

Waukesha County Child Care Newsletter

February 2012

Thank You For Caring!



Arts & Crafts Corner

Source: www.crafts.kaboose.com

Special Valentine's Day Handprint

Materials:

- Computer, typewriter (optional)
- Pencil, pen, crayons, or marker
- Construction paper or poster board
- Candy conversation hearts
- Glue

Directions:

1. Type or have your kids print this poem on a sheet of paper: **"This isn't just any handprint, as you can plainly see. For it is a special handprint, made with love by me. Along with the handprint I send hugs and kisses your way, and wish you a very "Happy Valentine's Day!"**
2. On a heavy sheet of construction paper or poster board, either trace with a crayon or press your child's hand with paint.
3. Write your child's name and date next to her handprint.
4. Now, invite your child to glue on conversation heart candies as fingernails.
5. Proceed to attach the written poem to the cardboard print with glue (trim it to size if necessary).



Paper Conversation Heart Wreath

Materials:

- 9" dinner plate or paper plate
- Recycled cereal box or other thin cardboard
- Pencil
- Scissors
- Heart pattern
- Construction paper: pink, purple, red, and blue
- Markers, crayons or paint pens
- Glue sticks
- Yarn for hanger (optional)
- Heart Pattern ([Pattern](#))



Directions:

1. Trace around the 9" plate onto the cardboard.
2. Use your pen or pencil to draw another circle inside that one, about an inch away from the outside circle.
3. Cut out the circle and the center of the circle to create a cardboard wreath base.
4. Fold a piece of scrap paper in half. Using the heart [pattern](#) line up the fold line of the scrap paper with the dotted line of the pattern. Cut out the shape so that when you open it, you have a heart shape.
5. Fold the short end of a piece of construction paper up about 3 inches. Place the folded heart around the folded paper and trace the half heart shape into the paper. You should be able to fit three hearts on the paper. Repeat this step for each colored piece of paper; you will have a total of 12 hearts.
6. Cut out all the hearts and flatten out the creases so that the hearts lay flat. Using markers, crayons, or paint pens, write conversation candy phrases on the hearts such as "LOVE", "HUBBA HUBBA", "SWEET", "LOVE", "BE MINE", "KISS" and "PAL".
7. Arrange your hearts on top of the cardboard wreath shape without gluing them down. Once you have them where you want them, use the glue stick to attach each one.
8. You can hang the wreath as is or attach a piece of looped yarn to the back as a hanger.



Nutritious Nibbles: Valentine Snacks



Source: www.kids-cooking-activities.com; www.tasteofhome.com

Apple Cartwheels Recipe

Ingredients:

- 1/4 cup peanut butter
- 1-1/2 teaspoons honey
- 1/2 cup miniature semisweet chocolate chips
- 2 tablespoons raisins
- 4 medium unpeeled Red Delicious apples, cored (Cut into Heart Shape)

Instructions:

1. In a small bowl, combine peanut butter and honey; fold in chocolate chips and raisins.
2. Fill centers of apples with peanut butter mixture; refrigerate for at least 1 hour. Cut into 1/4-in. rings. **Yield:** about 2 dozen.



Love Potion Smoothie

Ingredients:

- 1/2 cup frozen strawberries
- 1/2 cup frozen raspberries
- 1 small carton of yogurt
- 1/2 cup ice cubes
- 1 cup apple juice

Instructions:

1. Place strawberries, yogurt, raspberries and juice in blender.
2. Blend several seconds.
3. If you would like a thicker smoothie add more fruit or for a drinkable smoothie add 1/4 Cup more juice. This is one of those Valentine recipes that can be used year round.



Individual Heart Shaped Pizzas

Ingredients:

- Pizza dough
- Mozzarella cheese
- Pizza sauce
- Toppings of your choice

Instructions:

1. Divide pizza dough into balls according to the number of servings you will need.
2. Shape dough into a heart shape by making a round circle and forming the top of a heart to the top of the pizza round.
3. Make a point at the bottom. If you have a heart shaped cake pan you can use that also.
4. Top with pizza sauce, cheese and toppings of your choice.
5. Give this Valentine recipe more hearts by cutting pepperoni or ham slices into heart shapes or making heart shapes out of green or red pepper slices.



