AGERS

It's summer time. Here are some ideas to keep the older kids busy:

1. **Memory Game** – Place a number of objects on a tray. Remove one. Try to guess which one is missing. For older kids – Show the tray for a few minutes and then remove it. Ask them to write down as many objects as they can remember from the tray.
2. **Open Fist/Closed Fist** – Divide into pairs. One child clenches his/her fist tightly closed. Partner tries to open it in 30 seconds.
3. **Spelling Tic Tac Toe** – Can make an X or O if spell a word correctly
4. **Follow My Step** – One person creates a dance step. The others follow.
5. **Jokes and Riddles**
6. **Blindfold** – Guess where you are in the room.
7. **Name that Tune** – Hum songs or use a CD.
8. **Make up a Commercial**
9. **Variety Show**
10. **TV Trivia** – Kids can make up trivia questions about their favorite TV shows.
11. **Rhyming Games**
12. **Telephone Game**
13. **City Game** – Player 1 names a city. Player 2's city must start with the last letter from Player 1's city (Ex: Minneapolis → St. Paul → London).
14. **I Went Traveling and Took with Me** – Each child adds an item to take along (after reciting what everyone else was going to bring).
15. **Wishing on a Present** – Pass around a wrapped box. Each child says what s/he imagines is in the box.
16. **Guesstimates** – How many cars will go by before the bus comes? How far can you walk in one minute?
17. **Hangman**
18. **Dots** – Dots are lined up in a grid. Each child takes a turn connecting two dots. Whoever makes a square, gets to put his/her initial in the middle of the box. Winner – the one with the most boxes.
19. **Categories** – List categories on a piece of paper (girls' names, vegetables, etc.). Choose a letter (or do the whole alphabet). Try to fill in an item in each category that starts with that letter.
20. **Bus Stop Scavenger Hunt** – Find a stick the size of my little finger, a rock the size of my watch, a perfect leaf, etc.
21. **Act Out a Machine** – Have others guess.
22. **Group Stories** – One starts a story. All add a line.
23. **Detective** – One child goes out of room and changes one thing about his/her appearance. When s/he comes back, the others try to guess what it is that's different.
24. **I Spy**

ARE THE CHILDREN IN YOUR CARE EXCITED ABOUT READING AND WRITING?

Here are some tips and activities that have worked successfully with children:

Display books that tie in with the season or a theme and include fiction and non-fiction. Read to the children every day individually and in groups. Sing songs, do fingerplays, and recite poems. When weather permits, bring books with you when you go outside. It's enjoyable to read under the trees or in the jungle gym loft.

Publish a quarterly newsletter. Include photocopies of the children's artwork and copies of their written or dictated stories. You can contribute something too. Write a story or a poem with each of the children in it.

Use puppets to tell stories or read books. Write a puppet show with the children and put it on for the parents.

Extend stories the children are familiar with by acting them out or make flannel board pieces to go with the story. Children as young as 24 months can read *Brown Bear, Brown Bear* using the flannel board pieces. A few bowls, spoons, carpet squares/pillows, and a spider puppet are all the props needed when reciting, "All of the Muffets sat on their tuffets." Change the story - ask open ended questions, such as, "If you sat on a bee, what would you do?" or, "If you were driving the bus, where would you go?" Write down the children's answers.

Choose a book that the children have not heard and allow them to read the story. Look at the cover and decide together what the title should be. Then as you turn the pages, let them read (make up) the story.

Go fishing for letters. Put your magnetic letters in a bucket (no water needed) and use a dowel with a string attached for the pole. Tie a magnet to the string and you are ready for fishing. Encourage the children to identify the letters they catch. Younger children can try to identify the color.

Write individual or group stories. Using the easel or a large piece of paper, start a story. "Once upon a time there was a turtle who went to the library..." Ask the children, "What happened next?" Write it down and keep going. "Then what happened?" Encourage everyone to participate. When it's finished the children will enjoy having it read back to them.

Set up a Post Office. Cartons that are divided into six sections work well. Tape the cartons together (2 or 3 high) and then write the children's names with a photo of them attached in each section. Include a table with paper, pencils, envelopes, stamps, and washable ink pads and you're all set. Blank price stickers (like you'd use for a garage sale) make great stamps and come 1000 to a box. Add your junk mail and a few small cartons for realistic extras.

When you are cooking with the children use a recipe with words and pictures so the younger children can follow along.

Have fun with words. Children enjoy word games such as silly rhymes like "macaroni and sneeze;" giving objects the wrong names, "Oh, you have red marbles (grapes) and green trees (broccoli) for lunch;" and riddles to solve, "I'm thinking of an animal that lives on a farm that has a curly tail and likes mud."

