

INCLUSION CORNER

Child Care Plus Training is Underway!

Beginning in March, Southeast Missouri Child Care Resource and Referral began offering a new training series called Child Care Plus+. The series focuses on best practices in early childhood, rather than providing specialized information that applies only to children with disabilities. Each session can be used to improve the quality of early childhood programs so the needs of each child can be represented.

In the first training, we will examine the history of inclusion, what has been learned, your role in making inclusion work in your program, the understanding of individualization and how to design activities and routines to meet the needs of individualized children.

The second training will describe how to create and maintain an environment that is physically and developmentally accessible and how to develop partnerships with parents and families which more effectively meets the needs of children in your program.

This is a training series and the sessions must be attended in subsequent order. In the future, we hope to offer more trainings based on this exciting curriculum. Check our training calendar for upcoming Child Care Plus+ training opportunities.

- Amy Franklin
Inclusion Specialist

SPRING!!!

Can you believe it's here? I can't! The months have flown by too fast. But springtime doesn't wait. Daffodils are blooming, trees are budding out, winter wheat is a beautiful green, and windows are open to bring in fresh, spring air.

I'm sure you've had lots of practice with tornado drills. I discovered that pre-school teachers always are on the look out for safety.

During a bad storm in Sikeston, my college class was not comfortable in the room--they wanted to check for a place of safety. So, we were the only class out roaming the halls, looking. We found a safe spot, away from windows, in the stairwell. Concern for the safety of others is an important aspect of being a teacher of small children.

Another important aspect of being a teacher of small children is to let them discover the wonders in their world. Plant flowers and watch them grow.

Use seeds and bulbs. Pick a tree around your building to watch.

Have fun catching the maple seeds as they twirl around in the wind.

Feel the softness of a pussy willow. Welcome the robins back. Make a bird feeder and/or string pieces of brightly colored yarn on a tree branch for material for a bird's nest. Fly a kite! You can make one from a side of a heavy paper grocery sack. Fasten a string to it (of course, decorate it first) and let the children make it fly as they run!

Spend your days outside! Have a picnic lunch. Read a story about spring as you sit on a blanket. Lie on the blanket and watch the clouds. Create an Easter Egg Tree and do a Maypole Dance with long ribbons fastened to a pole or tree.

Take a deep breath and smile! Spring is here!

- Judith Perkins
Child Care Liaison

BEHAVIOR BASICS

Some children use behavior that is unusual or different-behavior that most children do not demonstrate. A child who bangs his head against the wall, who makes loud, disturbing sounds, or whose behavior is exceptionally aggressive can present an unusual challenge.

In this case, an individualized, effective approach is needed to help the child learn appropriate behavior while, at the same time, discourage the inappropriate behavior. You may need to work with the parents to make a referral or work closely with the child's existing team to develop an effective plan. Keep in mind the importance of taking immediate action when a child is injuring herself or putting other children/teachers at risk. Immediate, but temporary modifications might include staffing an additional teacher during the activity or routine that is most difficult for the child, designating one teacher to stay in close proximity to the child, or creating a short-term plan for redirecting other children when the child with the challenging behavior needs personal space. When the immediate risk of serious harm has been addressed, then you can move on to develop and implement a long-term behavior guidance plan.

*Taken from Child Care Plus
Spring 2005



**ATTENTION ALL
CHILD CARE PROVIDERS**

**★ QUARTERLY
DRAWING ★**

We receive calls daily from parents seeking child care. We want to provide them with the most accurate information possible.

Please call us each month to let us know about your fee changes and if you have openings. If we are not in the office, just leave a message on my voice mail.

Every quarter we will enter the name of each provider who calls with vacancies into a drawing to be held on the last weekday of the month!

Call 573-290-5577

Toll-free, 1-800-811-1127 ex. 1

**WHO WILL BE OUR
NEXT WINNERS??**

WILL IT BE YOU?

Spring Crafts



Coffee Filter Butterflies
from kidsdomain.com

What You Need

- ▶ Black chenille stem
- ▶ Paper coffee filter
- ▶ Water color paints
- ▶ Paint brush
- ▶ Water
- ▶ Wire cutters
- ▶ Needle nose pliers

How To Make It

1. Cut the black chenille stem in half. (you will only use 1 piece for this project)
2. Using water color paints, paint the coffee filter. Let dry.
3. Fold the black chenille stem in half.

UPCOMING SEMINARS

Dunklin County Seminar: Autism

Saturday, June 3, Child Care Resource and Referral and Educare will be hosting the seminar at the Bootheel Youth Museum in Malden. This seminar will focus on children with special needs and will highlight Dr. David Crowe and his son Taylor. Taylor was diagnosed with Autism as a child.

Charla Myers from Missouri Child Care Resource and Referral (MOCCRRN) will also be presenting on "Making the Connection: Understanding Missouri First Steps", this breakout session will give you up to date information about Missouri's Early Intervention Program. Brochures for this conference will be mailed in May. Check the training calendar for details.



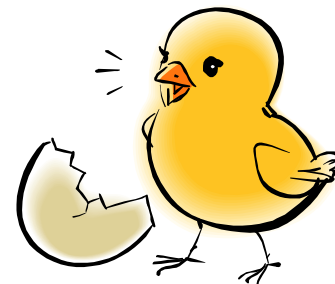
The Date Is Set!! Mark Your Calendars!

Saturday, September 23rd will be the date for our Early Childhood Fall Seminar! We have exciting plans underway for this seminar! We are excited to announce that the St. Louis Teacher Recycle Center will be presenting a breakout session, as well as, bringing down "Van Go" for your benefit!! More information about the teacher recycle center visit: <http://www.stlouisteachersrecycle.homestead.com/>

Watch upcoming newsletters for more details!

- Heather Fisher
Training Coordinator

4. Twist the bent end about 1/2" from the bend.
5. Accordion pleat the coffee filter in about 1/2" pleats.
6. Slide the butterfly in-between the black ends of the chenille stem.
7. Twist the black chenille stem above the butterfly to hold it in place.
8. Separate the ends of the black chenille stem.
9. Bend one end of the black chenille stem over about 1/4". Bend again.
10. Repeat with other end. This makes the antennae.
11. Fan out the butterfly's wings.
12. If desired, hang with yarn or fishing line to make a mobile as described above.



Educare will be offering a 1 CEU unit in May or June. This training can be used towards your CDA renewal. If you only need training hours, it will be 10 clock hours. Please call Ann Hall, 651-9171 ext 103 for dates and details.