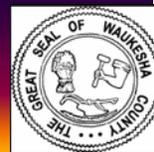


# Waukesha County Child Care Newsletter

## October 2010

Thank You For Caring



## Arts & Crafts Corner

[www.crafts.kaboose.com](http://www.crafts.kaboose.com)

### Acorn Picture Frame

#### What you'll need:

- Acorn tops, enough to cover your frame, we used 59
- White craft glue
- Wooden frame



#### How to make it:

1. Gather acorn tops that have fallen from the trees. Place acorn tops in a bowl of water to soak. Use a toothbrush and a little baking soda to clean them off if you wish. Rinse, drain, and pat dry with a towel.
2. Place the acorn tops on a cookie sheet and have an adult bake them in a preheated 225 degree F oven for about 40 minutes. This should kill any remaining insects that may be hiding and will also dry the acorn tops. Remove from oven and let cool on a paper plate in a single layer.
3. Apply a generous amount of glue to one section of the frame at a time. Cover with acorn tops, hanging the ends of the acorns over the edges of the frame if needed to fit.
4. Once the frame is completely covered, fill in all the gaps between the acorns with craft glue. Let dry overnight.

### Milk Container Pumpkin

#### What you'll need:

- Plastic gallon milk container with lid
- Pen or pencil
- Craft knife or scissors
- 1 bottle orange acrylic enamel or gloss paint
- Sponge brush applicator
- Hot glue gun
- Flickering tea light (battery operated)
- Brown felt



#### How to make it:

1. Lightly draw a jack-o'-lantern face on the front of the milk container.
2. Cut out features with scissors or a craft knife. Cut a flap in the back of the pumpkin, big enough that you can fit a sandwich bag full of sand or a handful of rocks in to weigh it down.
3. Paint the container with three coats of orange paint. Allow it to dry between coats.
4. Holding the flickering tea light upside down, place it inside the mouth of the milk container. (You may need to trim down the opening until the tea light is able to fit inside.) Once you've sized the mouth, remove the tea light and set it aside.
5. Cut out a rectangle from the brown felt big enough to fit around the mouth of the milk container. Use hot glue to line the inside of the area, then fold the excess down felt around the outside of the mouth and glue in place. The tea light should fit snugly inside and be pointing downward. (Do not glue down the tea light – you should be able to remove and replace it when the battery dies.)
6. Insert rocks or a small bag of sand into the back flap of the pumpkin for weight. Place pumpkin on the porch and when night falls, turn on the flickering tea light!



### Paper Bag Pumpkin Craft

#### What you'll need:

- 1 brown paper lunch bag
- Acrylic paint: orange and leaf green
- Paintbrush
- ¼ sheet brown construction paper
- 6- 12" pieces of green raffia
- Scissors



#### How to make it:

1. Paint the outside of the lunch bag with orange paint.
2. Paint the inside, top portion of the bag with leaf green paint.
3. Paint a second coat of orange paint on the bag, only this time, paint the top outside portion with the leaf green-colored paint.
4. When paint is completely dry, fringe the green section of the bag with your scissors, strips should be approximately ½" – 1" wide.
5. Fill bag with crumpled newspaper (if using as a decoration) or candy and treats.
6. Gather top of bag with your hand and tie a piece of raffia around it, just below the green section.
7. Continue tying pieces of green raffia around the neck of the bag until all of it has been used.
8. Cut a 1.5" wide strip of brown construction paper and roll up into a tube. Insert the tube of paper into the center of the green portion of the bag as the stem. If these bags are used as decoration, you can glue the stem in place.

## Nutritious Nibbles: Fall Snacks



[www.perpetualpreschool.com](http://www.perpetualpreschool.com)

### Witches Broomstick

#### What You Need:

- String cheese
- pretzel rod
- licorice

#### How to make:

Pull apart string cheese and press on to the end of the pretzel rod. Tie the licorice around the top of the pretzel rod to look like a broom.



### Jack-O-Lanterns

#### What You Need:

- Cream cheese
- English muffin
- Raisins
- Orange food coloring

#### How to Make:

Mix the orange food coloring into the cream cheese. Spread cream cheese onto muffin. Allow the children to make jack-o-lantern face out of raisins.



