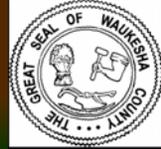


Waukesha County Child Care Newsletter

December 2010

Thank You For Caring!



Arts & Crafts Corner



www.crafts.kaboose.com

Thumbprint Christmas Card

Items needed:

- 1 sheet white construction paper
- Green craft paint
- Crayons
- Glitter glue (optional)
- Scissors



Directions:

1. Fold white construction paper in half like a greeting card. Fold it again to make a smaller card. Open it up and use the crease marks to cut two cards.
2. Dip the child's thumb in green paint. To make the tree, place two thumbprints next to one another (with one pointing off to the left and one pointing to the right) then place another thumbprint on the top of the other two prints. Let the paint dry.
3. Use crayons to write "Merry Christmas" or a special message and to add a tree trunk and star.
4. If you like, add a border of glitter glue around the outside of the card and let dry.

Craft Stick Santa

Items needed:

- 8 mini craft sticks
- Acrylic paint: (red, white, flesh/peach, pink and black)
- 3" x 3" piece of white cardboard or cardstock
- 6" piece of green yarn
- White craft glue
- Paintbrush
- Scissors



Directions:

1. Paint six of the craft sticks white and the remaining two red, set aside to dry.
2. Place the craft sticks onto the white cardboard and arrange as pictured: Take a white craft stick and place it in the center. Then place other four sticks in a staggered formation with two on the left and two on the right. The last remaining white craft stick should be horizontal across the top of the other white craft sticks. The two red sticks should be positioned in a triangle shape to make the hat on top.
3. Use a pencil to lightly mark the outer edges of the triangular opening of the hat and the face opening.
4. Remove the craft sticks and paint those two areas.
5. Cut around the painted areas, but keep it all in one piece so you can glue the craft sticks to it.
6. Glue the sticks to the cardboard and to each other.
7. Use the handle end of a paintbrush to dot on two pink cheeks and two black eyes.
8. Loop the green yarn and tie in a knot. Glue the knotted end to the back of the ornament.

Nutritious Nibbles: Holiday Snacks



www.perpetualpreschool.com

Reindeer Chow: Tell the children this is what Santa serves to his reindeer. Take frosted shredded wheat cereal and call it snow covered North Pole hay, stick pretzels and call it twigs, mix raisins or dried berries along with red M&M candy and call it fresh berries. Mix all items together and serve to the children.



Holiday Sandwiches: Use holiday cookies cutters to cut out two pieces of bread and fill with your favorite sandwich fillings.

Ornament Rolls: Cut crescent rolls into ornament shapes and bake as directed. Spread with cream cheese and decorate with pieces of broccoli, cauliflower, red peppers or carrots to make beautiful edible ornaments for the children to snack on during the day.

Candle: Put a pineapple ring on a plate and stand a banana up in the middle of the pineapple ring. Add a maraschino cherry attached to a toothpick to the top of the banana for a beautiful edible candle treat.

www.christmasmagazine.com

Magic Reindeer Food

Many families leave cookies and a glass of milk for Santa Claus. But what about his reindeer?

Ingredients

- 2 cups of oats
- 1/2 cup sugar
- 1/4 cup red or green sugar crystals
- 1 cup each of love, hope and faith

Preparation

Mix all ingredients in a bowl.

Sprinkle your magic reindeer food on your lawn on Christmas Eve after dusk.

Please do not use any non natural ingredients. These may harm birds and other animals looking for food during the cold winter days.

**Magic Reindeer
Food**

**Sprinkle on the lawn at night
The moon will make it sparkle bright,
Santa's reindeer fly and roam,
This will help them find your home!**

What's Inside This Issue:

- Lending Library
- Business Beat Corner - Get Your Business Records Ready for Tax Time
- Hot Topics: "Guidance - Direct & Indirect Techniques"
- Professional Development, Networking & Training Corner
- Child Care Certification: YoungStar Update
- Recall Items

LENDING LIBRARY - FREE

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.**



BUSINESS BEAT CORNER: Get Your Business Records Ready for Tax Time

Family Child Care Recordkeeping Guide-7th edition- Tom Copeland Taxes www.redleafinstitute.org/www.resourcesforchildcaring.org

Since 2010 is rapidly ending and 2011 is about to begin this means tax time is right around the corner. Are you ready for tax time? Here are some helpful hints to think about during tax time.

