

THE CHILD CARE PROFESSIONAL

The Newsletter of the WKU Child Care Resource & Referral

Western Kentucky University

1 Big Red Way

344 Tate Page Hall

Bowling Green, Kentucky 42101-3576

Join NAEYC and Receive KAECE, SECA and SCKECE Memberships, Too!

Kim McIntyre, CCR&R Professional Development Coordinator

You know you should join a professional organization. You know how important on-going education and training are in this constantly changing field. You know joining an early childhood professional organization provides you with up to date research and position statements regarding best practices and workforce issues relating to quality early care and education. So, what is holding you up?

How about if you get a four-for-one deal? By joining the National Association for the Education of Young Children (NAEYC), you also become a member of the Kentucky Association for Early Childhood Education (KAECE), the Southern Early Childhood Association (SECA), and the local South Central Kentucky Early Childhood Education (SCKECE) chapter, for which I have recently accepted the role of President.

The local SCKECE chapter provides an opportunity for area providers to collaborate and address the local needs of children and families. KAECE provides opportunities for the collaboration of individuals and groups on the state level who are concerned with appropriate early care and

education of young children, as well as serving and acting on behalf of the needs and rights of all children and families in Kentucky. Check out the KHSA/KAECE collaborative conference (October 3, 4, 5 2002) information on the new website at www.kaece.org.

After joining NAEYC online at www.naeyc.org with a credit card, you will truly look forward to receiving your copies of *Young Children*, *Dimensions*, and *Kaleidoscope* publications. In addition to the reduced rates on NAEYC, KAECE, and SECA Conference registrations, SCKAECE members will have an opportunity to attend local SCKAECE training conferences and area luncheon meetings (currently scheduled for October 19 and November 16, 2002, and for April 26 and May 17, 2003).

If you truly believe that early childhood education is an important profession in which professionals apply a body of knowledge and theoretical principles to help children learn and grow, procrastinate no longer. Join one early childhood professional organization today and benefit from four professional memberships!



The Kentucky Association for Early Childhood Education and Kentucky Head Start Association COLLABORATION CONFERENCE

October 3 - 5, 2002

*Northern Kentucky Holiday Inn Airport
Erlanger, Kentucky*

*See the Registration Form in this issue for
more information!*

Pictures: Valuable in Building Healthy Emotions

Sherri Meyer, CCR&R Coordinator

We all know that one of our biggest responsibilities is to maintain safe and healthy environments for young children. A healthy environment also includes the mental health of children. It is vital to build the self-esteem in children. This allows for better decision making and later in life, better citizens.

One way to build self-esteem and the mental health of children is to display pictures of them in the classroom or family child care home. This can be accomplished in many ways. Pictures of children can be displayed as part of the schedule for the day to help them to understand the sequence of the daily activities. Pictures can be displayed to show different children playing in the various learning centers of the classroom or home. Pictures can be used on index cards and used as an attendance system for children to identify and place in a present box when they arrive. When space is limited, pictures can be kept in photo albums and class made books. You may also want to consider taking videos of the children and allowing them to watch themselves in action.

Since the classroom is an extension of their home, the classroom or family child care home, may want to display pictures of the children and their families. This allows for spontaneous conversations to occur about "I see my Dad"

or "I see my Sister." Allowing children to "visit" their families during their time with you will tell the children that you value their family and will allow the child who is having a difficult day to find some comfort in their picture.

Families will also appreciate the extra effort of displaying pictures of their children. It is a wonderful tool to use to share information with families on what their children create during the day and the activities that they are involved in. Taking pictures of children's work is also a way to document progress in their development. We know that blocks fall down so pictures are a great way to show the efforts of the children.

These activities will work to help children feel good about themselves and to build positive relationships with families. Try it!

Child Care Resource & Referral

*The staff of the CCR&R at
Western Kentucky University includes:*

*Connie Jo Smith, CCR&R Specialist
Sherri Meyer, CCR&R Coordinator
Taylor Tucker, Quality Coordinator
Kim McIntyre, Professional Development Coordinator
Amy Hood, Infant and Toddler Consultant
Terri Mills, Office Assistant*

*For More Information:
Phone us at (270) 745-2216 or (800) 621-5908
Fax us at (270) 745-7089
E-Mail us at ccrexpert@wku.edu
Visit our website at www.ttas.org*



Congratulations Fall 2002 KIDS NOW Scholars!