LET'S CELEBRATE

Congratulations go to Lucy Wingert, Maxine Dancer and Heather Steiner.

Thank You For Caring



Thanks for the outstanding level of childcare you each provide to the children of Waukesha County. Happy Certification Anniversary!

- **Lucy Wingert, Waukesha** Initial Certification Date 2/1/1989
- **Maxine Dancer, Pewaukee** Initial Certification Date 2/21/2001
- **Heather Steiner, Pewaukee** Initial Certification Date 2/21/2007

Valentine Games & Songs to Get the Children Moving!

Source: www.kidactivities.net



Plan A Healthy Heart Activity

Celebrate a healthy heart with fun, aerobic activities that get the children up and moving. One idea of this can be to set up stations or spots around the room where children can be active.

- ▼ **STEP AEROBICS STATION:** Set up a step aerobic stepper with music. Use a small step stool, phone book or a sturdy cardboard box to help the child step up and down.
- ▼ **HEART HEALTHY EXERCISE:** Demonstrate an aerobic exercise and have children perform 2-3 exercises of their choice at a station (jumping jacks, jump rope or jog in place)
- ▼ **BEANBAG TOSS:** Cut out pictures of healthy and unhealthy foods ahead of time and have the children throw a soft beanbag at or towards the heart-healthy food pictures. (Encourage the children to throw underhanded from a taped throw-line on the floor).

*End with a healthy, but yummy snack, at the culmination of this activity. See the Nutritious Nibbles section for some treat ideas.

KISS ME QUICK

Hide Hershey Kisses around the room and have a race to see who can find the most kisses. (Combine all collected candy kisses and divide evenly between the children at the end).



INSTEAD OF SIMON SAYS, PLAY ST. VALENTINE SAYS

One player is the leader or 'St. Valentine' and orders the other players to make motions by saying "St. Valentine says" and then a specific action. They might say "St. Valentine says thumbs up", "St. Valentine says hands on your head" or "St. Valentine says jump up and down." The leader also makes all of these motions. If she/he omits the "St. Valentine says" part and gives an order like "thumbs up" or "jump up and down", the players must not make the motion. Anyone who does so is out of the game. The winner is the player who remains in the game the longest.

I'M A LITTLE VALENTINE (Sing to the tune of I'm a little Tea Pot)

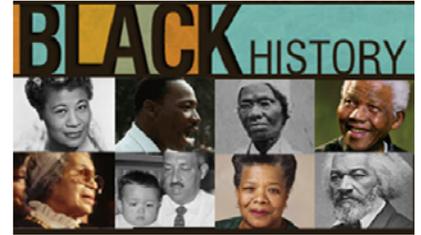
I'm a little valentine
Red and White
With ribbons and lace
I'm a beautiful sight
I can say, "I Love You"
On Valentine's Day
Just put me in an envelope
And give me away



WHAT IS BLACK HISTORY MONTH?

Source: www.history.com

Black History Month is an annual celebration of achievements by black Americans and a time for recognizing the central role of African Americans in U.S. history. The event grew out of "Negro History Week," the brainchild of noted historian Carter G. Woodson and other prominent African Americans. Since 1976, every U.S. president has officially designated the month of February as Black History Month.



Black History Month honors the contributions of African Americans to United States history. Get the story of the creation of the NAACP, famous firsts in African American history and other black history facts.

