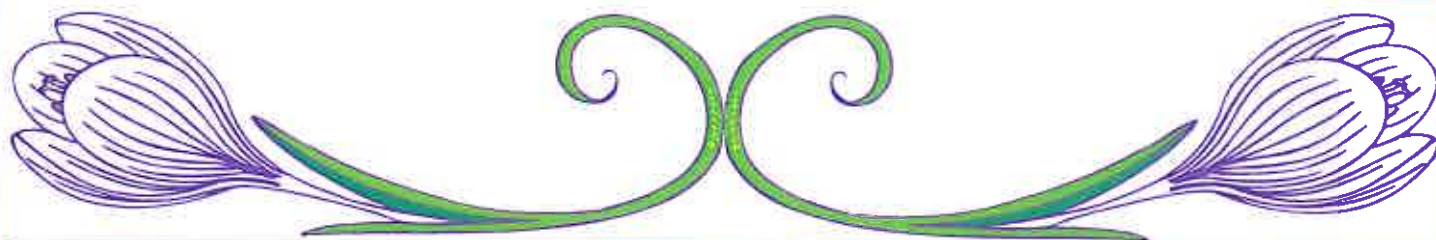




The Council Connection

SPRING 2011



“WE CAN DO BETTER”

The National Association of Child Care Resource and Referral Agencies (NACCRRA) has released a report scoring state laws governing child care center program requirements and oversight. In *We Can Do Better: 2011 Update*, NACCRRA scored and ranked the 50 states, the District of Columbia and the Department of Defense on ten program requirements and five oversight benchmarks. State child care licensing requirements govern health, safety and learning opportunities for children. States’ oversight requirements monitor compliance with state policies.

NACCRRA’s scoring showed that in most states, current child care center program requirements and oversight do little to protect the health and safety of children or to promote school success. Using a standard grading scale, no state earned an A. The Department of Defense earned a B, four states earned a C, twenty-one states earned a D and half the states (twenty-six) earned a failing grade. In the top ten best overall scores, New York ranked number six. However, of a total possible score of 150, New York was at 105, only a 70%.

As part of its assessment of child care centers and family child care homes in New York, NACCRRA has issued recommendations to improve and protect the safety of children.

Some of the recommendations for Child Care Centers include:

- Require center staff to have health and safety training before caring for children.
- Increase the annual training requirements for teachers to 24 hours including CPR and first-aid renewal.
- Require a check of individuals’ federal criminal history.
- Require a check of the sex offender registry.
- Require center directors to have a minimum of a bachelor’s degree and a lead teacher to have a CDA or an associate degree in early childhood education.

Recommendations for Family Child Care homes include:

- Require providers caring for one or more unrelated children to be regulated.
- Require annual inspections of homes.
- Conduct routine unannounced inspections.
- Use sex offender registries and juvenile records to conduct background checks.
- Increase the number of hours of initial training to 40, prior to caring for children.
- Require providers to have a high school diploma or GED and a CDA, college courses in early childhood education, or an AA degree within three years of licensing.



According to statistics collected by the Child Care Council of Dutchess and Putnam, Inc., in 2010 the Council received requests for child care for 1,437 children in Dutchess County and for 165 children in Putnam County. With requests for over 1600 children to be placed in regulated care, it is our responsibility to pledge that we will do better.

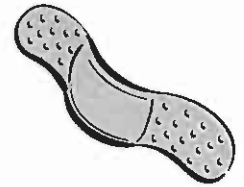
The Board of Directors and staff of the Child Care Council of Dutchess and Putnam, Inc. encourage input from parents, child care providers and business and community members on how we can more effectively meet your needs.

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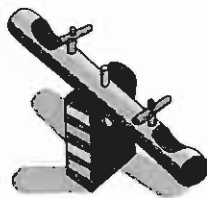
FIRST AID AND CPR

On August 13, 2010 a law was passed that requires all child care providers to have at least one employee who holds a valid certificate in cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR) and first aid on the premise of the child care program during the program's operating hours. As written, this law may require that most programs have multiple persons trained in both courses so that the program stays in compliance when any one of those trained staff persons is absent. In addition, substitutes for family day care providers would also need to be trained in CPR and First Aid when supervising children in the absence of a provider and alternate provider. This law went into effect on December 11, 2010. If you have any questions, please contact your licensor or registrar.