## SAVE THE DATE Child Care Provider Recognition Event

- **October 5, 2010**  
Child Care Provider Recognition Event 5:00-8:00 p.m.  
Head Start Building, Center for Excellence – Bluemound Road
- **October 13, 2010**  
**MANDATORY TRAINING - ALL PROVIDERS!** Record Keeping  
6:30 to 8:30 p.m.  
Workforce Development Center, 892 Main St., Pewaukee Room  
108 & 110
- **October 30, 2010 - 9:00 AM to Noon**  
SCAN-MART (Suspected Child Abuse/Neglect Mandated Reporter Training)  
Head Start Building, Center for Excellence – Bluemound Road

## 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](mailto:jmantei@waukeshacounty.gov) or Karen Narlow at 970-4795 [knarlow@waukeshacounty.gov](mailto: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: Tough Talks with Parents

"When teachers and providers have concerns about the children in their care, it can be challenging to talk with parents. But establishing supportive relationships with parents and families helps resolve problems and makes difficult conversations easier.

"When parents feel accepted and safe, they will be able to share their concerns with us and they will be able to hear our concerns for their child," says Laurie Prusso, a child development teacher who now works with the Stanislaus Children and Families Commission. "A teacher's worst nightmare is needing to talk with parents about a problem before [the teacher has] established a relationship with those parents. If we do not have trusting relationships with them, they will feel attacked." Early childhood educators share how they help forge a solid line of communication between parents and teachers.

### **Regular communication builds trust**

Jennifer Ryan remembers being concerned that Alicia, a toddler in her program, might have a developmental disorder. Alicia's parents "were in complete denial," she says—"but they trusted us [because] we checked in with them every day about how their child was doing. They knew we had the child's best interests at heart."

During the daily check-ins with Alicia's parents, "I would often have some great story [about] an activity that she really enjoyed, an interaction she had," says Ryan, now a Child Development Program Trainer with North County Community Services in San Diego. Ryan also told the parents how, after the teachers traced the children's bodies in chalk on the wall, Alicia formed her body into each chalk outline—and that the repetitive behavior and intricate task can be a sign of autism.

Teachers met with the parents several times over two years. Finally, a teacher suggested, "Why don't you just have her evaluated [for special needs]? If there's nothing there, we know for sure. But if [she has special needs], we will know what we can do in the classroom to help support her better," recalls Ryan.

The parents had Alicia evaluated—she was diagnosed on the autism spectrum and also with a development disorder. The school district helped

the family set up an Individual Education Plan. "Now we can all help support her together," says Ryan.

### **Caring relationship helps end abusive situation**

When Director Pauahi McGinn suspected that Nick, a child in her program at the San Bruno Parks School District, was being abused at home, she talked with his mother. The conversation "was really tough...because people are not going to like you for what you do or say," she says. She remembers forcing herself to hold her head up high and remain strong for Nick. "Because we had a good relationship with the mother and the extended family, we were able to address the issue in a caring manner and get the child in a safe environment."

After McGinn spotted suspicious bruises on Nick, she reported the incident to the authorities and told Nick's mom that she suspected the bruises were from physical abuse. Then Nick came in with an injury that looked like he'd been punched in the head. McGinn reported the incident and had a much longer conversation with his mom, who admitted Nick's father had been abusing him.

McGinn connected Nick's mom with resources, including counselors for Nick and his mother and help for the father. McGinn sat through the initial counseling sessions and helped them focus on safe housing for Nick that his mom could rely on—Nick went to live with relatives until the father got help and the parents separated.

### **Teamwork resolves hitting problem**

"We had a situation where a child was prone to outbursts that included hitting other children," recalls Karen Pratt, a preschool teacher at Trinity Presbyterian Nursery School in San Carlos. Martin would run up, hit another child, and then run away. Other parents were frustrated, some wanted Martin to leave the program. Pratt had a good relationship with Martin's mom, who also volunteered at the program—this "made dealing with this situation a lot easier," she says.

Pratt talked with the mom about Martin's behavior, saying "we needed to work together to help him learn a better way to communicate with his friends." At first the mom laughed it off as a "little-kid thing." But Pratt told her other parents were concerned and that they wanted to keep the other kids safe—and reassured the mom that "we were here to help her," she says.

"It was difficult to talk with the mother because we had to make sure she understood the severity of the [hitting]," says Pratt, "[but also] that we loved her child and wanted to help make him happier."

Pratt, the mom, and the program director met several times about strategies that could be used at school and at home. They worked with Martin on identifying his feelings and using words rather than hands. Soon he stopped hitting."