- Black History Month began as "Negro History Week," which was created in 1926 by Carter G. Woodson, a noted African American historian, scholar, educator, and publisher. It became a month-long celebration in 1976. The month of February was chosen to coincide with the birthdays of Frederick Douglass and Abraham Lincoln.
- On February 12, 2009, the NAACP marked its 100th anniversary. Spurred by growing racial violence in the early twentieth century, and particularly by race riots in Springfield Illinois in 1908, a group of African American leaders joined together to form a new permanent civil rights organization, the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP). February 12, 1909 was chosen because it was the centennial anniversary of the birth of Abraham Lincoln.
- Jack Johnson became the first African-American man to hold the World Heavyweight Champion boxing title in 1908. He held on to the belt until 1915.
- John Mercer Langston was the first black man to become a lawyer in Ohio when he passed the Bar in 1854. When he was elected to the post of Town Clerk for Brownhelm, Ohio in 1855 Langston became one of the first African Americans ever elected to public office in America. John Mercer Langston was also the great-uncle of Langston Hughes, famed poet of the Harlem Renaissance.
- Thurgood Marshall was the first African American ever appointed to the United States Supreme Court. He was appointed by President Lyndon B. Johnson, and served on the Supreme Court from 1967 to 1991.
- George Washington Carver developed 300 derivative products from peanuts among them cheese, milk, coffee, flour, ink, dyes, plastics, wood stains, soap, linoleum, medicinal oils and cosmetics.
- Hiram Rhodes Revels was the first African American ever elected to the United States Senate. He represented the state of Mississippi from February 1870 to March 1871.
- Shirley Chisholm was the first African American woman elected to the House of Representatives. She was elected in 1968 and represented the state of New York. She broke ground again four years later in 1972 when she was the first major party African-American candidate and the first female candidate for president of the United States.
- The black population of the United States in 1870 was 4.8 million; in 2007, the number of black residents of the United States, including those of more than one race, was 40.7 million.
- In 1940, Hattie McDaniel was the first African-American performer to win an Academy Award (the film industry's highest honor) for her portrayal of a loyal slave governess in *Gone With the Wind*.
- In 1992, Dr. Mae Jemison became the first African American woman to go into space aboard the space shuttle Endeavor. During her 8-day mission she worked with U.S. and Japanese researchers, and was a co-investigator on a bone cell experiment.



SPOTLIGHT ON A PROVIDER: Mary-Grace Linse



Warm Greetings! I'd like to introduce myself and Sunshine Circle Child Care, a nurturing place where children can play, learn, and shine! My name is Mary-Grace Linse, and I have recently been certified at the provisional level and plan to obtain regular child care certification during this year. I am an active stay-at-home mom of a toddler and have always had a passion for caring for children. I live in Waukesha with my husband, our 2-year old son, and our dog. In August, our family relocated back to Waukesha (my husband and I are Carroll grads...go Pioneers!) from the Twin Cities. We are very excited to be back "home," closer to our families and to open Sunshine Circle Child Care out of our home.

I have a Master's in Nonprofit Management and a Bachelor's in Psychology. Throughout my high school years, I taught Sunday school and babysat. In college, I worked for the Wisconsin Early Autism Project, served as a camp counselor for MDA and volunteered with community service organizations that focused on children (including providing respite child care for parents of children with special needs). During my professional career, I served as a mentor at an elementary school, assisting children from diverse backgrounds with reading and writing skills.

Prior to doing child care, I worked for eight years in higher education administration at Carroll University and Hamline University (St. Paul). After my son was born I chose to leave my profession to stay home with him. During this time, I also provided care in my home for two infants with special needs. I got a taste for doing family child care and was blessed to work with two amazing children and their families. I love helping children work towards their own developmental milestones and partnering with families on achieving these individual milestones in their child's growth and learning. I pride myself on being creative and energetic, providing personal attention, and taking the time to understand child/parent needs in order to provide an enjoyable, loving, learning experience that meets these needs.

In my free time, I enjoy outings with my family, taking our dog on hikes in the woods, long-distance volunteering for a Minnesota nonprofit organization, and dabbling in various arts and crafts such as pottery, stained glass, mosaic, and card making.

I'm proud to say Sunshine Circle officially opened this January with two smiley infants in addition to my own playful son. I have one more opening available to build our class of little learners and friends. I accept children ages infant-5 years. The name Sunshine Circle was coined because of our location on a circle road and the excellent sun exposure. Furthermore, I love all the fun themes, games, songs, etc. that you can do with sunshine and circles in baby/preschool educational activities.

I'm thrilled to embark on this adventure of family child care! I know there are challenges in this line of work and appreciate the network of resources available to providers. I look forward to meeting other child care providers, learning from you, and sharing ideas. Best wishes to you all!

