



Child Care Chat

Fall 2005

A publication of
Child Care Choices

It's a Win-Win Situation: When Parents and Providers Work Together

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Save the Dates!

- * March 25, 2006—Annual Benefit—"All That Glitters . . . With CCC"
- * April 29, 2006—Pamper the Provider Retreat

(article from The Daily Parent)

Child care is a necessary part of life for many families. Child care not only promotes growth and development in children, but it also helps to strengthen families and communities. Child care providers are an important family resource for support and child development education.

Children benefit most when parents and providers work together to plan and provide care. In a partnership, child care providers bring their knowledge of children's

educational and developmental needs and parents bring the knowledge of their children's strengths, needs, and interests. Together, parents and providers develop goals that are best for each child within the child care setting.

Positive relationships between parents and providers are created by two-way communication, a feeling of trust, sharing of goals and expectations, providing information and resources, and having opportunities to make joint decisions about the care children will receive.

A successful partnership

providers will have some of the following qualities:

- Parents and providers communicate on a daily or other regular basis
- Parents trust and feel at ease with the child care program
- There are many opportunities for parents to be involved in activities in the child care setting
- Providers are always asking parents for input and feedback on the program.
- Children are doing well and are happy within the child care setting.

Five Fifteen Minute Activities to do With Your Children

1. Read to the children every day
2. Walk around the block and look for signs of the season.
3. Glue family photos, animal pictures from magazines or greeting cards, to cardstock and put into a small, sturdy picture album with plastic photo protectors. Talk about the "book" with your infant or toddler.
4. Name and point, and soon she will, too.
5. Write the letters of the alphabet on index cards. Allow children to choose a card, and then act out a word that begins with that letter.
5. For children a bit older, make each child a list of words that you are likely to see as you drive (gas, stop, exit, etc.) Review the list with the children, and challenge them to cross off all the words on the list by the time you reach your destination.



Fun Things To Do With Your Pre-K Child

To help your child with important skills for kindergarten, try these activities:

- ✓ **Read, Read, and Read Some More!** You know your child likes to hear the same story again and again—so have fun picking out a new picture or letter to talk about each time, or ask your child to “read” a favorite story to you—even if he doesn’t really know how to read words yet.
- ✓ **Practice the Alphabet:** Sing the ABC Song, sometimes skipping letters to see if your child knows the right order; or say

the ABCs and stop and see if your child can continue. Sound out letters, and talk about words that begin with a letter. When you are running errands with your child, play games in the car, having your child pick out letters on signs and items in the grocery store.

- ✓ **Name That Thing:** Help your child learn to describe how things look and what they do by playing the “Name That Thing” Game. Example: Ask your child, “What’s round and you bounce it?” (Answer is, of course, ball).
- ✓ **Counting in Every Day Ac-**

tivities: At the grocery store, have your child count how many items you put in the cart, and ask how many there would be if you add one or take two away. Count the number of red cars you see on a short trip to visit a friend. Read books about numbers and counting.

(Article from The Daily Parent)

Reading to the babies and toddlers in your care provides them with a loving introduction to the wonderful world of books- and reinforces your very special role as their teacher. It is NEVER too early to start.

Golf Tournament

To benefit the Story Lady Program. Friday, September 16, 2005 at the great **Moss Creek Golf Club**, 1 Club Drive, Clayton, Ohio 45315

Get a team together! Call your friends and relatives! Call CCC for information at 667-1799 or 773-9944.



Corporate Sponsors	\$520
Includes: Foursome-Green Fees, Cart, Lunch, Hole Sponsor and Special Acknowledgement in the program	
Hole Sponsors	\$250
Includes: Special Hole Sponsor signs on the course during the Tournament and in the tent	
Foursome only	\$320
Includes: Green fees, carts, and lunch	

Big questions for young minds!

Explore math and science concepts with the Story Lady

Is it alive? Who wears shoes?

These are just two of the questions we will explore at Story Lady visits this coming school year. If you are a family childcare provider who is registered with Child Care Choices, or if your childcare center or preschool is registered with us, you are eligible to receive three Story Lady visits. At each visit you will receive free books

for your home/center and the children you care for will get books to take to their homes. The Story Lady will leave a packet with additional information and activity ideas. Each visit counts as one Department of Job and Family Services training hour if you actively participate with the children at the visit.

Call Child Care Choices to get on the list for upcoming 2005-2006 Story

Lady visits. The Story Lady will contact you in September to schedule your first visit.

Don't miss out on the fun! Call today!

937-667-1799 or 937-773-9944

Setting Up Your Child Care Space

When children feel comfortable in their physical surroundings, they will venture to explore materials or events around them. Many factors contribute to a truly great room layout, to a design that guides and encourages children through play. Child care professional Anita Olds lists five attributes to consider for each activity station or center that you plan.