- Have you filled out Dependent Care Provider's Identification & Certification forms with your social security number **OR** tax identification number for the parents so they can claim the child care tax credit on their taxes (Form W-10)?
- Have you calculated your total income for the year?
- Have you calculated your time/space percentage for the year so you can determine indirect expenses? (Formula: $\frac{\text{Number of hours home is used for business}}{\text{Total number of hours in a year (8,760)}} \times \frac{\text{Square feet of home used for business}}{\text{Total square feet of home}}$)
- Have you organized your receipts so you can figure out your total direct expenses for the year? (examples- food, supplies/items purchased for the business and day care children)
- Do you know what expenses you are going to depreciate?
- Have you calculated your mileage or repairs/maintenance on the vehicle you use for your business?
- If you have employees, do you have their information together for the end of the year? Do you know the employees wages for the year for your own return? Do you have all the proper forms for filing?
- If you are not doing your own taxes, have you hired a qualified tax preparer?



These are just a few items to think about for the upcoming 2011 year, as you start to get your tax records in order. Here are some helpful resources to review prior to tax time; 2010 Tax Companion by Tom Copeland (\$17.95) and Family Child Care 2010 Tax Workbook & Organizer (\$17.95). These items are both available at www.redleafpress.org or by calling 1-800-423-8309.

***Keep in mind we have Tom Copeland's books on Contracts & Policies, Legal & Insurance Issues, Marketing and Record Keeping Tips so let the day care certification staff know if you are interested in checking out one or all of the Tom Copeland series to help improve the business end of your child care program.



HOT TOPICS:

"Guidance - Direct & Indirect Techniques"

Effective guidance should maintain a child's self esteem; produce a desired change in behavior; teach self control and produce pro-social behavior such as cooperation, sharing or accepting others feelings. As a child care provider, you can indirectly or directly influence the behavior of the children in your program.

There are several ways you can indirectly influence a child's behavior. One way to influence child's behavior is through the use of space. If you have too many children playing in a small area you may have behavior problems. An easy solution is to rearrange the environment so that more space is available in the favorite areas to play. In addition, watch how your environment is set up and your traffic patterns. It would not be a good idea to place the block area in the middle of the room. Children walking by could inadvertently knock down other children's creations. The block area is better placed in a corner protected on two sides by shelves which hold the blocks and the block accessories. Another way to indirectly influence children's behavior is through the activities and equipment you make available to the children. If not enough activities or equipment are available you may have behavior issues or if too many activities are available children may become overwhelmed or over-stimulated. Make sure the activities and equipment are age and developmentally appropriate for the children in your program. If things are too easy they may become bored, leading to behavior issues, or if things are too hard children may become frustrated or angry. Your daily schedule may indirectly influence your children's behavior. If your nap time is usually noon but you have a child or group of children getting tired at 11:30, can you flex your schedule to accommodate the children's schedule? Yes, otherwise you may have cranky children.

There are also several ways you can directly influence a child's behavior. You can influence a child through the use of vocal and language techniques. Children respond to lower voices so just by changing the pitch of your voice to a lower octave or whispering you will get their attention. When talking to children keep your words short, simple and positive. Rather than saying if you run through the house you will fall down and hurt yourself, try, we walk. When speaking to children you should also be down at their eye level even if that means getting down on the floor on your knees. Smooth transitions from one activity to another can also directly influence children's behavior. Children do not wait well. Have transitions that encourage the child's participation and promote independence. Proximity control is also a way to directly influence a child's behavior. If you have a child who has a behavior issue, try to be as close to that child as possible during the day so you are there to intervene before behavior escalates. If you can not be near the child use vocal and language techniques to help you until you can get there.

Remember, guidance is every individualized, and should be age and developmentally appropriately based. What works for one child will not work for all and what works once may not work again. -Karen Narlow

***Be on the look out for the 3rd series topic, "Positive Guidance Techniques" coming up in our January 2011 issue plus a bonus installment of "Dealing with Challenging Behavior" in the February 2011 issue.



Hello Day Care Providers... We are always in the process of updating our provider files so please alert the Certification Team of any **new** additions, subtractions or changes within your family business. For example, if you had a baby please update us so we can add your precious baby to your household page. If you had a child leave for college, let us know so we can remove this child from your household page. If you got married over the summer, we want to hear this exciting news. If you got a new job outside the home and are no longer doing child care, we need to know. **We would also like updated information on changed email addresses and/or new cell phone numbers.** Please be sure to let the Day Care Certification Team know of any recent changes.