WELCOME NEW DIVISION MANAGER: Jesse Mireles

Hello, I'm Jesse Mireles, the new Intake and Shared Services Manager. As some of you may know, Antwayne Robertson was promoted to Deputy Director and I was reassigned to this division. I am very happy to have this opportunity and I look forward to meeting some of you at events and activities sponsored by our division. I have worked with Waukesha County for over 31 years as a social worker, supervisor and as the Manager of the Children and Family Services Division since 2002. The Children & Family Division included Ongoing Child Protective Services, Foster Care recruitment licensing and training, Birth to Three and the Medicaid Home and Community Waiver Children's Long Term Support Program. As the Manager of this division, we worked closely with many of the programs offered in this division so I'm very familiar with many of the services provided. On a personal note, I live in Waukesha with my wife, teenage daughter and 3 dogs!

Professional Development, Networking & Training Corner:

Waukesha County Health and Human Services - 500 Riverview Avenue, Waukesha, WI 53188

CPR/AED Training: Safety or Survival (SOS) MONDAY, February 13, 2012

(We apologize for the error in the flyer. The day of the week we will be providing this training is Monday not Thursday.)

6:00-9:30 pm

\$50.00—Open to the first 25 enrollees (FREE for all Waukesha County Certified Family Providers) Register at: www.etouches.com/12HSP1ST01



CERTIFIER CORNER Program Update

Waukesha County is all about **happy, healthy** and **safe** childcare environments.

For those who remember, in 2010 the Certification Staff began the mission of expanding our electronic communication with providers, educate the public about why Regulated Care is the best form of childcare as well as market the certification program to increase the number of providers within Waukesha County. After two long years, and with the help of Mercury Marketing and Waukesha County IT Staff, we are proud to launch the development of a new website wc4kidz.com.



Beginning February 1, 2012 you will notice advertisements on Waukesha Metro Buses as well as within various community spots throughout the County promoting the message, "**Choose Certified- CHILDCARE Is More Than Just Babysitting.**" We want the public to know that when children are cared for in a home setting, parents should always choose a Certified Provider. They know child development and ways to help children grow and stay safe. So please visit this website wc4kidz.com and provide some feedback, be that positive or negative. This is your program so we want it to be successful for your child care program!

The Certification Staff is also currently working with IT Staff to develop a Certification Facebook page. We are currently developing a social media policy and procedure for the County and plan to send out updates in the near future.

Why Daycare Providers Want Provider-Guard Childcare Software Source: www.guardiancaresoftware.com

As a daycare provider, you've probably dealt with non-paying customers a lot in the past. This can be difficult for many providers; you grow to care so much for the children that you grant leniency to their delinquent parents. You'll often find yourself in the difficult position of choosing between standing up for yourself and doing what is best for the child. You should never be in that position. ProviderGuard, a new proprietary childcare software, can help keep you from having to deal with this situation and allow you to cope with it if you find yourself there.

- **Business Services:** Guardian Care offers nationwide reports and debt collections services tailored to reflect information and offer support that is specific to the child care provider industry
- **Pricing:** Guardian Care offers affordable per-usage, month-to-month and annual memberships, as well as a 14-day free trial and other discounted packages
- **Report a Parent:** The Guardian Care childcare management software is powered by its members. Participating providers report bounced checks, unpaid bills and delinquent bills as a warning to future child care providers
- **Collections:** Guardian Care's sister company, IBG Collection Services, specializes in helping child care providers collect payments from parents

Build-A-Bear Recalls Colorful Hearts Teddy Bears 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: Colorful Hearts Teddy Bears

Units: 284,000 in the United States and 13,200 in Canada

Manufacturer: Build-A-Bear Workshop Inc., of St. Louis, Mo.

Hazard: The teddy bear's eyes could loosen and fall out, posing a choking hazard to children.

Incidents/Injuries: None reported

Description: The Colorful Hearts Teddy is a stuffed animal about 16 inches high with black plastic eyes. The bear's fabric covering is printed with multi-colored heart shapes.

Sold by: Build-A-Bear Workshops nationwide and online at www.buildabear.com from April 2011 through December 2011 for about \$18 in the U.S. and \$23 in Canada.

Manufactured in: China

Remedy: Consumers should immediately take the recalled teddy bear from children and return it to any Build-A-Bear store to receive a coupon for any available stuffed animal from Build-A-Bear.