Make experience charts. For instance, when doing a sink-or-float experiment, make a chart with each item to be put in the water (ball, cork, lego, toy car) and columns for predictions and results.

If you go on field trips, check your library for family story times (ones where any age is invited and you do not have to pre-register).

While you are doing activities, during transition times, and at meal times, talk about and describe what is happening. Discuss the events of the day. Ask about the children's evenings, mornings, and weekends. Listen carefully to their responses. This will help each child's vocabulary grow.

Get the parents involved. Ask them to encourage their children to bring books from home to share. If possible, reciprocate - allow children to borrow books from you. A clipboard sign-out sheet is a must to keep track of your books.

RECALLS - SEE WWW.CPSC.GOV

These are the recalls that pertain to toys and children's equipment from July, 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.

Chicco Cortina KeyFit Carseat Base

Recalled 6-2-08. Manufactured between February 26 and March 17, 2008.



Description: The carseat base is used in KeyFit and KeyFit 30 rear-facing child restraint systems, Cortina travel systems, and stand-alone bases for these systems purchased separately. **Hazard:** Some of these bases have a defect that can prevent the base from being tightly secured to a vehicle when the lower latch attachments are used as a method of installation. Specifically, when a defective base is installed with the lower latch attachment straps, the webbing used to tighten the base to the vehicle seat can slip through the adjustment lock. If the webbing were to slip during a vehicle crash, the base could move, possibly increasing the risk of injury. Chicco will notify all owners of the bases manufactured during the covered period of the defect and provide a free replacement base. Consumers should cut the lower latch connectors from the base and return them to Chicco in a pre-paid envelope. Chicco will then send the consumer a replacement base. You can continue to use the old base with the vehicle's safety belts until you receive a replacement. 1-800-807-8817.

Baby Trend Latch-Loc Carseats

Recalled 6-23-08. Manufactured between May 1, 2007 and April 1, 2008.



Description: Models Magnum 6439, Galaxy 6481, Silverado 6448, and Stand Alone Bases 6400S. **Hazard:** Incorrect steel was used on the Latch Connector Locking Pawl. The Latch Connector Locking Pawl can crack allowing the seat base to detach from the vehicle's Latch Anchors during a severe crash. This can result in the seat failing to provide the proper protection. Baby Trend will notify owners and replace the base for free. Only Rigid Latch-Loc Model Child Restraints are involved in this recall. 1-800-328-7363.

Bayside Furnishings LaJolla Boat Bed and Pirates of the Caribbean Twin Trundle Beds



Recalled 7-3-08. Sold at Costco, furniture retail stores, and Costco.com from January 2006 through May 2008 (\$700-\$1,400). **Description:** This recall involves two styles of Bayside youth beds: the LaJolla Boat Bed and the Pirates of the Caribbean Twin Trundle Bed. The preassembled toy chests are designed in the shape of a ship or boat's "bow" and attached to the beds as a footboard. The LaJolla Boat Bed toy chest has a hardwood top and white wood base with a blue stripe. The Pirates Boat Bed toy chest has a hardwood top, wheel shape and brown wood base with decorative carvings. **Hazard:** The lid supports on the toy chests fail to prevent the lid from closing too quickly, posing an entrapment and strangulation hazard to young children.

Immediately stop children from using the recalled toy chests and contact the firm for instructions on receiving a free repair kit with replacement lid supports: 1-877-494-2536 or www.baysidefurnishings.com to register online for the free repair kit.

Bead Bazaar "It's a Girl Thing" Bracelets, Necklaces, and Phone Charms



Recalled 7-3-08. Sold at retailers from February 2006 through June 2008 (\$6). **Description:** This recall involves "It's a Girl Thing" metal necklaces, bracelets, and phone charms. The jewelry features a variety of charms including flowers, shoes, letters and butterflies. "It's a Girl Thing" is printed on the packaging along with the UPC numbers 633870018419 (bracelet), 633870018426 (necklace), and 633870018433 (phone charm). **Hazard:** The children's jewelry could contain high levels of lead. Lead is toxic if ingested by young children and can cause adverse health effects. Immediately take the recalled jewelry away from children and return it to the place of purchase for a full refund. 1-800-838-1769 or www.beadkit.com.

Parragon Books Children's Necklaces with Ballet Shoes Charms



Recalled 7-10-08. Sold at retail chains and independent bookstores from January 2003 through June 2008 (\$7). **Description:** The recalled necklace has a silver-colored chain with a silver-colored charm consisting of a pair of ballet shoes and a bow. The necklace was provided with the purchase of a children's book entitled, *The Magical Ballet Slippers* (alternatively titled *Ballerina's Magical Shoes*), ISBN 1405411449, published by Parragon Books, Ltd. UPC 9781405411448 is printed on the back of the book. Spanish version, *Las zapatillas magicas de la bailarina* ISBN 1405448385; UPC 9781405448383. French version, *Les petits chaussons magiques* ISBN 1405449527; UPC 9781405449526. **Hazard:** Solder on the charm of the necklace may contain high levels of lead, which if ingested by young children can cause adverse health effects. Immediately take the recalled necklaces away from children and contact Parragon for instructions on how to return the necklace and receive a free children's book. 1-888-480-2854 or www.parragonrecall.com.

