

INCLUSION NEWS

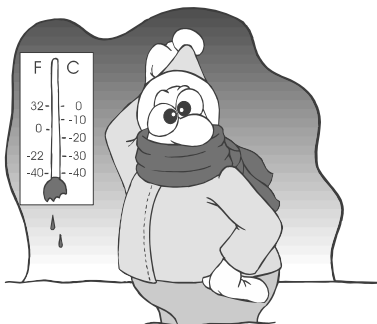
Child Care Plus

- Are you unsure about how to serve children with special needs in your program?
- Do you know the law concerning serving children with special needs in childcare programs?
- Do you need more information about how to adapt your classroom and materials to better serve children with special needs?
- Do you feel unsure about talking with parents of children with suspected special needs?

If you answered yes to any of these questions, Child Care Plus is for you! Child Care Plus is an interactive, informative training designed to help providers serve children with special needs in their programs.

We are excited to be offering the first four modules again, as well as adding modules 4-8 this year. See the enclosed registration form for more information on upcoming trainings.

- Amy Franklin
Inclusion Specialist



OUTSTANDING EARLY CHILDHOOD AWARD

The Outstanding Early Childhood award will have new additions this year. Thanks to the United Way/Success by Six of Cape Girardeau, we are able to offer our second annual Outstanding Early Childhood Award. This year the categories are the following:

- Outstanding Early Childhood Teacher Award (Community Center Based)
- Outstanding Early Childhood Director Award (Community Center Based)
- Outstanding Early Childhood Teacher Award (University or Public School Affiliated)
- Outstanding Early Childhood Director Award (University or Public School Affiliated)
- Outstanding Early Childhood Family Child Care Provider

Each recipient will receive \$100, as well as, a plaque of recognition. Because funding is provided by United Way/Success by Six of Cape Girardeau, individuals must work in a facility located in Cape Girardeau County or Scott City. Nomination forms will be mailed out early February. Forms will also be available at the Chamber or Commerce in Cape Girardeau, Jackson, as well as, at the Jackson and Cape Girardeau Public Libraries.

Awards will be given at the Provider Appreciation Brunch.

Mark Your Calendars!

New Madrid Seminar: March 31, 2007

Provider Appreciation Brunch: Saturday, May 19, 2007

Early Childhood Fall Seminar: Saturday, September 29, 2007

Directors/Owners Formation Cape Girardeau Group: February 21st, March 13th

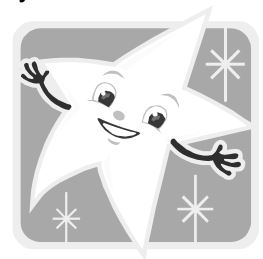
*Check the training calendar for more details!

- Heather Fisher
Training Coordinator

Indoor Activity on a Cold Day

MINI-PLANETARIUM

You'll Need: card table • long piece of fabric • black poster board • sticker stars • flashlight



What to Do:

1. Make a portable planetarium by setting up a card table and draping a long cloth over it.
2. As you learn about the stars and constellations, draw and attach sticker stars on a sheet of black poster board.
3. Form the most famous constellations and label them.
4. Attach this poster to the underside of the table.
5. Children will enjoy going under the table, lying down and viewing the star formations with the help of a flashlight.

Source: Everyday TLC

**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?

**CONNECTING WITH
FAMILIES**

Forming ongoing and positive connections with children's family members is a critical step in building positive relationships with both children and their parents. Parents and other family members are a valuable resource for information about the child in the context of the family and the community. Is there a big/little brother or sister? What did the child do over the weekend? What is important to this family and this child? What foods, songs and games does this child especially enjoy? The answers to these questions provide meaningful conversation starters and often explain the child's

MISSOURI ACCREDITATION UPDATES

- ✓ Education requirements – all lead teachers (anyone left alone, responsible for children) must have a CDA or **12** college hours & Teacher aids must have H.S. diploma or GED & **3** college hours in early childhood.
- ✓ Manuals are online and must be submitted online www.moaccreditation.org – must go online and sign up
- ✓ Notifications of change – do online *if already accredited remember to do these notifications of change
- ✓ Reaccreditation – need to submit 6 months prior to expiration
- ✓ All education requirements must be completed before submitting ~ if staff turnover occurs after submitting must fill out a professional development plan for new staff member and have approved by Nicole (MOA director)

For more information about accreditation or current changes feel free to contact Christy Colyer 1-800-811-1127 ext. 8 or (573) 290-5572.

- Christy Colyer
Professional Development Specialist

The following is a web link that shows the location of sex offenders in specified areas.

www.familywatchdog.us

interactions with toys and play materials or verbal or emotional responses during group activities.

Sharing information with parents about the child's daily activities during the time he or she is in your program further enhances these warm connections. When you are connected, you become more attentive and you know what the child did all day. Perhaps you can describe her enthusiasm for the music activity or his eagerness to help you set the table for lunch. You can make copies or tapes of songs and finger plays to send home, provide copies of books you have read to the children and give them the recipe for the snack their child likes so well. By giving parents real examples of their child's interests, you connect with them and give

them familiar ways for their child to connect with them as well.

When you show interest in their family, children feel valued and important. Your positive regard for one another models for children the patterns for appropriate social interactions and developing interpersonal relationships. Hearing you tell Mom or Dad or Grandma about the highlights of the day helps children feel that what they are doing is significant and provides a seamless transition from the child care setting to the home setting.

Source: Child Care Plus

- Kristen Foltz-Schlegel
Program Director