PLAYGROUND EQUIPMENT

Now that spring is here and the snow is gone, outdoor play equipment will probably start to get more use. Please remember that as of 2001, Family and Group Family Day Care Regulations have included the requirement to install playground equipment according to the manufacturer's instructions. These instructions should include all aspects of how your playground equipment should be installed. Part of those instructions for any elevated playground equipment includes directions for protective surfacing. Follow the manufacturer's instructions for your playground equipment. If you do not have those instructions, you may follow instructions for installation of protective ground cover for similar equipment. Or, you can follow the guidelines for protective ground cover listed in the booklet "Outdoor Home Playground Safety Handbook," produced by the Consumer Product Safety Commission (CPSC). This handbook can be found at www.cpsc.gov. Should you choose not to use your equipment ever again for the child care program, you must put that decision in writing and submit this to the Division of Child Care Services. Please visit the Office of Children and Family Services website at www.ocfs.state.ny.us or contact your licensor or registrar for further information.



"DEAR PROVIDER" LETTER

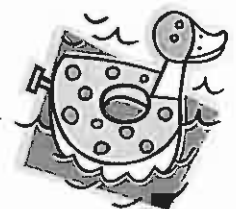


Last December the Office of Children and Family Services included the following in a "Dear Provider" letter. For those of you who did not read it or don't remember it, please take the time to review it once again.

Pool Season and Home-Based Care

Spring/Summer season means open swimming pools and the need to be vigilant about safety and outdoor water hazards. Family-based providers using pools must review any previously approved pool plan and call their licensor/registrar if anything has changed re: layout, use plan, structural changes (deck, stairs, etc.). Providers who wish to be approved to use a residential pool for the first time will need OCFS approval prior to pool use. Contact your licensor/registrar before you plan to include pool use in your activities. For more information visit: http://www.ocfs.state.ny.us/main/childcare/pool_guidlines.asp

Please be reminded that unless you have an approved Pool Plan, 416.5 (g)(1), 417.5(g)(1) "The use of spa pools, hot tubs and fill-and-drain wading pools is prohibited. The use of non-public and residential pools is also prohibited except in those instances where a provider can demonstrate the ability to operate and adequately supervise the use of a non-public or residential pool in a clean, safe and sanitary manner. The provider must receive Office approval prior to use of a non-public or residential pool for children in day care."



WELCOME TO NEW PROVIDERS

(JANUARY—MARCH 2011)

Family Day Care Providers

Dutchess County

Munchkin Land Day Care—Keri Koehler
Half Pint Family Child Care—Kedaer Jones
Little Pickles—Rebecca Jevons Marlin

School Age Child Care

Putnam County

Green Chimneys Children's Services—Yolande Coleman



Group Family Day Care Providers

Dutchess County

Anne Catherine Schmitt
Bird's View Day Care—Deborah Dyer

Day Care Centers

Dutchess County

Poughkeepsie Child Development Center, Inc.—Jennifer Kingman

CONGRATULATIONS TO RENEWED PROVIDERS

(JANUARY—MARCH 2011)

Family Day Care Providers

Dutchess County

Marie Daley
Blooming Buddies—Alison Ugarte
Jean Merryweather
Althea Richards
ABC Daycare—Judy Lenane
Grammy's Country Daycare—Nancy House

Putnam County

Half Pint TSM, Inc.—Susan McNerney
Lori Smith
Francesca Dunne
Carolyn Sepe
Arlene Roake

Group Family Day Care Providers

Dutchess County

Babes in Toyland—Margaret Swano
Ali's World Childcare—Alice Alaimo
Nana's House Childcare—Stephanie Clark
Little Lamb Family Daycare Inc.—Evanthia Moustakas
Judy Wyskida
The Children's Playhouse Inc.—Barbara Passaro
Meryana Kakish
The Little House on the Hill Daycare—Mercedes Gutierrez

Putnam County

Home Sweet Home Group Day Care, LLC—Maria Zanetti

Day Care Centers

Dutchess County

Astor Early Childhood Program—Gertrude Hoffman
Young Hearts Day Care, LLC—Florence Winklharer
Small World Child Care—Amy Balfour
Hull Homestead Day Nursery—Judith Robbins
Astor Home for Children—Deborah Smith
Northern Dutchess Day Care Center—Ann Hosking

Putnam County

Creative Kids Childcare Center—Marianne Pogmore
The Children's Station of Brewster—Mary Hansen
Child's Play Nursery and Day School—Loretta Preira



"SAFETY IS NO ACCIDENT: LIVE INJURY-FREE"

CLICK CHECK PROTECT is a **School Safety Alert Program** whose goal is to get vital safety and recall information to every school and every parent. This information includes safety alerts and recall notices that are significant to parents, teachers and caregivers. Developed by Consumers Union/Consumer Reports and partnering with school based organizations to form a National School Safety Coalition, vital safety information including emerging hazards and risks can go directly to parents, teachers, and caregivers nationwide via an electronically-delivered newsletter and on websites.

www.clickcheckprotect.org

The NYS Department of Health launched the **Injury-Free Kids Campaign** to raise awareness of the leading causes of childhood injuries and how to prevent them. This parent-friendly website provides important safety information so that parents and caregivers can play a major role in preventing childhood injuries and includes fact sheets addressing unintentional and intentional injury topics such as child passenger safety, playground safety, sports safety, bullying prevention, and teen driver safety and includes injury-specific New York State data, prevention strategies, and links to additional web resources for more information.

www.nyhealth.gov/prevention/injury_prevention/children

PDF copies of NYSDOH Injury-Free Kids posters are available at:

<http://www.co.dutchess.ny.us/CountyGov/Departments/Health/19475.htm>



HARMFUL TO YOUR HEALTH?