These are the central units from which a room grows.

- **Location:** Where is it in relation to other physical features and other activity areas?
- **Boundaries:** How well is the area defined?
- **Play and Sitting Surfaces:** are they appropriate to the activities they support?
- **Storage:** The materials children need in each activity area should be stored conveniently at hand, and displayed attractively for effective use.
- **Mood:** Is the mood of the area appropriate to the function? Is it home-like?

Children need the freedom to:

- Explore using all their senses.
- Move between activity areas.
- Mix or connect different activities.

Inspect your home or center. Do your activity stations meet these guidelines? If not, how can you change them?

For help in setting up your centers or home, come to our **Setting Up Your Space** workshop on September 13th.



*Are you feeling tired? Blue?
Are the children grumpy? Bickering?
Picking at one another?
Solution: Get up and MOVE!*

- √ Put on some lively music and Dance! Dance! Dance!. Have children find their pulse before and after dancing.
- √ Play "Follow the Leader" around

Move for a Minute!

by Lynn Ratliff



the house or in the yard.

- √ Play "Simon Says Move". Simon says "jump 10 times" or Simon says "touch your toes 10 times".
- √ Play a game of kickball! Great fun for all ages! Modify it for younger children by only using one base to run to and then back home.
- √ Play "Do As I Do". A game of silence! Explain the game and then give

no further verbal instructions. Leader does movements such as raising and lowering arms, marching in place, jumping in place, hopping on one foot, touching toes, changing motions frequently without saying anything. Children must watch closely and change movements to match leader quickly.

Free Health Care Information Available for Child Care Providers

The Ohio Child Care Resource and Referral Association (OCCRRA) has recently started a program through *Healthy Child Care Ohio* to link child care providers and parents with registered nurses who can answer specific child health-related questions. To get answers to your questions or just find out about this program, call 877-543-7669.

The Benefit Benefits YOU!

Please help us to make next year's benefit/auction the best yet! The theme will be "All That Glitters . . . With CCC". The event is scheduled for March 25, 2006 at Edison Community College in Piqua.

We need donations of all kinds for the auction.

Do you sew? . . . Do you knit?

Can you ask your friends and relatives for gift certificates or coupons?

Remember proceeds from the benefit make the books, packets, newsletters, and trainings available to all child care providers. If you can make a donation, please call the office.

Child Care Choices Workshops

“Setting Up Your Space to Succeed”

Tuesday, September 13— 7-8:30 at **West Charleston Church of the Brethren**

When children feel comfortable in their physical surroundings, they will venture to explore materials or events around them. Many factors contribute to a truly great room layout, to a design that encourages children through play. Learn how to set up **Your Space!** Separate sessions for homes and centers.

“How Foods Affect Children’s Behavior”

Thursday, September 22, 7— 8:30 p.m.. at **West Charleston Church of the Brethren.**

Presented by Pam Guiden of Healthy Child Care Ohio.

Explore the role of common foods and food additives on children and their behavior.



“Pointers for Parents”

Thursday, October 20—7 to 9 p.m.; parent and provider workshop at **Upper Valley JVS**

Six presenters with multiple sessions. Covering birth to adolescents. Many childhood problems and concerns will be discussed. Please bring the parents of the children in your care.

Early Bird drawing at 6:55 p.m.

Receive a fabulous calendar of activities for the year—“Pointers for Parents—Day by Day.”

“Story Lady Reruns”

Thursday, November 10, 7—8:30 p.m. at **West Charleston Church of the Brethren.**

Join Lynn Ratliff as she presents past Story Lady themes with books and activities for all.



Ready to Learn Workshops with Think TV

Sept. 27— “The Art and Science of Getting Along”

October 11— “What Do You Do With the Mad that You Feel?”

October 25— “Challenging Behaviors”

From 7- 9 pm at **West Charleston Church of the Brethren**

“An Evening with Eric Carle”

Tuesday, January 24— 7 to 9 p.m. at **Troy Christian School**

The very creative teachers of Troy Christian School present books and activities based on The Very Hungry Caterpillar, The Very Busy Spider, and The Very Quiet Cricket.

- ✓ Fill up on books & activities
- ✓ Multiple sessions
- ✓ Take home the books
- ✓ Take home the activities

Health and Safety workshop dates:

Sept. 15 — **First Aid and Communicable Diseases.** Learn to recognize communicable diseases, the causes and prevention methods and learn the basics of First Aid.

Sept. 29 — **Child Abuse.** Learn to recognize abuse, what and when to report, and whom to call when you suspect a child has been injured or seriously mistreated.

October 6 — **Food Safety and Nutrition.** Learn valuable tips for storing and cooking foods safely and Learn what and how to feed children from infant through pre-school age.