Action Products International Inc Shoelace and Necklace Children's Charm Craft Kits

Recalled 7-10-08. Sold at various retailers from July 2007 through April 2008 (\$17 for the "Super Dooper Charms" kit and \$6 for the "Shoelace Charms" kit). **Description:** This recall involves "Super Dooper Charms" (item #63403) and "Shoelace Charms" (item #67310) children's charm craft kits. The craft kits contain components (i.e., charms, beads, wire, clasps) to assemble necklaces, jewelry accessories, or charms that can be hooked on shoelaces, backpacks, or used as zipper pulls. The item number can be found on the back of the package. **Hazard:** The clasp in the charm craft kits contains high levels of lead. Immediately take the recalled product away from children and contact Action Products International for instructions on returning it for a free replacement: 1-800-772-2846 or www.apii.com.

“Faded Glory” Lip Gloss, Locket, and Bracelet Sets

Recalled 7-10-08. Sold at Wal-Mart stores from May 2008 through June 2008 (\$6). **Description:** The recalled three-piece sets contain a rectangle-shaped lip gloss container, a heart-shaped locket necklace, and a charm bracelet. The following models are included in the recall:



Item	Model Number	UPC
Frog Set	6709-4250	72783357703
Monkey Set	6709-4251	72783357704
Cat Set	6709-4252	72783357705

“Faded Glory”, the model number, and UPC are printed on the product’s hangtag. **Hazard:** The lobster claw clasp on the bracelet contains high levels of lead. Immediately take the bracelet away from children and return the set to any Wal-Mart store for a full refund. 1-800-949-3311 or www.faf.com.

Sleep Innovations Recalls Pillows Sold Exclusively at Costco; Metal Fragments Pose Abrasion Hazard

Recalled 7-22-08. Sold at: Certain Costco stores nationwide from February 2008 through June 2008 for about \$20. **Description:** The recalled Cuddly Comfort Pillows were sold in packs of two. Each pillow is 20” wide by 26” long, and they were sold in white, violet, blue, pink and yellow colors. Only pillows with Registration Number PA-27156(CA) are included in the recall. The Registration Number and the words “Sleep Innovations” are printed on the pillow’s tag. **Hazard:** The pillows can contain small metal fragments in the fiber-fill as a result of a mechanical breakdown in the manufacturing process. The metal fragments can cause abrasions and cuts to consumers. Consumers should immediately stop using the recalled pillows and return them to any Costco store for a full refund. 1-(866) 656-0610 or www.sleepinnovations.com



It’s MY Binky Recalls Personalized Pacifiers Due to Choking Hazard

Recalled 7-22-2008 Sold at: Nordstrom and baby boutique retail stores nationwide and online at www.itsmybinky.com from February 2006 through June 2008 for between \$5 and \$6. **Description:** The recalled pacifiers have "Japlo" imprinted on the front of the pacifier shield at the bottom, center. The pacifiers were sold in blue, white and pink with various words or designs printed on the button of the pacifier. Examples of text and symbols printed on recalled Japlo pacifiers include but are not limited to the following:

BLUE (pacifier w/ text)	WHITE (pacifier w/ text)	PINK (pacifier w/ text)
Image of a skull (no text)	image of a skull (no text)	spoiled
stud muffin	stud muffin	princess
prince charming	prince charming	my mom rocks
my mom rocks	princess	mute button
mute button	my mom rocks	my dad rocks
my dad rocks	mute button	insomniac
momma’s boy	little monster	future ceo
insomniac	future ceo	flirt
future ceo	daddy’s girl	daddy’s girl
little monster	born to shop	born to shop
flirt		
bad to the bone		

Hazard: The pacifier button, ring handle and shield with nipple can detach, posing a choking hazard to infants. Customers should immediately take these pacifiers away from children and return them to the store where purchased or contact the firm if purchased online to receive a free replacement pacifier. (888) 689-9444 www.itsmybinky.com or e-mail Danielle Riiber at Danielle@itsmybinky.com

Waukesha County Child Care Certification

Jane Pittman	548-7250 jpittman@waukeshacounty.gov
Aisha Lampley	970-4795 alampley@waukeshacounty.gov
Kathy Mullooly	896-6832 kmullooly@waukeshacounty.gov