**(Excerpt taken from the Children's Advocate published by the Action Alliance for Children, Summer 2010 issue, article Teacher's Tackle Tough Topics with Parents written by Aimnee Lewis Strain ; Website: <http://www.4children.org>)**

## CERTIFIER CORNER: Born Learning

**Born Learning:** 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. **Born Learning Waukesha** has been created to meet the challenge and create the opportunity. For more information, please contact **Barb Holtz**, Born Learning Coordinator at (262) 549-5575 or [barb@ppacinc.org](mailto:barb@ppacinc.org). Check out the Born Learning America website at [www.bornlearning.org](http://www.bornlearning.org)

The Born Learning Trail promotes fun and games which are important components of early childhood learning. It helps parents, caregivers and communities create quality early learning opportunities for young children.

- This interactive trail contains signs with instructions for simple games that an adult can play with young children to turn a trip at the park into fun learning moments. Activities include: "Pretend to move like an animal. Walk like a duck or jump like a frog" and "Is your child staring or pointing at something? Ask, 'what do you see?'"
- Stop! Learn! Play! Encourages parents and caregivers to follow the child's lead, building the child's curiosity and confidence, and reinforcing the learning already under way.
- **Born Learning Trail** at Heyer Park—1209 Heyer Drive, Waukesha  
Parking available on street - A great field trip opportunity!

## Professional Development, Networking & Training Corner:

BE SURE TO SAVE THE DATES FOR THESE UPCOMING TRAININGS!

- **Waukesha County Health & Human Services: Certified Child Care Trainings**  
**Provider Gathering: "Let's Do a Rule Review!"** November 8<sup>th</sup> from 6:30 – 8:00 p.m. DHHS, 500 Riverview Ave. Waukesha, WI 53188
- **4C for Children**, 320 W. Vine St. Milwaukee, WI  
Call (414) 562-2650 to register or go online at [www.4c-milwaukee.org](http://www.4c-milwaukee.org)
  - SIDS (Sudden Infant Death)**: Oct. 6<sup>th</sup> at 6:30 p.m. Cost is \$17
  - SBS (Shaken Baby Syndrome)**: Oct. 2<sup>nd</sup> at 11:00 a.m. or Oct. 28<sup>th</sup> at 6:30 p.m. Cost is \$17
  - Child Abuse and Neglect**: Oct. 2<sup>nd</sup> at 8:30 a.m. or Oct. 26<sup>th</sup> at 6:30 p.m. Cost is \$17
  - CPR**: Oct. 5<sup>th</sup> at 10:00 a.m., Oct. 23<sup>rd</sup> at 10:00 a.m. or Oct. 27<sup>th</sup> at 6:00 p.m. Cost is \$60
  - Info. On The Environmental Rating Scale**: Oct. 8<sup>th</sup> at 9:00 a.m. or Oct. 30<sup>th</sup> at 9:00 a.m.
  - Child Attendance & Tracking Procedures**: Oct. 25<sup>th</sup> at 6:30 p.m.
  - Preparing for Taxes & Organizing Records**: Oct. 4<sup>th</sup> at 6:30 p.m. (Karen Narlow is the presenter)
  - Communicating Policies to Parents**: Oct. 28<sup>th</sup> at 6:30 p.m. (Karen Narlow is the presenter)
- **Waukesha County Technical College (WCTC)**, 800 Main Street, Waukesha, WI  
Call (262) 691-5259 to register for this course
  - Serve This... Not That**: Oct. 9<sup>th</sup>
  - Ways to Stretch Children's Literature in the Classroom**: Oct. 21<sup>st</sup>
  - YoungStar – Business Administration Scale Training**: Oct. 9<sup>th</sup> from 9 AM to Noon - Free - Call to Register (414)562-2650
- **Wisconsin Early Childhood Association**  
Registration form found at [www.weca.naeyc.org](http://www.weca.naeyc.org) or call Pattie Godsell (414) 278-9322 ext. 2011 to register for this course. Cost is \$20
  - Health & Wellness Quality Indicator Session**: Oct. 16<sup>th</sup> from 8:00-3:30 p.m. Waukesha Public LibraryCall (414) 278-9322 ext. 2006 to register for this course or go online at [www.wisconsinearlychildhood.org](http://www.wisconsinearlychildhood.org) Cost is \$55 for members or \$65 for non-members
  - Milwaukee Super Saturday! "Ain't Misbehaving- Just Saving all my Love for You"**: Oct 9<sup>th</sup> from 8:30- 3:00 pm Milwaukee Public Library Centennial Hall, 733 N. Eighth St. Milwaukee, WI  
More information at [www.wecanaeyc.org](http://www.wecanaeyc.org)
  - Wisconsin Early Childhood Association Conference**: Nov 11-13<sup>th</sup> Middleton, WI
- **Parents Place**, 1570 E. Moreland Blvd., Waukesha, WI  
Call: (262) 549-5987 to register and inquire about class price
  - Kids Managing Anger**: October 4-25 – 5:30 to 7:00 p.m.
  - Co-Creative Discipline, Teaching Children to Cooperate**: October 4-25 from 6:00 – 7:30 p.m.
  - Born Learning Class**: October 7 and 21 from 5:30 to 7:00 p.m.
  - Love & Logic**: October 5-November 2 from 6:00 to 7:30 p.m.