**TRUDY LACKNER
NAMED CHILD CARE
TEACHER OF THE YEAR**

The Oregon Environmental Council sends monthly e-mails, info@oeconline.org, with eco-healthy home tips. The information is to alert readers to chemicals used in cleaning products, both in cleaning our bodies and our homes. One such chemical, BPA, Bisphenol A is a synthetic estrogen used to make plastic bottles that hold beverages and food-can linings. BPA is found in 93% of people tested in the U.S. Research shows that BPA in containers leaches into the food and liquids they hold and it ends up in our bodies. It also shows that growing children are especially vulnerable to BPA



Over 200 scientific studies link exposure to low levels of BPA abnormal brain development, and early onset of puberty among other serious diseases. Oregon's state Senate recently passed a bill to ensure that baby bottles, sippy cups, sports water bottles and WIC-approved formula containers are BPA-free. Other states have laws restricting BPA, but this bill goes further. It must now go to Oregon's House.

The European Union, Canada, and the United Arab Emirates have banned BPA in baby bottles, as have nine U.S. states: Connecticut, **New York**, Maine, Maryland, Massachusetts, Minnesota, Washington, Wisconsin and Vermont. Two of those states have also banned it from infant-formula cans and baby- food jars.

There have been studies funded by industries: Bayer, Dow, Hexion Speciality Chemicals, SABIC Innovative Plastics and Sunoco. There have also been 100 independently funded studies. The tests produced opposing outcomes. Every one of the 14 industry funded studies found none of the effects as were found in 90% of the independent studies.

In the United States, chemicals are considered safe until they are proven otherwise.



Trudy Lackner of Poughkeepsie, an early care and education teacher at The Children's Corner Group Family Child Care, is a recipient the 2011 Terri Lynne Lokoff/Children's Tylenol National Child Care Teacher Award.

Lackner was selected from a pool of applicants nationwide.

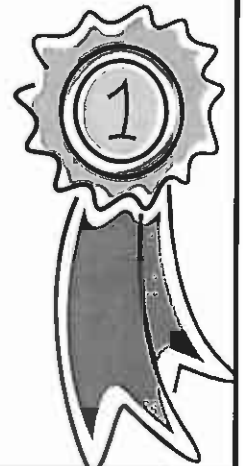
Lackner also received the Helene Marks Award and was named the Child Care Teacher of the Year.

The award is presented with a cash award of \$1,000 to implement her award-winning active learning project, "A Ray of Light."

Lackner received the award at a special ceremony at Please Touch Museum in Philadelphia on Thursday April 14, 2011.

Terri Lynne Lokoff Child Care Foundation's website: www.tllccf.org

Taken from: The Poughkeepsie Journal, April 12, 2011





Child Development Associate

at
Dutchess Community College



It has always been a challenge for staff in centers and family day care to advance on the career ladder while working. The Child Development Associate was developed to help people do just that. A two-semester course has been designed for people working in the field.

We are excited that the course will provide the 120 hours of training required for the CDA in a class that meets one evening a week. The DCC version of this old favorite has something new added – advisement. Before students needed to find and pay for their own field advisor. The DCC version includes the advisor, who will come to your early childhood program or family day care home to work with you!

In addition to providing the training hours needed for programs licensed or registered by the Office of Children and Family Services, a CDA also meets the regulatory requirements for a Head of Group in a day care center.

Once you have successfully completed the two-semesters, you will be ready to apply to the Council for Early Childhood Professional Recognition for your CDA. You also will have 12 credits towards an ECH Certificate or AAS degree. If you do decide to continue at DCC, three of the practicum requirements will be waived, making it possible for you to reach your goal by taking evening courses, with a few day requirements (talk to us about this).

Remember you can use your Educational Incentive Program monies towards tuition costs. It is important to apply for the EIP monies at least 4 weeks prior to the start of classes. The SUNY EIP information number is 1-800-295-9616. Call them for an application or go to www.tsg.suny.edu.

- one evening per week
- field advisement included
- 12 early childhood college credits
- credits applicable toward certificate and degree programs

For more information call Eileen Hall at DCC at 431-8346 now!!! Registration for Fall 2011 began April 14, 2011. **Orientation session will be held on May 17, 2011 at 6:00pm in Taconic Hall Conf. Rm. 209.** Permission of Instructor is required for registration.