Janis S. Flynn, Holy Trinity Lutheran School

Jennifer S. Moore, Creative Corner Childcare & Preschool

Linda S. Bohannon, La Petite Academy

Alissa K. Nealy, La Petite Academy

Amy N. Bragg, La Petite Academy

Debra K. Roberts, Glasgow Independent Schools Preschool

Debra L. Finn, Simpson County Schools Preschool

Michele L. Jessie, Plum Tree Montessori School

Mary Janet Bryant, Warren County Schools Preschool

Darlene Marie Charlton, Warren County Schools Preschool

Lisa C. Bolinger, Barren County Schools Preschool

Amy A. Burton, Community Education After-School
Programs

Judith S. Ged, Eagle's Nest Child Care

Paula J. Burd, Noah's Ark Child Care

Stacy Renee Clark, Simpson County Schools Preschool

Lori L. Mosier, Noah's Ark Child Care

Lucy K. Rush, La Petite Academy

Sheila M. Lundy, Eagle's Nest Child Care

Annie Rose Allsup, Tiny Treasures Child Care Service

Kimberly M. Copeland, La Petite Academy

Lori A. Wallin, Warren County Schools Preschool

Sara L. Froedge, Busy Town, Inc.

Skates B. Davis, Holy Trinity Lutheran School

Melissa Freeman Cates, Auburn Schools Preschool

Janice W. Steenbergen, Noah's Ark Child Care

Beverly N. Shaw, Noah's Ark Child Care

Find out how you can become a KIDS NOW Scholar!
Contact Kim McIntyre, kim.mcintyre@wku.edu, Profes-
sional Development Coordinator, at 745-2216 or 1-800-
621-5908.

Join Us at the October 19, 2002 Conference

Connie Jo Smith, CCR&R Specialist

We are excited about the new training opportunities we are making available on October 19, 2002 and hope you will join us! For the first time ever, we have exhibitors available to share information with you. For October, we already have three exhibitors scheduled.

- ◆ The Barren River Imaginative Museum of Science (BRIMS) for children will be bringing a display and will be available to answer questions about ways that they can work with programs that serve young children. Check out their web page at <http://www.premiernet.net/~brims/>.
- ◆ First Steps, a statewide early intervention system which provides services to children from birth to age three with developmental disabilities and their families, will be have a display. They offer comprehensive services through coordination with a variety of community agencies, and services may be provided in home, in center-based programs, or in clinical settings depending upon the needs and the availability of services. Check out their web page at <http://chs.state.ky.us/commissionkids/firststeps/guide.htm>
- ◆ The South Central Kentucky Association for Early Childhood Education (SCKAECE) will have a display and membership information available. The web page for the state association for which this is a local chapter can be located at <http://www.kaece.org/>.

We will be offering the state required orientation for all new child care staff, and we will also have a special orientation session designed especially for those who work with infants and toddlers. We are also pleased to announce that we will have two sessions for experienced staff. An anti-biased session, *Promoting Tolerance, Inclusion & Equality*, will be available. Also a session introducing the Environmental Rating Scales, *How Teachers Can Make a Difference* will be provided.

You must be registered to attend the sessions. However, even if you are not planning to attend the workshops you are welcome to stop by and visit with the exhibitors, free of charge. Please see the registration forms enclosed for location and times.

September is....

Baby Safety Month
National Library Card
Children's Eye Health and Safety Month
National Alcohol and Drug Addiction Recovery Month
Food Safety Month

September 1-7 is
National Childhood Injury Prevention Week
and National Childhood Injury Prevention Week

September 9 is National Grandparents Day

September 23 is Family Day - A Day to Eat Dinner with
Your Children

Congratulations, Teresa Manley!

Teresa Manley, a certified child care provider in Bowling Green, is now a STAR provider. She was the only one in our Barren River Area Development District to participate in the STARS for KIDS NOW Pilot for Family Child Care. The pilot ran from January 1-June 30, 2002 in 19 Kentucky counties. Starting July 1, 2002, STARS for KIDS NOW for certified and type 11 child care homes became available for voluntary participation.