**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.

## HOT TOPICS: Guidance Tips (Series of 3 Articles)

Children need guidance for several reasons including developing social awareness and learning how to interact effectively with others; developing self-esteem and self-control; growing physically and emotionally healthy, and feeling safe.

Behavior is what we can see children do; what we hear children say and how we see children react to situations. Children behave to feel good because they like the positive feedback and attention from the adults in their lives. Children misbehave in reaction to a past or present hurt, anger or fear. Our responses to children's behavior include stopping inappropriate behavior if there is a threat of danger to the child or others; changing the behavior by giving the child something else to replace it or shadowing the child who is behaving inappropriately so we can intervene before the behavior begins to escalate in a situation.

What is acceptable behavior? Acceptable behavior is based on the individual child and knowing about child growth and development. It is having realistic expectations of behavior based on the child's age and skill level. For example, infants do not need any guidance or discipline. Time-outs are not used for children under the age of three; instead redirection, distraction and substitution can be used. Older children may be easily disappointed or get side tracked so obedience problems may occur. Small rewards after completion of chore or direction or having just a few rules with consequences or rewards often work well with older children.

There are a lot of things that can influence a child's behavior. Parents and families can influence a child's behavior through cultural behaviors or expectations or through the relationship that they have with the child. The natural environment can influence children's behavior. How do you feel when you can't go outside for several days in a row because it's raining or too cold? Events such as celebrations, vacations or weekends can influence a child's behavior. They are excited before the event and may be tired or crabby afterwards. Health and physical factors may influence a child's behavior. They may have a hearing problem or their emotional needs are not being met. How do you feel if you are sick? The physical environment may influence a child's behavior. There may be too many or too few materials available or not enough or too much space. Caregiver's interactions, expectations, attitude or relationship with the child may influence the child's behavior.

Remember that guidance is individualized so one has to take into account the developmental level of a child. What works for one child will not work for all children and what works once may not work again. You need to have a lot of techniques to use as a child care provider. Watch for next month's article, "Direct and Indirect Guidance Techniques."

–Karen Narlow

## SPOTLIGHT ON A PROVIDER Rachel Green

Rachel Green is one of newest certified child care providers in Waukesha and owner of Faith, Trust and Pixie Dust. She was certified in May of this year. Rachel attended Carroll University where she met her husband. They have been married for seven years and earlier this year had a baby girl, Afton Elizabeth. Her husband is the Varsity wrestling coach at Waukesha South High School and Rachel goes to a lot of the meets and is the official score keeper at the home meets. She also enjoys playing volleyball, reading and writing, with the hope of being published.

The origin of her child care's name stems from Rachel's belief in fairies and being a Disney fan. Currently Rachel has two part-time and two full-time children in her care with ages ranging from seven months to three and a half years old. Child care was the perfect option for Rachel once her daughter was born because she has always loved children. She enjoys the fun and interesting things the children tell her everyday as there is always some new story or something to laugh about, even after a long day.

Rachel's advice to other child care providers is to find a friend who is also involved in the business of child care. There are so many rules and regulations so it is good to know there is someone else trying to keep up with everything and they are able to remind you of the rules. This type of friend is also good to have on those days when the child care business and the day care children are challenging. Rachel also feels it is nice to have someone to call who can understand what you are going through. Rachel would like to thank Amy Kreitzer for all her help!

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

### Magnetic Maze Boards Recalled by Lakeshore Learning Materials Due to Choking, Intestinal and Aspiration 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:** Magnetic maze boards

**Units:** About 18,500

**Manufacturer:** Lakeshore Learning Materials, of Carson, Calif.

**Hazard:** The magnetic maze board's plastic wand can separate and expose a magnet that can be a choking hazard to children. Also, if a child has more than one of these toys and the magnets detach and are swallowed, the magnets can attract each other and cause intestinal perforations or blockages, which can be fatal.