Professional Development, Networking & Training Corner:

RECALLS:
<http://www.cpsc.gov>

Here are some upcoming training opportunities that will help you develop and improve your child care program. Parents Place is now offering parenting resource classes; check out their training classes for practical tips to use within your own family or to pass along to your day care families. Remember that regular level certified child care providers need 5 hours of continuing education annually prior to recertification. The following trainings are just a few examples of how to obtain some of these continuing education credits.

4C for Children (320 W. Vine St. Milwaukee, WI)
Call 414-562-2650 to register or register online at www.4c-milwaukee.org

- Child Abuse & Neglect: (\$17.00) 12/4/10 at 10:30 a.m. or 12/20/10 at 6:15 p.m.
- Sudden Infant Death: (\$17.00) 12/10/10 at 1:00 p.m.
- SBS: (\$17.00) 12/2/10 at 6:00 p.m. or 12/20/10 at 8:00 a.m.
- CPR: (\$60.00) 12/6/10 at 10:00 a.m. or 12/14/10 at 6:00 p.m.
- Environmental Rating Scale Overview: 12/4/10 at St. Luke's in Waukesha at 9:00 a.m. **FREE** or 12/21/10 at 4C at 6:15 p.m.
- Organizing Staff & Children's Records- 12/9/10 - 6:30 p.m. - \$5.00
- Communicating Policies to Parents - 12/13/10 - 6:00 p.m. - \$5.00
- Preparing For Taxes-Organize Your Records - 12/1/10 - 6:30 p.m. - \$5.00

Waukesha County Technical College (800 Main Street, Waukesha, WI)
Call 262-691-5259 to register

- Making Math & Literacy Fun: (\$9.30) 12/9/10 at 6:30 p.m.

Wisconsin Early Childhood Association

Go online to register at www.wisconsinearlychildhood.org

- Super Saturday Training Event: (\$65.00) 12/4/10 from 8:30 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. "Ain't Misbehaving, Just Savin All My Love For You"

Parents Place (1570 E. Moreland Blvd. Waukesha, WI)
Call 262-549-5987 to register for class series and for prices

- Anger in Relationships: 12/7/10 - 12/21/10 at 5:30 p.m.
- Positive Outlooks for Parents and Teens: 12/6/10 - 12/20/10 at 5:30 p.m.
- Calming the Explosive Volcano: 12/2/10-12/16/10 & 1/6/11-1/20/11 at 6:00 p.m.

Waukesha County Health & Human Services

(500 Riverview Ave. Waukesha, WI)
Be on the look for our full 2011 training calendar listed in the January 2011 issue.

Bassettbaby Recalls to Repair Drop-Side Cribs Due to Entrapment, Suffocation and Fall Hazards

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: Bassettbaby drop-side cribs with external plastic hardware
Units: About 90,000

Manufacturer: Bassett Furniture Industries, Inc., of Bassett, Va.

Hazard: The cribs' drop-side rail can malfunction, detach or otherwise fail, causing part of the drop side to detach from the crib. When a drop-side rail partially detaches, it creates a space between the drop-side and the crib mattress. An infant or toddler's body can become entrapped in the space, which can lead to strangulation and/or suffocation. A child also can fall out of the crib. Drop-side incidents also can occur due to incorrect assembly and age-related wear and tear.

Incidents/Injuries: The firm and CPSC are aware of 18 reported incidents in which drop-sides malfunctioned or detached from the crib. No injuries were reported. In one of the incidents a child became entrapped between the mattress and the drop-side. In three of the incidents children fell out of the cribs. The firm also has received 154 reports of drop-side hardware breaking during shipment, assembly or use.

Description: The recalled cribs are wood with a metal mattress support and have a drop side with external plastic hardware. The cribs were sold in a variety of finishes. A label is attached to the footboard or headboard with the names "Bassettbaby" or "Bassett Furniture Industries, Inc." as well as the model number, production date and other information. On some older models the manufacturer's name appears on a separate label.

Note: This recall does not include non drop-side cribs.

Sold at: Children's product stores, and other retailers nationwide and on-line from January 2000 through August 2010 for between about \$200 and \$500.

