

Question: How do I tell a parent I have concerns about their child?

Answer: It can be very difficult for parents to hear concerns about their child's development or behavior. Communicate to the parents that you really do care about their child and try to arrange a time to talk with them when children will not be present.

Use a "positive sandwich" approach by sharing with the child's parents an example of a positive quality you have observed in their child, a positive interaction you have observed or had with their child, or something you really like about their child. Then share with them specific examples of developmental and/or behavioral concerns and how this impacts the child while in your care.

It is important to share specific examples of the strategies that you have tried to help the child be successful in your child care environment. Remember to give them some time to process and respond to the information that you share with them.

Follow the sharing of your concerns by again sharing something positive about their child and reiterate that their child's success is important to you.

If you have concerns about a child in your care and would like assistance approaching the child's family, please contact Amy Franklin, Inclusion Specialist at 1-800-811-1127 ext 2.

- Amy Franklin
Inclusion Specialist



WELCOME CARI

Hi, my name is Cari Barnes and I am very excited to join the Child Care Resource and Referral Staff as the Early Childhood Specialist. I received my Bachelors Degree in Child Development here at SEMO in 2004 and I now live in Cape with my husband Justin and our son Gage who was born in August. I will be working along with Christy helping centers in their Accreditation Process. I look forward to meeting all of you!

- Cari Barnes
Early Childhood Specialist



Why Accreditation Matters

Accreditation matters because a child's experiences from birth to five influence the rest of his or her life.



Accreditation is an indicator of a quality program.

Accreditation programs:

- Offer a safe and healthy environment
- Build positive and nurturing relationships between children and adults
- Direct children's social development through positive guidance
- Offer respect to the staff as professionals
- Communicate with families and build bridges between home and school

Child Care Resource & Referral Accreditation Facilitation Project NOW has openings!

Accreditation Facilitation Project

- Free on site technical assistance & trainings
- Free Environmental Rating Scale
- Guidance through the self study manuals and accreditation process
- Up to \$825.00 in gift certificates
- \$ 200.00 Mini grant yearly

Accreditation focuses on creating positive learning experiences for children, and helps teachers become better qualified.

Please call Christy Colyer at 1-800-811-1127 ext 8 or (573) 290-5572 for more information.

- Christy Colyer
Accreditation Coordinator



**ATTENTION
ALL CHILD CARE
PROVIDERS**

THE MONTHLY 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 do not answer the telephone, just leave a message on my voice mail.

Every month 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 YOU BE ONE?*

Quick Tip - Cleanup Freeze

To motivate youngsters during cleanup time, play a recording of upbeat music. Then, while students are cleaning, periodically pause the music and encourage youngsters to freeze. You'll hear lots of giggles during this fun and productive cleanup time.

- The Mailbox
Oct/Nov 2007



**MISSOURI'S CHILD
ADVOCACY DAY**

Child Advocacy Day is an event held in Jefferson City on the last Tuesday of January each year and is sponsored by the Missouri Alliance for Children, Youth, and Families.

This year Child Advocacy Day is scheduled for January 29, 2008. It is an opportunity for child advocates to come together and show their support for children by participating in workshops, visiting exhibit booths to learn about services and programs, discussing critical children's issues with their legislator, and networking with other child advocates.

Child Advocacy Day is held free of charge. In fact, you do not even have to pre-register. Registration begins at 9 a.m. in the Capitol Rotunda in Jefferson City. For an agenda and more details, visit: www.childadvocayday.org.

- Kristen Foltz-Schlegel
Program Director

REMINDER: All facilities who have received accreditation, remember to send (or fax) to CCR&R a copy of your Accreditation Certificate. We will not indicate your accreditation to families seeking accredited child care until we have a copy of the certificate on file. (Yes, callers are now asking for information about accredited facilities!)

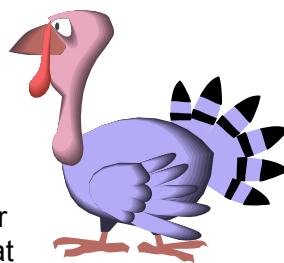
THANK YOU for calling us about your vacancies. We really do appreciate this small favor. Congratulations to home provider Paulette Smith (**Best Friends**) in Imperial, Paula Chapman (**Smart Start**) in Park Hills, Jamie Aaron (**Miss Jamie's Child Care**) in Malden and Nicole Dooley (**Dooley's Child Care**) in Cape Girardeau, our July, August and September winners. Remember, when you let me know of vacancies, I will mention you specifically to the families seeking child care in your area. **Keep those calls coming in!**

Remember, children learn through play! Happy playing!

- Karen McDougall
Referral Coordinator

CIRCLE TIME IDEA - COLORFUL FEATHERS

In advance, cut out a construction paper turkey body and feathers in different colors. Review the names of the colors with the class and then place the feathers on the turkey. Have students close their eyes. Then remove a feather and place it out of sight. Cue the children to open their eyes and name the color of the feather that is missing. After the color of the missing feather has been confirmed, place the feather back on the turkey. Continue in the same way as time allows.



- The Mailbox
Oct/Nov 2007

**LEARNING CENTER IDEA -
LEAFY LETTERS**

Take little ones on a leaf collecting walk to prepare for this cooperative letter-formation activity. After the leaves have been collected, tape a sheet of bulletin board paper to a table in your literacy center. Then draw an oversize letter L outline on the paper. Children name the letter and its sound and then glue leaves inside the outline.

- The Mailbox
Oct/Nov 2007

