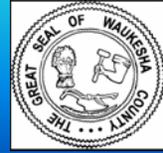


# Waukesha County Child Care Newsletter

May 2009

Thank You For Caring!



## bornlearning™

Children are born learning. They are constantly learning from birth on. Families and others who care for young children understand that the early years are important, but many are unsure how to encourage early learning prior to school or think they lack the time or talent to prepare their child for school.

**Born Learning Waukesha** is a campaign that provides parents, grandparents, caregivers and the community with specific, "doable" action steps that are fun and easy to do during daily life to promote early learning opportunities for young children.

United Way in Waukesha County is partnering with four organizations to help galvanize communities around early childhood issues. These organizations are:

- Center for Leadership Excellence (Head Start and Early Head Start)
- Lutheran Social Services (Birth to Three)
- Pregnancy Support Connection (formerly UP Connection)
- Prevention & Protection of Abused Children (PPAC)

**Born Learning Waukesha** is an initiative for long-lasting community change and is built on three cornerstones:

- **Awareness**-Providing important information to the community at large about the importance of early learning and how young children learn.
- **Education**-Research-based materials, many created by United Way America, will be distributed and explained to parents, grandparents, caregivers and professionals working with children. The materials include tools and tips to help make early learning fun and easy while taking advantage of everyday moments. Different strategies will be used to deliver the early learning/child development information and materials depending on the families' unique circumstances. These strategies include:
  - Introducing and providing information to families in a one-on-one setting such as during in-home visits or at parent/teacher conferences.
  - Distribute, explain and demonstrate materials to parents and caregivers during group presentations.
  - Train the Trainers presentations given to professionals who work with young children. They will in turn use the information with these children and share materials with families.
  - Lunch & Learn Sessions which will be provided at workplaces to distribute, explain and demonstrate materials to parents, grandparents and caregivers during their regular workday.

- **Action**-Mobilizing the community at large through engaging non-traditional partners such as businesses, churches, youth groups, service organizations, etc. and putting research driven educational and outreach material into their hands. The goal of this strategy is to inspire everyone in the community to do what is necessary to promote healthy childhood outcomes thus fostering long-lasting community change.

What if every child in Waukesha County had five years of education before kindergarten? Experts know that investing in a child's success early on is critical. Research shows the tangible results-adults with greater success in life, fewer involvements in crimes, higher incomes and higher education levels. Children are constantly learning right from birth. Their everyday experiences establish what they learn in the first five years. This is the greatest challenge – and the greatest opportunity. **Born Learning Waukesha** has been created to meet the challenge and create the opportunity.

- For information contact: **Barb Holtz**, Born Learning Coordinator (262) 549-5575 or [barb@ppacinc.org](mailto:barb@ppacinc.org) and check out the Born Learning America website: [www.bornlearning.org](http://www.bornlearning.org)

### May 8<sup>th</sup> is Provider Appreciation Day!

Apparently this day developed back in 1996 when a group of volunteers from New Jersey thought child care providers should be appreciated and recognized for their hard work. This special day is celebrated each year on the Friday before Mother's Day. It is celebrated by all 50 states including Canada, Europe and Asia.

According to the Center For The Child Care Workforce, 98% of the childcare provider workforce is female.

2.8 million individuals make a living by teaching or caring for children in the United States.

12 million children in care are under the age of five.

It is estimated that 90% of brain development occurs during the first 5 years of life, which is why it is so crucial that each children receive safe and nurturing care.

The above statistics were gathered from a national study conducted by the National Child Care Association.

### We would love to hear from you...

Please let us know if you have specific questions or concerns. We would like to start a provider question of the month, so please call or send an e-mail with your questions each month to Jennifer Mantei at [jmantei@waukeshacounty.gov](mailto:jmantei@waukeshacounty.gov) or (262) 548-7250.

## PLEASE REVIEW CHANGES TO THE CERTIFICATION RULE: (EFFECTIVE 6-1-08)

### **Training Requirements:**

There will be a change in the training requirements to become a Regularly Certified provider. Providers will be required to have either 2 credits of early childhood training or non-credit department-approved training. The 2 credit courses must be broad in approach, such as introductory child development, child psychology, or early childhood education courses. The non-credit courses *Introduction to the Child Care Profession (module A)* and *Fundamentals of Child Care* together will also meet the training requirement.

The county may choose to require that an applicant have a high school diploma or G.E.D.

