



“The Resource”

Child Care Resource & Referral of Central Wisconsin, Inc.
Serving Adams, Clark and Wood Counties



“The Resource”
February-March 2009

MACCA Conference

Saturday, February 7 ~ 8 AM to 1 PM

The **Marshfield Area Child Care Association (MACCA)** will be hosting their 2009 Annual Early Childhood Conference on February 7th at the Clearwaters Hotel and Convention Center in Marshfield. Keynote Speaker Jim Jelinske is back by popular demand to share laughter and learning. A continental breakfast will be available in the morning and snacks will be offered throughout the conference.

Registration deadline: Wednesday, January 28 (If space remains, phone or on-site registrations will be accepted with an added \$5.00 fee after the registration deadline)

Questions and Registration Materials available through: Krisann Mauritz at kmauritz@verizon.net or 715.387.2218.

Workshops Include: Shaken Baby Syndrome Prevention, ABC's and 123's: Earlier is not Better, Infant-Toddler Workshop, Conscious Discipline, Family and Friends First Aid, School Age Planning...Is Anyone Out There?, Digital Scrapbooking, Stress Management, The Power of Prop Boxes, and Childhood Injury Prevention

Cost: \$15 for MACCA members, \$25 for non-members

Tom Pease at Mid-State Technical College

Saturday, March 21 ~ 9AM

MSTC has arranged for a special workshop with Tom Pease to be held at their Wisconsin Rapids campus. This three-hour training event is \$13.71. Registration is available through any MSTC campus. Please see enclosed flyer for more information.

BIF Winner

Congratulations to Jill Jerabek of the Marshfield Area Catholic Schools. MACS returned their Business Information Form (BIF) on time and was drawn as the winner of \$15 in free laminating at the CCR&R office. If you have not yet returned your BIF, there is still time, please call our office or mail your BIF to CCR&R as soon as possible.

CCR&R Office Hours

The staff at CCR&R would like to remind you to please call before stopping by to ensure that someone will be in the office and available to help you. With only three people on staff, full calendars that can take us away from the office and budget cuts that have reduced staff hours, there are times during our normal office hours that no one will be available. We are always happy to make arrangements to be in the office to help you but want to be sure that you don't waste a trip. If you are stopping by to laminate or pick up a resource kit, we can also have things ready to go if you call first. Thank you in advance for your help and understanding!

SBS Prevention Training

Wednesday, February 25, ~ 6:30PM

A grant from the Riverview Healthcare Foundation will allow CCR&R to offer another Shaken Baby Syndrome Prevention training free of charge. The training will be held at Pittsville Elementary. Pre-registration is required by Monday, February 23rd.

Important Reminder from the Wood County Health Department:

Please remember if a child in your care has a case of Varicella (or Chicken Pox), it **must** be reported to your local health department.



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Vision
↪ For all Central Wisconsin children to benefit from the best child care possible.

Mission
↪ To be the key resource of comprehensive services to enhance quality child care in Central Wisconsin.



IDEAS FOR CRAFTING FUN FROM FAMILY FUN.COM

PLAY CLAY HEARTS

You'll love this two-in-one project: a highly original Valentine that moonlights as a usable ball of clay.

MATERIALS NEEDED: 3 cups of white flour, 1 1/2 cups of salt, 1 1/2 tablespoons of cream of tartar, 3 1/4 cups of water, 6 tablespoons of vegetable oil, red food coloring, rolling pin, heart-shaped cookie cutter, small cellophane bags, scissors, white paper, markers, hole punch, ribbon

1. Mix the flour, salt, and cream of tartar in a medium saucepan.
2. In a separate bowl, mix the liquids, adding drops of food coloring until you reach your desired shade.
3. Pour the liquid over the dry ingredients and stir. Cook over medium-low heat, stirring constantly, until the mixture holds together and gets too stiff to stir (it will stiffen even more as it cools), about 5 to 10 minutes. Let it cool.
4. Knead the clay briefly, then roll or pat it to a 3/4-inch thickness and cut with the cookie cutter.
5. For each valentine, place a clay heart in a cellophane bag. Cut a tag out of white paper, decorate it with markers, and punch a hole in one end. Thread a length of ribbon through the hole in the tag and tie the bag shut with a bow.



Tips:

- *An older child can make the play clay (with adult supervision) while a younger one makes the tags. Then both children can roll and cut the clay hearts and bag their own valentines.
- *Attach a copy of the “recipe” with the tag so that families can create more of this wonderful, soft clay.
- *CCR&RCW Tip: This would make a great, inexpensive Valentine for the children in your care.

PLANT PALS:

Your indoor gardener may not get your "bad hair day" jokes, but the fun of this grassy-haired friend won't be lost on him. Like a Chia Pet, the project requires just a sprinkling of seeds, a bit of sun, and a few drops of patience.

CRAFT MATERIALS: 9- or 12-ounce plastic cup, 1 to 1 1/4 cups of potting soil, 1 tablespoon of grass seeds (we bought rye grass at a garden center), decorations, such as office dot stickers, markers, ribbon (for safety, ribbon should measure less than 6 inches long)



1. Fill the cup halfway with soil. Divide the remaining soil in two, then have your child measure the seeds and stir them into one of these halves. **Tip:** To speed germination, you can first soak the seeds in water overnight.
2. Spoon the seed-filled soil into the cup, then top it with the remaining soil (this final layer should be about 1/8 to 1/4 inch deep). Water the soil well.
3. Let your child decorate the cup with stickers and markers. Finally, leave the plant in a warm, sunny spot to sprout. Water as necessary to keep the soil about as wet as a damp sponge. (A “tip” from CCR&RCW: Decorate the cup before filling with dirt to help contain the mess and avoid the frustration of spilled dirt. ☺)

L O C A L A D V O C A T E G R O U P S

Adams County

- Adams County Early Childhood Education Council– Kelly Allen (608.339.2868)

Clark County

- Contact CCR&R if interested in developing an advocate group (800.628.8534)

Wood County

- Marshfield Area Child Care Association– Krisann Mauritz (715.387.2218)
- Wisconsin Rapids Child Care Advocates Council– Kitty Gross (715.421.1092)

We can do no
great things, only
small things with
great love.