TRAINING RESCHEDULED

Outdoor Experiences for Infants/Toddlers & Preschoolers

**People who were registered for the March 24 session are automatically registered for the rescheduled date.
There is still room available!**

The author of Natural Playscapes, Rusty Keeler, will discuss how programs can provide natural areas in their playgrounds for children to explore nature safely and according to NYS licensing.

Date: Thursday, May 19, 2011

Time: 6:30—8:30

Place: Town of Esopus Library, 128 Canal Street, Port Ewen, NY

A morning presentation 10 AM—12 noon for parents will be free.

Please register early.

To register, please contact Mary Thompson at 431-8295



CHAMPIONS OF CHILD CARE 2011

On Thursday April, 14, 2011 the Child Care Council of Dutchess and Putnam, Inc. honored child care providers in Dutchess and Putnam counties. We are pleased to list the awardees as we publicly recognize their achievements once again.

2011 EDUCATION AWARDS

Congratulations to the following persons who have achieved an Education Milestone during 2011. We salute your efforts to further your education to enhance what you offer to children and their families.

Danielle Armstrong

Northern Dutchess Day Care Center
Master's Degree in Early Childhood
Literacy Education (B-6)

Jessica Fulton

Young Hearts Day Care & Preschool
Master's Degree in Education

Kristen McKinley

Over the Rainbow Learning Center
Master's Degree in Early Childhood and Special Education

Jill Acerno

Over the Rainbow Learning Center
Bachelor's Degree in Social Work

Valerie L. Andrews

Child Care By Valerie, Inc.
Bachelor of Science in Organizational Leadership & Communication

Kristina Mang

Creative Kids Childcare
Bachelor of Arts in English Teaching Grades 1—6 Special Education

Ann McKinley

Over the Rainbow Learning Center
Bachelor's Degree in Early Education

Erica Saxton

Kiddie Academy of Fishkill
Bachelor's Degree
Child & Society with a Concentration in Education

Jennifer Strang

Honeybee Child Care
Bachelor's Degree in Early Childhood/Special

Amanda O'Connor

Kiddie Academy of Fishkill
Associates Degree in Science and Childhood Education

Heather Stinson

Honeybee Child Care
Associates in Applied Science Degree in Early Childhood Education

Danielle Place

Creative Kids Childcare
NYSAEYC Children's Program Administrator

Tracey Burger

Small World Child Care
New York State School-Age Care Credential

Yolanda Coleman

Green Chimneys Childrens Services
New York State School-Age Care Credential

Bonnie Conklin

YMCA of Central & Northern Westchester After School Programs
in Westchester
New York State School-Age Care Credential

Kimberly Faison

Martin Luther King Cultural Center
New York State School-Age Care Credential

Suzanne Roe

Family Services, Inc.
New York State School-Age Care Credential

Cassandra Sands

Green Chimneys Childrens Services
New York State School-Age Care Credential

Annmarie Santaniello

Putnam Valley Parks and Recreation
New York State School-Age Care Credential

Marcia Smoot

YMCA of Newburgh, Dutchess Site
New York State School-Age Care Credential

Jennifer Anderson

Over the Rainbow Learning Center
Child Development Associate

Patricia Brett

Kidz Country Learning Day Care Center
Child Development Associate

Alicia Canfield

Kidz Country Learning Day Care Center
Child Development Associate

Albert Cuomo

Over the Rainbow Learning Center
Child Development Associate

Kelly Rose

Young Hearts Day Care & Preschool
Child Development Associate

Jessica Woelfle

Over the Rainbow Learning Center
Child Development Associate

Hollie Morse

Saint Francis Hospital Learning Links Day Care Center
Child Development Associate Recertification

The Children's Corner Group Family Day Care
Reaccreditation by NAFCC



SPECIAL AWARDS

Congratulations to all of our award winners. These programs were nominated by parents and peers.

Dutchess County

Family Day Care Programs

Home Away From Home:
 Brook Schimmel, Brook's Family Day Care, LTD
 Growing Together: Nancy House, Grammy's Country Daycare
 Staying in Touch: Cris Lemieux, Inspire Daycare



Group Family Day Care Programs

Life Line Award: Bella's Group Family Daycare
 Dutchess County Group Family Day Care of the Year:
 Victorian Teddy Bears/Cedar Tree Preschool
 Meeting Family Needs: The Children's Playhouse, Inc.
 Child Care Provider of the Year:
 Marisol Hoffmann, Feels Like Home Childcare, Inc.
 Coming to the Rescue: Cedar Street Day Care
 Quest for Excellence: Gwen Freeman, Little Peoples Daycare
 Hope for the Future: Sweet Dreams and Friends Day Care
 Dynamic Duo:
 Karen Isidori and Sarah Elmashad, Karen's Kiddie Care
 Best Kept Secret: Wish Upon a Star Childcare, Inc.
 Strengthening Families One Child at a Time:
 Teddy Bear Playhouse Day Care
 Job Well Done: Peek A Boo Day Care