Manufactured in: China, Croatia, Slovenia, Taiwan and Vietnam

Remedy: Consumers should immediately stop using the recalled drop-side cribs and contact Bassettbaby for a free kit that will immobilize the drop side. In the meantime, parents are urged to find an alternate, safe sleeping environment for the child, such as a bassinet, play yard or toddler bed depending on the child's age.

Consumer Contact: For additional information, contact Bassettbaby at (800) 308-7485 between 10 a.m. and 6 p.m. ET, Monday through Friday, or visit the firm's website at www.bassettbaby.com

Important Message from CPSC: CPSC reminds parents not to use any crib with missing, broken or loose parts. Make sure to tighten hardware from time to time to keep the crib sturdy. When using a drop-side crib, parents should check to make sure the drop side or any other moving part operates smoothly. Always check all sides and corners of the crib for parts separating that can create a gap and entrap a child. In addition, do not try to repair any side of the crib. Babies have died in cribs where repairs were attempted by caregivers. Crib age is a factor in safety. At a minimum, CPSC staff recommends that you not use a crib that is older than 10 years. Many older cribs may not meet current voluntary standards and can have a variety of safety problems. Check if your crib has been recalled at www.cpsc.gov

Examples of Drop Side Cribs with External Plastic Hardware



Close-up of External Plastic Hardware



CERTIFIER CORNER: YoungStar Update

Check out the new memo listed on the DCF website (<http://dcf.wisconsin.gov>) entitled, "YoungStar Five Year Plan" which was submitted to Wisconsin's Joint Finance Committee on 11/22/10.



**Step2® Recalls Children's Transportation Station Toys
Due to Choking Hazard**

WASHINGTON, D.C. - The U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission and Health Canada, in cooperation with the firm named below, today announced a voluntary recall of the following consumer products. 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: Sand & Water Transportation Station Toys

Units: About 56,000 in the United States (7,700 in Canada)

Distributor: Step2 Company, of Streetsboro, Ohio

Hazard: The light blue plastic wheels on the train cars can detach, posing a choking hazard to young children.

Incidents/Injuries: None reported.

Description: The Step2® Sand & Water Transportation Station is a stand-alone play station for children ages two and up. The toy station consists of: a round blue plastic table, including train tracks, train cars in blue, red and yellow, toy sailboats and a hand rake/shovel. A red Step2 logo decal is on the side of the table. Train cars with grey wheels are not included in this recall.

Sold at: Target and other major retailers, specialty stores and by online retailers from December 2008 through June 2010 for between \$49 and \$59.

Manufactured in: United States

Remedy: Consumers should immediately take the train cars away from children and contact Step2 for free replacement cars.

Consumer Contact: For additional information, contact Step2 at (800) 347-8372 between 8 a.m. and 7 p.m. ET Monday through Friday or visit the firm's website at www.step2.com



**Fisher-Price Recalls Little People Wheelies Stand 'n Play
Rampway Due to Choking Hazard**

WASHINGTON, D.C. - The U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission and Health Canada, 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: Fisher-Price Little People Wheelies Stand 'n Play Rampway

Units: About 100,000 in the U.S. and 20,000 in Canada

Importer: Fisher-Price of East Aurora, N.Y.

Hazard: The wheels on the purple and the green cars can come off, posing a choking hazard to young children.

Incidents/Injuries: Fisher-Price has received two reports of a wheel detaching from a vehicle. No injuries have been reported.

Description: The recall involves Little People Wheelies Stand 'n Play Rampway with model numbers T4261 and V6378. They were sold with small cars that a child can push down winding ramps. Only the purple and the green cars that are marked "Mexico" and do not have a yellow dot on the bottom are included in the recall. The toy is intended for children 1 1/2 to 5 years of age.

Sold at: Mass merchandise stores nationwide from April 2010 through September 2010 for about \$45.

Manufactured in: Mexico

Remedy: Consumers should immediately take the affected purple and the green cars away from children and contact Fisher-Price for free replacement cars.

Consumer Contact: For additional information, contact Fisher-Price at (800) 432-5437 between 9 a.m. and 6 p.m. ET Monday through Friday or visit the firm's website at www.service.mattel.com



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Very Special Thanks to
Maureen Erb for designing
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Happy Holidays
from the Child Care Certification Staff