If you are interested in learning more about this contact Taylor Tucker at the CCR&R at Western Kentucky University by email (taylor.tucker@wku.edu) or by telephone (800-621-5908 or 270-745-2216). Who will be next? Will it be you?

21st Century Community Learning Centers Grants

Information about the new Kentucky 21st Century Community Learning Grants can now be found on the Kentucky Department of Education's web page. This initiative is part of the *No Child Left Behind Act of 2001* and focuses on providing constructive learning activities during non-school hours.

The funds are available to design and implement effective out-of-school programs that will result in improved student achievement. Programs that receive funding must provide tutorial services to help students meet State and local student performance standards in core academic subjects, and offer a broad array of additional activities like drug and violence prevention programs, counseling programs, art, music, fitness, and recreation programs, technology education programs, and character education programs. Programs funded must also offer families of students served by community learning centers opportunities for literacy and related educational development.

The Application and the Request for Proposals are available for download at <http://www.kde.state.ky.us/odss/family/21stCCLC.asp>, or you can call the Child Care Resource and Referral Office at Western Kentucky University to request that the information be faxed or mailed to you. The proposal deadline date is October 1, 2002.

CCR&R Bids Farewell!

Lesley Montgomery is no longer serving as the CCR&R Office Coordinator. We will miss Lesley, but wish her much success and happiness with her career change. Terri Mills, our Office Assistant will be happy to take your calls and assist you.



Lights On Afterschool, October 10

Lights On Afterschool is a rally on October 10, 2002 for after-school programs to show how important these programs are. The sponsor, Afterschool Alliance, invites you to call 877-759-9733 or check their web page at www.afterschoolalliance.org to learn more.

The Environmental Rating Scale: Space & Furnishings

Taylor Tucker, CCR&R Quality Coordinator

The first subscale of the environmental rating scales is related to space and furnishings. This item covers the space children use as well as the way it is arranged. First of all the space occupied by children should not be crowded. Children should be able to move around the space and access the materials they need freely. In order to accomplish this, the space should have low open shelves for children of all ages.

To score an *excellent* rating, the space should be arranged to encourage independent use by the children in the group. Similar activities should be grouped together and the shelves should be labeled in order to allow the children success in putting away their toys. The space should also include a place for children to relax, soft furniture and soft toys should be available (on low open shelves) for the children during a substantial portion (at least one-third) of the day. This means that children should be engaged in “center time” or “free play” for at least a third of their day.

The children’s play area also needs to have a special cozy area as well as other soft areas in the environment in order to score an *excellent* rating. Older children

(preschoolers and up) need to have space for privacy. This space needs to be easy to supervise, also the teacher needs to set up areas for one or two children to play alone and have a “non-interrupting” rule. Again to score an *excellent* rating there needs to have more

than one space for private play that is protected from other children interrupting individual play activities.

Gross motor is also included within this sub-scale. There must be safe space for gross motor play as well as a variety of equipment appropriate for gross motor play. This not only includes the indoor environment but it also includes the playground and any other area that may be used for gross motor play. The playground must be safe! In order to make the playground safe, there must be

adequate safe surfacing surrounding the equipment. The children must also have safe access to the playground which means there must not be a road or parking lot next to the playground.

To score an *excellent* rating in the area of gross motor space, the environment must provide enough space for several activities to happen at once and it must have variety of surfaces. The outdoor play space must also have protection from the elements; for example, there must be some shade in summer, sun in winter and good drainage. The outdoor play space must have convenient features such as being near the toilets and drinking water, accessible storage for equipment, and there must be direct access to the playground from the classroom.

The playground must have enough gross motor equipment so that children have access without a long wait, the equipment must be in good repair and available to children for at least one hour daily. The equipment must also stimulate a variety of skills (balancing, climbing, ball-play, steering and pedaling wheel toys). In order to score an *excellent* rating in this area, there must be both stationary and portable gross motor equipment and it must encourage various skills on different levels.

The last area covered in this subscale is child related display. The display must be current and should be related to what has been occurring within the children’s settings. The materials must be appropriate for the ages being served in the learning environment. The work displayed should be the work of the children in the group! The teacher needs to talk to children about the displays in the room. The display should also include some three-dimensional materials.