School Age Child Care Programs

Exceptional School Age Child Care Director:
 Marcia Smoot, The YMCA of Newburgh, NY @ Gayhead

Nursery School Program

Dutchess County Nursery School of the Year:
 Abigail Lundquist Botstein Nursery School @ Bard College

Day Care Centers

Dutchess County Center of the Year:
 Infant Toddler Center @ Vassar College
 Dutchess County Staff of the Year: "Soup to Nuts—Awesome":
 Saint Francis Hospital Day Care Center
 Right From the Start: Milene Olmo and Jennifer Kingman,
 Poughkeepsie Child Development Center, Inc.
 Beyond the Call of Duty:
 Gary Taylor, Northern Dutchess Day Care Center
 Creative Team: Ms. Danielle, Ms. Melissa, Ms. Monika,
 Ms. Regina, Creative Kids Childcare
 Going the Extra Mile: Neighborhood Day Care Services
 Teacher Extraordinaire: Learning Through Play:
 Tiffany Cratty, Child Care by Valerie
 Warming Our Hearts: Young Hearts Day Care, LLC
 Peace of Mind: Tots-N-Us

Putnam County

Putnam County Preschool of the Year: Meeting Special Needs and Learning Differences: P.A.R.C.
 Unique Curriculum: Learning Through Nature: Green Chimney's Children's Services, Inc. - Natures Nursery
 Putnam County Staff of the Year: Stage III Daycare, Inc.
 Putnam County Center of the Year: Over the Rainbow Learning Center
 Professional Development Award: Supporting Child Care Providers:
 Putnam County Family Child Care Providers' Group



MILESTONE ANNIVERSARIES

Congratulations to the day care providers and staff celebrating Milestone Anniversaries in 2011.

Twenty-Five Years

Astor Early Childhood Program - Grace Caddell
 Astor Early Childhood Program - Flora Santos

Fifteen Years

Vassar College-Wimpfheimer Nursery School - Justine Bastian
 Half Pint - Michelle Leonard
 Blooming Buddies - Alison Ugarte



Five Years

Kiddie Academy of Fishkill - Laura Azzone
 Kiddie Academy of Fishkill - Joseph Azzone
 Kiddie Academy of Fishkill - Kayla Batista
 Catharine Street Community Center, Inc. - Felicia Brown
 Kiddie Academy of Fishkill - Ginette Colon
 Kiddie Academy of Fishkill - Kari delPuerto Vitti
 Poughkeepsie Day Nursery - Deidre Folger

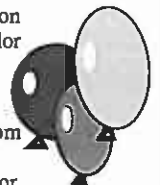


Twenty Years

Over the Rainbow Learning Center - Rita Acerno
 My Little Angels Daycare/ Preschool, Inc. - Denise Clair
 Vassar College-Wimpfheimer Nursery School - Patricia Gwen-Foster

Ten Years

Northern Dutchess Day Care Center - Renee Caporaletti-Coons
 Over the Rainbow Learning Center - Sheila Durkin
 Country Grove Children's Center - Sue Mock
 Vassar College-Wimpfheimer Nursery School - Heidi Parks
 Country Grove Children's Center - Nina Robinson
 Northern Dutchess Day Care Center - Gary Taylor



Country Grove Children's Center - Eileen Hansom
 Kiddie Academy of Fishkill - Maria Ocasio
 Kiddie Academy of Fishkill - Amanda O'Connor
 Kiddie Academy of Fishkill - Christine Osterhoudt
 Kiddie Academy of Fishkill - Linda Rodriguez
 Kiddie Academy of Fishkill - Stephanie Salch
 Country Grove Children's Center - Karen Sinclair
 Kidz Country Learning Day Care Center - Maggie Zabel

STRAWBERRIES

Preschoolers love strawberries- sweet, juicy, fragrant, bright red berries! Like most fruits and vegetables, strawberries provide your preschooler with important nutrients and fiber. One cup of strawberries contains 55 Calories, 1.6 grams Fiber, 84.5 mg Vitamin C and 26.4 mcg of Folic acid.



Since strawberries are one of the first fruits to ripen in the Hudson Valley why not celebrate with strawberry activities and recipes.

Plan a trip to a local farm, where your preschoolers can pick their own fresh strawberries. The best time to pick is first thing in the morning when it is still cool outside. Remember to bring hats and sunscreen to protect the children.