### **Substitutes:**

A substitute is now anyone who is used on a pre-arranged or planned basis. Before it was just someone who was used, "on a regularly scheduled weekly basis."

Providers must notify the county if they are going to use a substitute. Before the substitute may be used, a background check must be completed. The substitute must obtain SIDS and Shaken Baby Syndrome (SBS) training.

The provider must keep track of the number of hours that substitutes are used.

Any substitute who has worked for more than 240 hours for a Regularly Certified Provider must also obtain the training required of Regularly Certified Providers (the 2 credit course or the *Introduction to the Child Care Profession (module A)* and *Fundamentals of Child Care* classes together).

### **Emergency Back-Up:**

Providers must have a designated adult who can provide assistance in the event of an unexpected emergency.

### **Supervision:**

The provider must be within sight or sound of the children. When the children are outside, the provider must be outside with the children and shall provide both sight and sound supervision at all times.

"Operator's own children" means a provider's natural, adopted, step, and foster children, and any children who reside in the provider's home. This now includes any children who reside in the home (ex: children of a boyfriend who lives in the home).

### **Reporting Changes:**

Providers shall report as soon as possible (but no later than the next working day) any changes that affect her eligibility for certification, including:

1. Death of a child in care or accident that results in an injury that requires professional medical treatment.
2. Any damage to the premises that may affect compliance with the rules.
3. Any construction or remodeling that may affect the health and safety of the children.
4. Convictions, pending charges, or other offenses of the provider, household member, or other people subject to a back-

ground check that could potentially relate to the care of children.

5. Any incident involving law enforcement, including outstanding warrant or child protection contact.
6. Any inappropriate discipline of a child by a provider, volunteer, or household member.
7. Changes in individuals living in the household.
8. Changes in hours of operation, phone number, or physical address.
9. Upon hiring of a new employee or volunteer, before the work commences, the person will need to have a background check and complete SIDS and SBS training BEFORE helping in the child care business.

### **Changes to the requirements for exiting the home:**

1. All exits shall be clear of obstruction.
2. Each floor used for child care shall have at least 2 exits.
3. The primary exit shall be a door or stairway providing unobstructed travel to the outside of the building at street/ground level.
4. The secondary exit shall be one of the following:
  - a. A door or stairway that provides unobstructed travel to the outside of the building at street/ground level.
  - b. A door or stairway leading to a platform or roof with railings which has an area of at least 25 square feet, is at least 4 feet long, and is not more than 15 feet above the ground.
  - c. A window not more than 46 inches above the floor that is capable of being opened from the inside without the use of tool or removal of a sash and which has a window opening size of at least 20 inches wide and 24 inches high.

### **If care is provided in the basement, all of the following apply:**

- a. The primary exit shall be a door or stairway that provides unobstructed travel to the outside of the building at street/ground level.
- b. The secondary exit shall be a door or stairway that provides unobstructed travel or a window not more than 46 inches above the floor that is capable of being opened from the inside without the use of tool or removal of a sash and which has a window opening size of at least 20 inches wide and 24 inches high. The window shall open directly to the ground or to a window well that is at least 6 square feet and is not more than 46 inches below the ground.

### **Carbon Monoxide Detector:**

Homes will now have to have a working carbon monoxide detector.

### **Heating/Cooling:**

All areas used for child care shall have adequate and safe heat, light, and ventilation, including the following:

1. The inside temperature may not be less than 67 degrees.
2. If the inside temperature exceeds 80 degrees, a provider shall provide for air circulation with safe fans or other means.

### **Recalls:**

The home shall be free of hazards including recalled products (to check on products, go to <http://datcp.state.wi.us/core/consumerprotection/consumerprotection.jsp> or [www.cpsc.gov](http://www.cpsc.gov)

or 1-800-638-2772).

**Lead Paint:**

The premises may not have any chipping, peeling, or deteriorating paint on exterior or interior surfaces in areas accessible for children.

**Bathrooms:**

The following items may not be stored in a bathroom that is used by children in care:

1. Medications and drugs
2. Cleaning supplies, poisons, and insecticides.
3. Guns, ammunition, knives, scissors, and sharp objects.
4. Matches, cigarette lighters, and flammable liquids.
5. Plastic bags.
6. Litter and rubbish.

They may only be allowed in the bathroom if they are **completely inaccessible**. They must be kept in a cabinet with a key lock, and the key must be stored in a different room.

**Appliances:**

Appliances for food preparation, serving, and clean-up must be kept clean, sanitary, and in good working order.