Consumer Contact: For additional information, contact the firm toll-free at (866) 236-5683 between 8 a.m. and 8 p.m. CT Monday through Friday, on Saturday between 9 a.m. and 6 p.m. CT and on Sunday between 10 a.m. and 4 p.m. CT, visit the firm's website www.buildabear.com or email the firm at colorfulhearts@buildabear.com



Toys Distribution Inc. Recalls Rattles 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: Baby Rattles

Units: About 50

Distributor: Toys Distribution Inc., of Los Angeles, Calif.

Manufacturer: Winning Key (WK) Manufacturing and Topwin Toys (HK), of China

Hazard: The recalled rattles can break into small parts, posing a choking hazard to young children and violating the federal safety requirements for rattles. In addition, the size of the handle on some of the rattles is small enough to enter an infant's mouth, lodge in the throat and cause a choking hazard or lead to bruises and lacerations.

Incidents/Injuries: None reported

Description: The recall includes plastic rattles sold in various pastel colors and shapes, including a toy phone, animal, small buggy and sea horse. The rattles were sold in sets of five or eight rattles per box. "HANDBELL TOYS" is printed in the upper left corner of the package. "MADE IN CHINA" is printed on the bottom of the package. One set has "JUNYI" printed on the front upper right corner of the package and "ITEM NO. 58083801" printed on the back lower corner on a white sticker. Another set has "XIN DA MEI" printed on the front upper right corner of the package and "ITEM NO. 308363" printed on the back lower corner on a white sticker.

Sold at: Small toy stores in Colorado and Texas from December 2009 through December 2010 for about \$2.

Manufactured in: China

Remedy: Consumers should take the recalled rattles away from children immediately and return them to the place of purchase or contact Toys Distribution Inc. to receive a full refund or replacement product.

Customer contact: For additional information, contact Toys Distribution Inc. collect at (323) 266-8088 between 9 a.m. and 5 p.m. PT Monday through Friday. Consumers can also e-mail the firm at mailbox@shoptdi.com



Bugaboo Bee Strollers Recalled by Bugaboo Americas Due to Fall 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: Bugaboo Bee Strollers

Units: About 7,000 in the United States and 260 in Canada

Importer: Bugaboo Americas, of El Segundo, Calif.

Hazard: The front swivel wheels can lock while the stroller is in motion, causing the stroller to tip and posing a fall hazard.

Incidents/Injuries: Four incidents have been reported where the stroller's swivel wheels locked and the stroller tipped over. In two of these incidents, a baby and a toddler suffered minor injuries.

Description: The recalled strollers are made for newborns and toddlers up to 37 pounds. They are sold in two frame colors: silver and all black. The stroller's seat comes in black or denim colors and canopy colors include yellow, black, khaki, blue, pink and red, plus special collections colors such as tangerine, soft pink, light green, dark purple, denim and the Missoni print collection. Production dates from January 2011 through September 2011, which are printed with the month abbreviated and year, i.e. "Jan. 2011", the "Bugaboo Bee" name and company address are printed on the date code label located on the stroller frame under the seat unit. "Bugaboo Bee" is also printed on the side of the seat backrest.

Sold by: Toys R Us, Buy Buy Baby and other baby product stores nationwide, online at Bugaboo.com and other online retailers between February 2011 and September 2011 for about \$650.

Manufactured in: China

Remedy: Consumers should immediately stop using the recalled strollers and contact Bugaboo or the retailer where the stroller was purchased to receive free replacement swivel wheels.

Consumer Contact: For additional information, contact Bugaboo at [ser-viceus@bugaboo.com](mailto:service@bugaboo.com) or at (800) 460-2922 between 7 a.m. and 4 p.m. PT Monday through Friday, or visit the firm's website at <http://www.bugaboo.com/non-swiveling-wheels>



Child Day Care Certification Staff:

Jennifer Mantei, Day Care Certifier, Social Worker
jmantei@waukeshacounty.gov
262-548-7250

Karen Narlow, Day Care Coordinator
knarlow@waukeshacounty.gov
262-970-4795

Beth Treder, Day Care Certifier, Social Worker
btreder@waukeshacounty.gov
262-548-7897

Kathy Mullooly, Supervisor
kmullooly@waukeshacounty.gov
262-896-6832

W-2 Subsidy Specialist:

Shelly Wiese, Child Care Specialist
262-695-7962
swiese@wctc.edu

Very Special Thanks to
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