Strawberries do not ripen once they are picked, so look for firm, plump, bright red, fully formed berries. Medium and small berries have the best eating quality, store in the refrigerator for several days with their green caps intact. Do not wash until ready to eat.

Strawberry activities:

Find the seed specks: point out the tiny seeds that cover the strawberry. Strawberries are unique in having the seeds on the outside rather than inside the fruit.

Strawberry taste test: small and medium-sized strawberries tend to be a little sweeter and more flavorful than their giant counterparts. If you happen to find both a huge berry and a small one, do a quick taste test with your preschooler. It's a good lesson that bigger isn't always better!

Preschoolers can prepare fresh strawberries for eating: push up a stool to the sink. Your preschooler can rinse each strawberry in water and lay them out on a paper towel to dry. Then an adult can remove the green caps and stems.

Use strawberries to flavor plain yogurt: instead of buying strawberry-flavored yogurt at the supermarket, your preschooler can help flavor yogurt the fresh way!

Prepare frozen strawberries: strawberries "go bad" pretty quickly. If you have extras, just rinse and slice them and pop them in the freezer. To make later use easier, lay strawberries on a baking sheet and freeze. When frozen, you can put the individual frozen slices in a bag and place back in the freezer.



Sweet Mango-Berry Salsa

2 ripe mangos, peeled and pitted
2 cups strawberries, green cap removed
2 tbsp. fresh mint leaves
1 tbsp. sugar
2 tsp. lemon juice
½ tsp. salt (optional)



Dice mangos and strawberries into ¼ inch cubes, then transfer the fruit in to a medium-size bowl. Finely chop the mint and add into the bowl as well. Stir in the sugar, lemon juice and salt, if using, until well blended. Cover and refrigerate the salsa for 1 hour to allow the flavors to mingle. Makes 2 cups.

Frozen Fruit Bites

12 vanilla wafer cookies
½ cup vanilla yogurt
½ cup Neufchatel cream cheese, softened
1 tsp. lemon juice
1 tsp. honey
Sliced strawberries, kiwi, or whole blueberries



Place liners in a mini-cupcake pan. Put a wafer cookie, flat side up, in the bottom of each well. In a medium-sized bowl, whisk together the yogurt, cream cheese, lemon juice, and honey until smooth. Spoon 1 heaping tablespoon on top of each cookie, and then top the mixture with the fruit.

Cover the pan with plastic wrap, then place it in the freezer until the fruit bites are firm, about 1 to 1 ½ hours. Remove the tray from the freezer for 15 to 25 minutes before serving. Serves 12.



Strawberry Fun Facts



- ♥ Strawberries are the only fruit with seeds on the outside.
- ♥ The average strawberry has 200 seeds.
- ♥ Strawberries are a member of the rose family.
- ♥ Ninety-four percent of US households consume strawberries.
- ♥ Americans eat 3.4 pounds of fresh strawberries each year.
- ♥ 8 strawberries will provide 140% of the recommended daily intake of vitamin C for kids.
- ♥ Strawberries are grown in every state in the United States and every province of Canada.
- ♥ California produces 75% (one billion tons) of the nation's strawberry crop.
- ♥ If all the strawberries produced in California in one year were laid berry to berry, they would go around the world 15 times.
- ♥ Over 53 percent of seven to nine-year-olds picked strawberries as their favorite fruit.



WE'VE GONE GREEN!!

Let us know if you would prefer to receive your newsletter and training calendar as an e-mail.



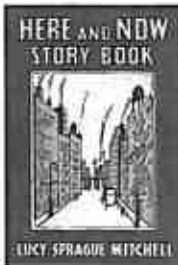
INSPIRATIONS FOR CHILD CARE AND EDUCATION

Here and Now

Lucy Sprague Mitchell was one of the first educators to talk about Developmentally Appropriate Practice in early childhood education. Her work revolved around The Bank Street School in New York in the early 1900s. I recently discovered a copy of her book, Here and Now Storybook, which was published in 1921. She published this collection of poems and stories for young children with Dutton & Company because she was frustrated that much of what was available was not developmentally appropriate. I find her writing so steeped in respect for children and a profound understanding of development that I can't help but feel her message is just as important (or more so) today – as it was a hundred years ago. She says, "the place to begin is at the point at which the child has arrived... with young children this point is within the 'here' and 'now' and so stories (and teaching) must begin with the familiar and the immediate."



Lucy Sprague Mitchell, circa 1911



HERE AND NOW must be our motto if we are to design environments and curriculum for children. The philosophy of here and now allows us to trust in the natural tendencies, curiosities and insights of young children – to have faith in humans and human development. The here and now is a gift the children give us, if we are ready to receive. Children teach us that what is seemingly simple – the immediate and tangible – holds the most joy, fascination and complex possibilities. We know this when we observe a child's complete engagement in the classic childhood activities (those that are often missing from current early learning agendas). We understand the power of here and now when we see the child absorbed in the sand and water, the hunting for insects, the pretend and fantasy play and the story making. Developmentally Appropriate Practice lines up beautifully with the philosophy of here and now -so that we know first hand when we've got it right – because the result is attention, discovery and learning.