**Home Inspections:**

The County will inspect the premises where child care will be provided, **including** areas that will not be used for child care.

**Contracts with Parents:**

Providers shall develop a written contract that specifies the charge for child care and the frequency of payment. The contract will be signed by the parent and the provider.

**Daily Activities:**

The provider shall offer daily activities both indoors and outdoors, except that outdoor activities are not required during inclement weather or when not advisable for health reasons. Inclement weather means stormy or severe weather, including any of the following:

- a. Heavy rain.
- b. Temperatures above 90 degrees.
- c. Wind chills of 0 degrees or below for children age 2 and above.
- d. Wind chills of 20 degrees or below for children under age 2.

Providers shall offer at least 15 minutes of reading to the children daily.

**Equipment:**

Large, inflatable jumping toys may not be used during hours of child care.

Equipment shall be scaled to the size and developmental level of the children.

Equipment shall be constructed in a sturdy manner and be in good operating condition with no sharp, rough, loose, or pointed edges.

Indoor play equipment shall be provided to allow each child a choice of at least 3 activities when all the children are using the equipment.

Outdoor play equipment shall be provided to allow each child at least one activity when all the children are using the equipment

**Transportation:**

When transporting children, the provider shall have a copy of the driver's license on file.

The rules were updated to reflect the changes in the car seat rules (from 2005).

**Communicable Diseases:**

If any child (including the provider's child) has a reportable communicable disease that is transmitted through normal contact (such as chicken pox, German measles, infectious hepatitis, measles, mumps, scarlet fever, or meningitis), the provider shall notify the public health department (896-8430) and the parents of all the children. The child may not be in care unless they have a statement from the doctor that the child is no longer contagious or the child has been absent for a period of time equal to the longest usual incubation period for the disease as specified by the department of health and family services.

**TB Test:**

A TB test will now be required at the time of initial certification and at recertification.

**Providers must be "fit and qualified."** This means displaying the capacity to successfully nurture and care for children and includes consideration of any of the following:

1. Abuse of alcohol or drugs.
2. A history of a civil or criminal conviction or administrative rule violation that substantially relates to caring for children.
3. Exercise of unsound judgment.
4. A history of civil or criminal offenses or any other actions that demonstrate an inability to manage the activities of a child care program.

**Physical/Mental Health:**

The county may require an evaluation and written statement by a physician or licensed mental health professional of any person associated with the care of children or any household resident if there is reason to believe the person's physical or mental health may endanger children in care. If there is reasonable concern about the person's physical or mental health we may revoke, suspend, or deny certification.

**Correction Plans:**

If a provider violates the certification rules, the County will require her to submit correction plan in writing and can impose any or all of the following sanctions:

1. Forbid enrolling any new children until all violations have been corrected.
2. Issue a warning of revocation in writing.
3. Suspend certification for up to 60 days.



# KEEP YOUR BABY SAFE.



## A Checklist for Safe Sleeping for Your Baby:

- ✓ Crib, Bassinet, or Play yard has not been recalled by CPSC (visit [cpsc.gov](http://cpsc.gov)).
- ✓ Soft Bedding (pillows, thick comforters) has been removed.
- ✓ There are no loose or missing parts/slats.
- ✓ Infant is placed to sleep on his/her back.
- ✓ Firm, tight-fitting mattress.
- ✓ Has all proper hardware, tightly secured and no loose connections.

For more crib safety and safe sleeping tips, go to CPSC's website at [www.cpsc.gov/cribs.html](http://www.cpsc.gov/cribs.html), and Keeping Babies Safe website at [www.keepingbabiesafe.org](http://www.keepingbabiesafe.org).

**Keeping Babies Safe**

1-877-777-7523 (toll-free)



**U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission**

CPSC hotline: 800-638-2772  
and 800-638-8270 (TTY)



Sign up to receive free NSN safety alerts and posters at

**[www.cpsc.gov](http://www.cpsc.gov)**

# Arts & Crafts Corner



## Pretty Summer Flowers

Bring a colorful bit of summer inside anytime with this miniature planter. This project will grow on you! It makes a great gift, too.

1. Wash and dry a recycled plastic container. Fill the bottom with a ball of aluminum foil. Cover the foil with Crayola® Model Magic®.
2. Create a big ball of green Model Magic by mixing together blue and yellow.
3. Form large leaves. Press them onto the base.
4. Add a small amount of yellow or blue Model Magic to the remaining green. Create a few more, smaller leaves. Continue changing the green color until the planter is full of leaves.
5. Create flowers for your planter, using other colors of modeling compound. Attach flowers to the leaves. Air-dry your planter overnight.
6. Add details with Crayola Gel Markers.