~Mother Teresa



Important Information from NAEYC (National Association for the Education of Young Children)

Working families need child care and supportive employer policies to be able to meet the needs of their young children throughout the day.

- In the United States the majority of mothers with children under age 18 work, including 59% of those with infants and 74% of those with school-aged children.
- Approximately 13 million infants, toddlers, and preschool children are regularly in non-parental care in the United States, including 45% of children younger than one year.
- The Census Bureau reports that approximately 50% of working families rely on child care providers to help them care for their children while they work; 25% rely on relatives for child care; and nearly 25% arrange work schedules so that no child care is needed (e.g. parents work different hours or days; one parent works during school hours and is home after school).

Children, especially those from low-income families, need better access to high-quality early childhood programs.

- Research shows that high-quality early childhood programs help children--especially those from families with low-incomes--develop the skills they need to succeed in school. However, most programs in the United States are rated mediocre, and fewer than 10% meet national accreditation standards. Across the nation child care fees average \$4,000 to \$10,000 per year, exceeding the cost of public universities in most states. Yet, nationally only 1 in 7 children who are financially eligible for child care subsidies is being served, and only 41% of 3 and 4 year old children living in poverty are enrolled in preschool, compared to 58% of those whose families have higher incomes.
- Communities are becoming increasingly diverse and in order for early childhood educators to be effective they must be sensitive and responsive to children's cultural and linguistic backgrounds. If current population trends continue, by the year 2010 55% of America's children will be white, 22% will be Hispanic, 16% will be black, and 6% will be Asian or Pacific Islander.

The Week of the Young Child is an annual celebration sponsored by the National Association for the Education of Young Children (NAEYC), the world's largest early childhood education association, with nearly 100,000 members and a network of over 300 local, state, and regional Affiliates. The purpose of the Week of the Young Child is to focus public attention on the needs of young children and their families and to recognize the early childhood programs and services that meet those needs.

NAEYC first established the Week of the Young Child in 1971, recognizing that the early childhood years (birth through age 8) lay the foundation for children's success in school and later life. The Week of the Young Child is a time to plan how we--as citizens of a community, of a state, and of a nation--will better meet the needs of all young children and their families.

The Week of the Young Child for 2009 is April 19-25. Watch for information on celebrations in your area.

Upcoming Area Children's Festivals:

April 4 ~ Adams

April 4 ~ Marshfield

April 18 ~ Wisconsin Rapids

FEBRUARY IS:

- American Heart Month
- Black History Month
- National Children's Dental Health Month



MARCH IS:

- National Nutrition Month
- Youth Art Month
- Women's History Month



February 12, 2009 would be Abraham Lincoln's 200th birthday.

The first public school was founded in the United States on February 13, 1635.

The "Star-Spangled Banner" was made the United States National Anthem on March 3, 1931.

Albert Einstein was born on March 14, 1879.



“The Resource”

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A United Way Partner

THE REGISTRY GETS A MAKEOVER

BY JANE ROBINSON

The Wisconsin Registry is experiencing an EXTREME MAKEOVER! Please note our new logo!

WHAT IS PDAS? The Registry is implementing a new Professional Development Approval System (PDAS). Effective January 2009, trainers, training and technical consultants will be approved. There are options for those that do not wish to participate in the new system.

The Approval System has been developed by many partners including but not limited to WECA, The Department of Children and Families, Department of Public Instruction, United Cerebral Palsy, Satellite, Wisconsin Technical College System, Wisconsin Family Child Care Association, The Wisconsin Child Care Administrator Association, The Waisman Center, Supporting Families Together Association which includes Child Care Resource and Referral and the Wisconsin Child Care Improvement Project.

The new system will help programs find higher quality training, trainers, and consultants to support staff.

Trainings have been and will be presented throughout the state. Please visit our website for a list of training dates and location. Trainer and technical consultant descriptions with levels including tiers of training are also listed on The Registry website.

NEW REGISTRY CAREER LEVELS RECOGNIZE APPROVED TRAINING!

Three levels have been added to The Registry career lattice. The levels have been added after the second level to recognize the importance of approved training. Practitioners now have a pathway for non-credit training.

THE REGISTRY WEBSITE

Visit www.the-registry.org to learn about:

- Our new look and easy access site
- Our online application
- Online payment for services
- The Wisconsin Training Network at T-Net.org or link from the website



MEMBER BENEFITS AVAILABLE!

The Registry now offers MEMBER benefits. A variety of low-cost, high-quality, no hassle benefits are available for you and your family. As part of The Registry you can access a menu of services and benefits, such as: Limited Medical Plan with no pre-existing condition exclusions, Dental and Vision, CancerSelect Plus, Medicare Supplement for those over 65 year of age (includes spouse), Term Life Policy, Legal Services and Identity Theft Protection through National ID Recovery, A Security Plus PayCard, a Visa Card Program with NO ACTIVATION FEE required, A Pharmacy Discount Card

To learn more, visit www.the-registry.org and click on *The Registry Now Offering Insurance*.

If you would like to receive your newsletter via email, please contact Carrie at carrie@ccrcw.org