Carol Garboden Murray
carolgarboden.com

CONGRATULATIONS TO CATHARINE STREET COMMUNITY CENTER

The Early Care and Learning Council has selected Catharine Street Community Center to receive its prestigious *Excellence in Leadership Award* in the business category. The annual presentation of the *Excellence in Leadership Award* is a tradition that began in 1999 and recognizes individuals or organizations that have made a significant contribution to New York State's children and families and have shown exemplary leadership in advancing high quality early care and education in New York State.

The Early Care and Learning Council solicited nominations in the categories of business, media, and government from all 39 Child Care Resource and Referral agencies across New York State. The Board of the Child Care Council of Dutchess and Putnam, Inc. unanimously supported the nomination of Catharine Street Community Center as a successful business that has been an integral component of the well being of the City of Poughkeepsie's children since 1922.

The Council is thrilled that Catharine Street has been chosen for the *Excellence in Leadership Award* and looks forward to participating in the awards luncheon on June 15, 2011 at The Albany



A TRIP TO WASHINGTON DC

On March 15, 2011, over 3,000 people descended on Washington, DC for a 3 day national symposium on child care, including three from your very own Child Care Council of Dutchess and Putnam. Two of us have worked for the Council for many years and had never been to a conference on a national scale. It was very interesting to meet people from across the US who all work for child care and parent services. We had never even thought about child care needs in Hawaii ... or North Dakota!



Included with us was a group of parents who told their stories as to why they had made the trip. Some were heartbreaking, a child dying of Shaken Baby Syndrome and another from SIDS because the states they were from had no requirement for training before being allowed to care for children. Both were preventable if the providers had known the risks.

A parent, who traveled with our group to speak with Senators Gillibrand and Schumer and Representative Hayworth, was concerned that our background checks are only New York records and not national. Apparently, she had put her child in the care of someone who had a history of sex abuse in another state. Luckily, she found out before anything happened to the children in care.

Our purpose was to ask that, when the Child Care Block grant is reviewed for reauthorization, Federal standards will be put into place that would require all states to meet the same basic health, safety, and training requirements with a national background check.

And our slogan was something we all can agree on: "Kids First!"

TIME TO JOIN THE COUNCIL

Invest in yourself by becoming a member of the Child Care Council of Dutchess and Putnam. It's the best decision you could make for everybody's children.

Memberships Benefits include:

- ✓ Voting Privileges at Council's Annual Meeting
- ✓ Free Internet Job Postings for openings in your program
- ✓ Reduced rates on professional training
- ✓ Updates on legislation
- ✓ Recognition of your membership in the Council Connection newsletter
- ✓ Free use of on-site toy lending library for your licensed/registered program
- ✓ Free access to mobile toy lending library
- ✓ Free record of completed Council training courses
- ✓ Free monthly Daily Parent publication
- ✓ Free notary services
- ✓ Membership good for 12 months



We are working on adding these membership benefits this year:

- ✓ Discounts for - Toys R Us, Babies R Us, Barnes & Noble, Newspaper Advertising, Gym Member Discounts
- ✓ Discounts on auto, home owners and business insurance
- ✓ Health Insurance and access to Insurance consulting services
- ✓ More to come!!!

MEMBERSHIP INVESTMENT:

- ✓ \$75 for child care centers or school age program licensed for 50 or more children (each site)
- ✓ \$50 for child care centers or school age program licensed for fewer than 50 children (each site)
- ✓ \$30 for family and group family child care homes
- ✓ \$25 for student/CDA SACC Credential holder/Council food program participant

COMMUNITY SUPPORTERS:

- ✓ \$100 Benefactor
- ✓ \$100 Recommended Agency Contribution
- ✓ \$55 Advocate
- ✓ \$35 Sponsor
- ✓ \$25 Friend

TOGETHER WE ARE STRENGTHENING CHILD CARE SERVICES

CURRENT COUNCIL MEMBERS

Katherine D'Aprile
 Linda MacIsaac
 Faye Lotze
 Terri Tolliver
 Catiria Pires
 Diane Labenski
 Kim Jornov
 Eileen Fehr
 Emily Morris
 Nancy House
 Connie Gianserra
 Regina Behler
 Ellen Mitchell
 Andrea Clarke
 Howard Lynne
 Audrey Vytuvivis
 Linda Dunlap
 Nancy Miringoff
 Ivonne Iannelli
 Kristen L. Bo