To score an *excellent* rating, the display must include photos of children and their families. The work that is displayed should be predominately the children’s work and the teacher needs to change the display often.

If you want more information on the environmental rating scales or you would like to have someone from the CCR&R visit you and complete an environmental rating scale, please contact Taylor Tucker at 1-800-882-7482 or by e-mail at Taylor.Tucker@wku.edu.



KWSA - KAECE COLLABORATIVE CONFERENCE

OCTOBER 3-5, 2002
AIRPORT HOLIDAY INN
COVINGTON, KENTUCKY

KENTUCKY HEAD START ASSOCIATION
&
KENTUCKY ASSOCIATION FOR EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION

REGISTRATION FORM

PLEASE PRINT. COMPLETE ONE FORM FOR EACH REGISTRANT. COPY IF EXTRA FORMS ARE NEEDED.

Last Name _____ First Name & Middle Initial _____
 Street Address _____ City _____ State _____ Zip _____
 Home Phone _____ - _____ - _____ E-Mail _____

CONFERENCE (CIRCLE ONE)

Thursday, Friday, Saturday Conference Sessions – October 3-5, 2002. Please Circle One Dollar Amount. Conference sessions are on a first-come space available basis. These sessions do not have sign-up registration. Presenters receive one (1) day free registration per workshop provided.

DAY	NAEYC/KWSA MEMBER and/or STUDENT	NON-MEMBER
Thurs/Fri/Sat	\$ 50	\$ 60
Two (2) Days	\$ 40	\$ 50
One (1) Day	\$ 30	\$ 40

SPECIAL EVENTS: (CIRCLE CHOICES) **

- \$ KAECE Board Meeting (Thursday, October 3, 2002, 5:00 pm -7:00 pm) \$ ___
- \$ 25.00 Public Policy Luncheon (Friday, October 4, 2002, Noon-2:00 pm) \$ ___
- \$ -0- IECE Faculty Gathering (Friday, October 4, 2002, 5:00 pm – 7:00 pm) \$ -0-
- \$ -0- Six Hour Child Care Licensing Orientation (Friday, October 4, 2002, 8:30-10:30/1:00-5:00 pm) \$ -0-

** If special meals are required, please specify _____

REGISTRATION INFORMATION

Payment Method: ___ Check or Money Order ___ Purchase Order TOTAL ENCLOSED \$ _____

Registration must be postmarked on or before September 16, 2002. There will be no on-site registration. Purchase Order or payment must accompany the Registration Form. Registration Fees are non-refundable but are transferable. Name tags, special event tickets and the Program Agenda are to be picked up at the Conference Registration Area.

If you are employed at a Child Care Facility that has a NAEYC Accreditation or is participating in the STARS Program, stop by the Registration Area for Special Recognition.

If you require special services, check here:

Physically Challenged _____ Hearing Impaired _____ Other _____

REGISTRATION QUESTIONS: e-mail jcblex@aol.com (Jane Bryant) or
dwefer@insightbb.com (Nancy Wefer)

**MAKE CHECK, MONEY ORDER OR PURCHASE ORDER PAYABLE TO AND
RETURN FORM TO:**

**KWSA-KAECE 2002 COLLABORATIVE CONFERENCE, 521 Garden Way, Edgewood,
Kentucky 41017, Atten: Marinell Brown**

JUST FOR PARENTS

Information and Resource Review

With fresh vegetables from the garden ripening, children are experiencing new foods and learning that foods can be prepared in different ways. Children learn skills, such as washing and cutting food, spreading, mixing, stirring, spooning, and kneading. They learn the names of different foods, kitchen utensils, and cookware while helping out.

Most importantly, children learn that although people have different customs, traditions, and preferences regarding foods, everyone shares in the common experience of preparing, serving, and eating food. Here are some food related activities your child may enjoy:

Silverware Sort

Allow your child to help put away the silverware, pots and pans, and dishes. Discuss the different sizes, colors, and shapes of the dishes, as well as what they are used for and of what material they are made (aluminum, copper). Show your child unusual kitchen utensils and gadgets in your kitchen.