**Adult supervision** is required for any arts & crafts project.



## SPOTLIGHT ON A PROVIDER:

Rhonda Edgeron is the featured spotlight provider for the month of May. Rhonda is certified at the regular level and has been caring for day care children since 2001. The day care field seems to be a family-run business for Rhonda, as her mother is a certified day care provider for Waukesha County and her aunt runs a day care center in Milwaukee.



Rhonda lives in Pewaukee and has three children of her own. Besides raising a family and running a day care business, Rhonda also works at Marshall's in Delafield. Rhonda has a true passion for travel, sewing and decorating homes.

Rhonda markets her day care by soliciting her business to local libraries, churches and schools. Rhonda feels organization is a key factor when running a business out of your home. When asked to offer a piece of advice to new day care providers, Rhonda mentioned providers need to be flexible in order to develop positive working relationships with the children and the parents. Rhonda also offered another piece of advice that providers should not let life be too rigid when running a day care business. Although children need rules, routines and structure they also need to be loved. Rhonda currently has an opening at her day care and is looking to enroll new families for the upcoming summer months.

We received the following letter from Heidi Rumpel and would like to share with you her statements regarding Rhonda.

Rhonda Edgeron is a wonderful child day care provider who is very patient, kind, understanding, and loving. Rhonda is a very hard worker and she truly loves her family. I find Rhonda to be honest, loyal and considerate of others. She is a good communicator and very responsible individual. I admire and respect her for the very good child day care she provides to my children. Rhonda is a bright, well-balanced, and stable person with an abundance of positive qualities. She is a very dependable, trust-worthy, caring, nurturing, giving and loving person. Rhonda is a very passionate person whether it has to do with her work, her friends or her family.

Rhonda is also a faithful Christian. She regularly attends church and participates in numerous church activities. I know she has a very strong relationship with the Lord and know it's important for her to pass on these beliefs and values to her own children. She is an excellent role model for her children and mine, demonstrating unyielding integrity, morals, love and faithfulness.

I offer my unconditional recommendation for Rhonda Edgeron to be recertified by your agency as a provider of child day care. Please don't hesitate to call me with any questions.

## RECALLS:

### Toy Maracas Recalled by Tupperware U.S. Due to Choking and Suffocation 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.

**Name of Product:** Shape-O Toy Maracas

**Units:** About 44,000

**Importer:** Tupperware U.S. Inc., of Orlando, Fla.

**Hazard:** The maracas can break and expose small parts, posing a choking hazard to young children. In addition, the handle poses a suffocation hazard to young children.

**Incidents/Injuries:** Tupperware has received two reports of maracas breaking. No injuries have been reported.

**Description:** This recall involves blue and red toy maracas with yellow handles. The maracas were used by Tupperware representatives during sales presentations. Cut-outs in the shape of stars, squares and other geometric figures are located inside the maraca.

**Sold by:** Tupperware's Holiday 2007 and Spring 2008 product catalogs from September 2007 through April 2008 for between \$5.50 and \$11.

**Manufactured in:** China

**Remedy:** Consumers and Tupperware sales consultants should immediately stop using the maracas and return them to Tupperware for a refund or gift certificate. Maraca return forms can be accessed at [www.tupperware.com](http://www.tupperware.com)

**Consumer Contact:** For additional information, contact Tupperware at (888) 887-9273 between 8:30 a.m. and 9 p.m. ET Monday through Friday, or visit the firm's Web site at [www.tupperware.com](http://www.tupperware.com)



## RECALLS:

### **“CARS” Children’s Shoes Sold Exclusively at Wal-Mart Recalled by Pagoda International Footwear Ltd. 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.

**Name of product:** CARS Fleece Clog Children’s Shoes

**Units:** About 73,000 distributed in the United States and 18,000 distributed in Canada

**Importer:** Wal-Mart Stores Inc., of Bentonville, Ark.

**Distributor:** Pagoda International Footwear Ltd., of Hong Kong

**Hazard:** The shoe has four decorative wheels that can detach, posing a choking hazard to young children.

**Incidents/Injuries:** The firm has received one report of a decorative wheel detaching from the shoe. No injuries have been reported.