Susan Harney
 Loretto Padilla
 Scott Mehlberg
 Donna Bolner
 Mary Courtney
 Tom Cataldo
 Diana Colello
 Linda Monkman
 Barbara Passaro
 Tina & Michael Cottrell
 Jeannie Denike
 Sarah Dickinson
 Alana Wade
 Rebecca Jevons-Marlin
 Deborah Haradon
 Cathleen Greenan
 Kelly A. Hertica
 Arlene Selman
 Union Child Care Center, Inc.
 Meredith Gould

Rita Acerno
 Sophia Pertesis
 Annmarie Santaniello
 Betsy MacDonald
 Judy Robbins
 Dina Fata
 Stephanie L. King
 Tammy Hagon
 Brook A. Schimmel
 Anne-Catherine Schmitt
 Carol Zaccarra
 Emily Albers
 Kathleen M. Murphy
 Grace Caddell
 Joanne Cuccia
 Cindy Latino
 Pauline Fredrickson
 Frances Montero
 Lori Elting
 Debra Rhodes



CHILD CARE COUNCIL OF DUTCHESS AND PUTNAM TELEPHONE DIRECTORY

DUTCHESS COUNTY

(845) 473-4141

Executive Director

Jeanne Wagner - x 213

Assistant Director

Marion Eagen - x 223

Financial Manager

Melinda Cirillo - x 211

Secretary

Judy Maser - x 210

Clerk/Secretary

Nancy Owen - x 214

Child Care Referral Specialist

Pat Isbirian - x 221

Child Care Referral Specialist

Alice Jetto - x 227

CACFP Coordinator

Lorraine Scuccimarra - x 220

Family Day Care Registration Supervisor

Nancy Maffia - x 216

Family Day Care Registrar

LaRae Fasano - x 224

Family Day Care Registrar

Stacey Rosborough - x 226

Family Day Care Registrar

Carol Taylor - x 218

Training Coordinator

Rosemarie Dehn - x 217

School Age Child Care Registration

Peggy Paparone - x 215

Legally Exempt Coordinator

Karen Walsh - x 222

Health Care Plan and MAT Consultant

Elizabeth Hargraves - x 231

Infant/Toddler Specialist

Donna Thomas -**NEW CONTACT
INFORMATION!!****H: 845-849-0839****C: 845-797-8874**

EARLY INTERVENTION

(845) 485-4061

Office Manager

Telma Almeida - x 8

Administrative Assistant

Elizabeth Spratley - x 5

PUTNAM COUNTY

(845) 808-1659

Family Day Care/

School Age Child Care Registrar:

Barbara Garbarino - x 1

Community Outreach Liaison:/

Training Coordinator

Mary Schreiber - x 2

DAY CARE SERVICES

(845) 808-1500

Kim Wolfe - x 45260**Dawn Haecker - x 45304**

www.cpsc.gov

Child Care Providers Your Guide to New Crib Standards

Beginning **December 28, 2012**, any crib provided by child care facilities and family child care homes must meet new and improved federal safety standards. The new standards take effect for manufacturers, retailers, importers and distributors on **June 28, 2011**, addressing deadly hazards previously seen with traditional drop-side rails, requiring more durable hardware and parts and mandating more rigorous testing.

What you should know...

- This is more than a drop side issue. Immobilizing your current crib will not make it compliant.
- You cannot determine compliance by looking at the product.
- The new standards apply to all full-size and non full-size cribs including wood, metal and stackable cribs.
- If you purchase a crib prior to the June 28, 2011 effective date and you are unsure it meets the new federal standard, CPSC recommends that you verify the crib meets the standard by asking for proof.
 - Ask the manufacturer, retailer, importer or distributor to show a Certificate of Compliance. The document must:
 - Describe the product
 - Give name, full mailing address and telephone number for importer or domestic manufacturer
 - Identify the rule for which it complies (16 CFR 1219 or 1220)
 - Give name, full mailing address, email address and telephone number for the records keeper and location of testing lab
 - Give date and location of manufacture and testing
 - The crib must also have a label attached with the date of manufacture

What you should do...

- All child care facilities, family child care homes, and places of public accommodation:
 - Must prepare to replace their current cribs with new, compliant cribs before December 28, 2012.
 - Should not resell, donate or give away a crib that does not meet the new crib standards.
- Dispose of older, noncompliant cribs in a manner that the cribs cannot be reassembled and used.
- Noncompliant cribs should not be resold through online auction sites or donated to local thrift stores. CPSC recommends disassembling the crib before discarding it.





"The Child Care Council of Dutchess and Putnam, Inc. works to promote affordable and quality child care, provide information and support to families, and strengthen the early childhood workforce in Dutchess and Putnam Counties."



Child Care Council of Dutchess and Putnam, Inc.

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