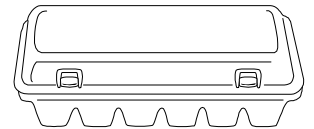
Bathtime Fun

Give your child a variety of plastic kitchen utensils (that are not sharp) and dishes to play with in the bathtub. Name the items and ask your child to describe the item. Ask your child to show you how they pour, spoon, and mix. Ask them to measure 1 cup for you. Pretend to make icing for cupcakes. Most importantly, have fun.

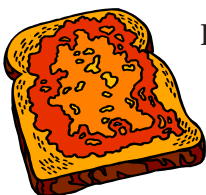
Recycled Kitchen Trash

Don't throw away your recyclables. The Styrofoam meat trays are handy for coloring with markers or etching with a pen, the egg cartons are great for sorting beans, and the cereal box fronts are easy to cut into puzzles.

Think of uses for other items that end up in the trash. Plastic butter tubs are convenient storage containers for crayons, cars, and cards. Plastic pop bottles make excellent bowling pins. Chances are you can turn the trash into a learning activity for your child.



Cinnamon Toast



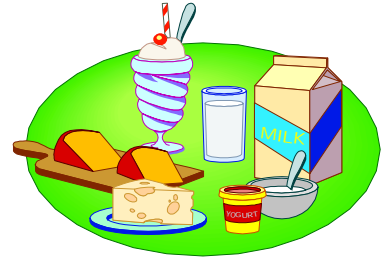
Here's a good activity to teach your child that he can make a snack by himself. Show him how to make cinnamon toast. Put the toaster where he can reach it to put the bread in. Help him mix the sugar and cinnamon together. If you have a large saltshaker to put the mixture in, it will be easier for the child to use. If not, just use a spoon. Allow your child to spread the butter on the warm toast and sprinkle the sugar-cinnamon on the buttered toast. He will enjoy this snack with a glass of milk. Remember to move the toaster out of reach when you have finished your activity.

Stay in Shape

While you are helping with the cinnamon toast, you can show the child some shapes. The toast is a square to begin with. Cut the toast from corner to corner for a triangle. Cut it in thirds to make three rectangles. Cut it into four pieces to make small squares. If you want to add interest, count out the pieces as you cut them.

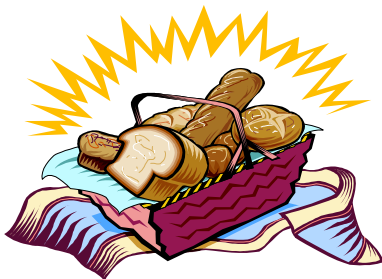
Make a Grocery List

Ask your child to draw a grocery list. Encourage your child to write letters they hear in the name of the item to go with the picture of the item. Ask your child to count and see how many items you need. Ask your child which is the biggest/smallest item. Ask your child where they can find the item in the grocery (freezer, meats, dairy, etc.). Take your child to the grocery with his list and help him or her find the items on their list.



Visit your local library or check out free books from the Child Care Resource & Referral at WKU to read with your child. Here are a few to consider:

Everybody Cooks Rice. Dooley, N. (1991). Minneapolis, MN: Carolrhoda Books, Inc. A child, who is sent to find a younger brother at dinnertime, is introduced to a variety of cultures through encounters with many ways rice is prepared in the neighborhood. One family uses tumeric to give the rice a yellow color, one family adds black-eyed peas, and one family adds hot peppers, chives, and red beans. The book includes a variety of delicious rice recipes.



Bread, Bread, Bread. Morris, A. (1989). New York: Mulberry Paperback Books. This book of photographs and simple text celebrates the many different kinds of bread and how it may be enjoyed all over the world. It also includes recipes for the preparation of bread.

If You Give A Pig A Pancake. Numeroff, L. (1998). USA: A Laura Geringer Book, HarperCollins Publishers. This sequential story tells how one thing can lead to another when you give a pig a pancake. After getting all sticky, the pig takes a bath, asks for bubbles, and asks for a toy, as an accommodating little girl tries to keep up with the busy little pig. This story would be appropriate when preparing pancakes or when discussing sticky foods.



*WKU Child Care Resource & Referral encourages you to copy and distribute this **Special Message for Parents** to all the families in your program or center.*