October 13 — **Managing Children's Behavior and Home Safety.** Plan for safety in storage areas, equipment, emergencies, outdoors, and transportation and Learn how children grow and develop, how to set up your home, and how to respond to children having a difficult day.

At 814 W. Main St., Tipp City, CCC's new office. 7:00—9:15 p.m.

Annual Christmas Party for home day care providers—December 9th, 7-8:30 pm at **CCC's new office** in Tipp City.

**Remember—
call CCC
to register for
all workshops.**

Big Ideas for Young Minds

Twenty childcare centers and 27 family childcare providers explored the arts with the Story Lady during the 2004-2005 Story Lady visits. Both providers and children enjoyed songs, finger plays, movement and art activities. Each provider received a total of five children's books for their home/center. Each child received three children's books to take home, along with a packet of information about the importance of reading and activity ideas to extend the book

The first Story Lady visit was entitled "**How do artists make their art?**" We read the books *The Straight Line Wonder* by Mem Fox and *In the Garden with Van Gogh* by Julie Merberg and Suzanne Bober. We explored the various elements of art, such as line, shape, texture, contrast, shadow, color and space. The children painted with strings!

The second idea we explored was "**How can I make my world more beautiful?**" We read *RAP A TAP TAP* by Leo and Diane Dillon and *My Crayons Talk*

by Patricia Hubbard. We learned that Mr. Bojangles made the world a more beautiful place with his tap dancing. We discovered ways that we can make the world around us more beautiful through musical beat, rhythm and dance.

At the third Story Lady visit we answered the question "**How can I make music?**" *Charlie Parker Played Be Bop* by Chris Raschka is a story about a jazz saxophone player. The children listened to Charlie Parker music, painted by blowing air through straws, touched a real saxophone, and made music of their own with kazoos!

The Story Lady visits help meet training requirements for childcare providers. If you are interested in visits for the 2005-2006 school year, call Child Care Choices to get signed up.



Food Program News

The Food Program Story Lady is making the rounds and talking about eating foreign foods. Here is a recipe you can make with the kids that would be really different for a birthday lunch. They would really like to eat it with chopsticks.

Birthday Noodles with Peanut Sauce

In China and Other Asian countries, it's a custom to eat noodles on your birthday because long noodles are believed to mean you'll live a long life. You can find Chinese-style noodles in the refrigerator section of your grocery store.

2 Tablespoons smooth peanut butter or sesame paste
1/4 cup of hot water
3 Tablespoons soy sauce
1 teaspoon honey
4 cups cooked Chinese-style noodles or spaghetti
2 scallions, cut in 1/2 inch pieces (if you want)
Bean sprouts (if you want)
Chopped peanuts (if you want)

1. In a large bowl, use a fork to stir the peanut butter or sesame paste with water until creamy. Stir in

the soy sauce and honey and set aside.

2. Drain the cooked noodles and add to the bowl with peanut butter mixture. Toss well. Refrigerate until ready to serve.
3. Serve the noodles cold, topped with scallions, sprouts or chopped peanuts.

REALLY FUN TO EAT WITH CHOPSTICKS!!!

If you are interested in participating in the Child and Adult Care Food Program and receiving reimbursement for the meals you serve the children in your care, call Gail at Child Care Choices.

Two New Preschools Open in Miami County

Welcome to:

St. Patrick's Preschool, 420 E. Water St., Troy, Ohio
339-1158
Contact Mary Neumeier

Mainstreet Preschool, 8 West Main St., Tipp City, Ohio
669-4707
Contact Judy Riesser

**A publication of
Child Care Choices**

**Your Link to Community Child Care
in Miami County**



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**Fall CCC Workshops are
scheduled! Look inside for
details.**

Calendar of Events—CCC Workshops and Annual Benefit

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| Sept. 13 | “Setting Up Your Space to Succeed”, 7-8:30 pm at West Charleston Church of the Brethren |
| Sept. 15 | Health and Safety—“First Aid and Communicable Disease”, 7-9:15 at CCC, 814 W. Main, Tipp City |
| Sept. 16 | CCC’s 1st Annual Golf Tournament (fundraiser) |
| Sept. 22 | “How Foods Affect Children’s Behavior”, 7-8:30 at West Charleston Church of the Brethren |
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| December 9 | Christmas Party for home day care providers, 7-8:30 at CCC, 814 W. Main, Tipp City |
| January 24 | “An Evening with Eric Carle”, 7-9 pm at Troy Christian School |
| March 25 | “All That Glitters . . . With CCC” - CCC’s Annual Auction Gala at Edison Community College |
| April 29 | SAVE THE DATE—Pamper the Provider Retreat at the Studebaker Farm |
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