**Description:** This recall involves the Buster Brown & Co. “CARS” fleece clog children’s shoes. The shoe is a red plastic molded clog with fleece lining and is designed to resemble a car. They were sold in infant sizes 4 to 6 and toddler sizes 7 to 11. The infant-size shoes have a strap in the back. Each side of the shoe has two red and black decorative wheels and the number “95”. “Buster Brown & Co.” and “Disney” are printed on a tag sewn inside the shoe.

**Sold exclusively at:** Wal-Mart stores in the United States and Canada from September 2008 through March 2009 for between \$6 and \$10 (U.S.) and for about \$13 (CAN).

**Manufactured in:** China

**Remedy:** Customers should immediately take this product away from children and return it to the nearest Wal-Mart store for a full refund.



### **Simplicity Play Yards Recalled by Various Retailers Due to Fall and Entrapment 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.

**Name of Product:** Travel Tender Play Yards

**Units:** About 25,000

**Importer:** Simplicity, Inc. and SFCA, Inc., of Reading, Pa. (The firms appear to no longer conduct day to day operations)

**Hazard:** One or more rails can collapse unexpectedly, posing a fall or entrapment hazard to young children.

**Incidents/Injuries:** CPSC is aware of at least five reports of one or more rails collapsing. No injuries have been reported.

**Description:** The recalled play yards are portable and were sold with a bassinet, changing table and mobile features. The play yards bear the “Simplicity” logo. The model numbers are 5500DRM, 5500WDS, 5500FEL, 5501FEL, 5502MON, 5520PRO, 5550HAN, 5700MAN, and 5750MIR. The model number is located on a sticker on one of the legs underneath the play yard.

**Sold at:** Burlington Coat Factory stores nationwide and online at Babiesrus.com, Target.com and Kohls.com from March 2005 through January 2009 for about \$100.

**Manufactured in:** China

**Remedy:** Consumers should immediately stop using the play yards and return them to the place of purchase for a refund or replacement product.

**Consumer Contact:** For additional information, contact the following retailers:

- Burlington Coat Factory, of Burlington, N.J. Call toll-free at (888) 223-2628 between 8:30 a.m. and 6 p.m. ET Monday through Friday.
- Babies R Us, of Wayne, N.J. Call (800) 869-7787 between 9 a.m. and 9 p.m. Monday through Saturday and between 10 a.m. and 7 p.m. Sunday ET or visit the firm’s Web site at [www.babiesrus.com](http://www.babiesrus.com)
- Target, of Minneapolis, Minn. Call (800) 440-0680 between 7 a.m. and 6 p.m. CT Monday through Friday or visit the firm’s Web site at [www.target.com](http://www.target.com)
- Kohl’s Department Stores, of Menomonee Falls, Wis. Call toll-free at (866) 887-8884 between 7a.m. and 3 p.m. CT Monday through Friday or visit the firm’s Web site at [www.kohls.com](http://www.kohls.com)



## Important Phone Numbers:

### **Child Day Care Certification Staff**

Jennifer Mantei, Social Worker  
[jmantei@waukeshacounty.gov](mailto:jmantei@waukeshacounty.gov)  
262-548-7250

Karen Narlow, Day Care Coordinator  
[knarlow@waukeshacounty.gov](mailto:knarlow@waukeshacounty.gov)  
262-970-4795

Hello! My name is Karen Narlow. I started working in Day Care Certification on 4/9/09. I have been in the early childhood field for almost 20 years. During these years I owned and operated a licensed childcare facility called Karen Kares Home Family Child Care. I also participated in local and state childcare associations in various capacities. I closed my home family childcare in October of 2008 in order to pursue teaching pre certification and licensing classes for Community Coordinated Child Care in Milwaukee on a more regular basis. I am continuing to teach as well as work with Jennifer in Day Care Certification. My family consists of my husband, Jeff; son, Joshua (19) and daughter Jessica (16). We also have a dog, Arnie; cat, Harry and parakeet, Jabber. Between work and family I keep myself busy but still find the occasional quiet hour to read my Nora Roberts novels or watch my football games or NASCAR races. I am looking forward to meeting and working with you.

Kathy Mullooly, Supervisor  
[kmullooly@waukeshacounty.gov](mailto:kmullooly@waukeshacounty.gov)  
262-896-6832

### **Workforce Development Center**

Jennifer Homp, Child Care Specialist  
262-695-7962

Very Special Thanks to  
Maureen Erb for designing  
and producing our newsletter.