**Incidents/Injuries:** Lakeshore has received ten reports of wands separating and magnets detaching. No injuries have been reported.

**Description:** This recall involves wooden magnetic maze boards. The wooden boards have a clear plastic sheet that covers small wooden or plastic pieces located inside a maze. A plastic wand containing a magnet in its tip is attached to the board by a cord. The wand is used to move items inside the maze. The top of the board reads: "Who's Hiding in the Garden?," "Who's Hiding in the Ocean?," "Magnetic Counting Maze," "Magnetic Alphabet Board" or "My Community Magnetic Board."

**Sold by:** Lakeshore Learning Materials stores nationwide, its catalogs and online at [www.lakeshorelearning.com](http://www.lakeshorelearning.com) from January 2009 through May 2010 singly or in sets for between \$30 and \$40.

**Manufactured in:** China

**Remedy:** Consumers should immediately take this toy away from children and contact Lakeshore to receive a free replacement product.

**Consumer Contact:** For additional information, contact Lakeshore Learning Materials at (800) 428-4414 between 8 a.m. and 5 p.m. PT Monday through Friday, or visit the company's website at [www.lakeshorelearning.com](http://www.lakeshorelearning.com)



### Williams-Sonoma Recalls Baby Bottle Warmers Due to Burn Hazard

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:** Beaba Express Steam Bottle Warmers

**Units:** About 11,000

**Importer:** Williams-Sonoma Inc., of San Francisco, Calif.

**Hazard:** The bottle warmers can overheat liquids and baby food, posing a burn hazard to adults and babies.

**Incidents/Injuries:** The firm has received 10 reports of the bottles overheating, including one report of an adult who received a finger burn from touching a hot bottle.

**Description:** This recall involves the Beaba Express Steam Bottle Warmer which uses steam to heat baby bottles or baby food. The bottle warmer is green with an orange temperature dial. "Beaba" is printed on the base and model number 9602 is printed on the underside of the warmer.

**Sold at:** Williams-Sonoma stores nationwide, online at [www.williams-sonoma.com](http://www.williams-sonoma.com) and through Williams-Sonoma catalogs from June 2010 through July 2010 for about \$65.

**Manufactured in:** China

**Remedy:** Consumers should immediately stop using the recalled bottle warmers and call Williams-Sonoma for instructions on how to return the product for a full refund. Additionally, consumers who return the bottle warmers will receive a \$25 Williams-Sonoma merchandise card.

**Consumer Contact:** For additional information, contact Williams-Sonoma toll-free at (877) 548-0850 between 4 a.m. and 9 p.m. PT seven days a week or visit the firm's website at [www.williams-sonoma.com](http://www.williams-sonoma.com)



### Giant Starbuilders and Giant Stars Building Sets Recalled by Edushape Due to Choking Hazard

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:** Giant Starbuilder and Giant Stars building sets

**Units:** About 13,500

**Distributor:** Edushape Ltd., of Deer Park, N.Y.

**Hazard:** Plastic knobs can break from the center of the star, posing a choking hazard to young children.

**Incidents/Injuries:** CPSC and Edushape have received three reports of knobs breaking off from the center of the star. No injuries have been reported.

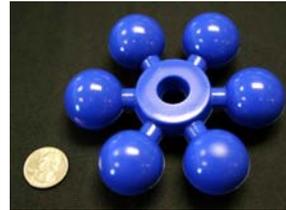
**Description:** This recall involves all Giant Starbuilders and Giant Stars building sets. The giant stars measure 5-inches in diameter and are made of opaque plastic. Each star has six knobs protruding from a ring-shaped center. The Giant Starbuilder set contains red, green, yellow and blue stars. The Giant Star building set contains red, green, yellow, blue, orange and pink stars.

**Sold at:** Small retail stores nationwide and online at Target.com, Toys R Us.com, Amazon.com and CSN through Walmart Marketplace from January 2007 through May 2010 for between \$25 and \$35.

**Manufactured in:** China

**Remedy:** Consumers should immediately take the recalled star blocks away from children and contact Edushape for a replacement set or credit towards another Edushape product of equal or lesser value.

**Consumer Contact:** For additional information, contact Edushape at (800) 404-4744 between 9:00 a.m. and 4:00 p.m. ET Monday through Friday, or visit the firm's website at [www.edushape.com](http://www.edushape.com)



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

