



Early Childhood News

June - August 2010

Early Childhood Connections

Transition Times – Lose Control or “Teachable Moments”?

Transition times are often difficult for children and their teachers. Children may have a difficult time adapting to a schedule due to their inability to tell time, insecurity with changes, and their limited self-awareness and self-control skills. Transitions where children are confused about what's next or must wait for the next activity can create behavioral problems and restlessness and often make it difficult to calm and bring the children back into focus. Good classroom scheduling helps children learn cues that signal a change in activity and help them build self-esteem as they develop habits and routines. The early childhood educator can implement simple strategies that can help children transition from one activity to another.

Try to avoid having children waiting in lines but if necessary, sing songs or do fingerplays to help them wait. When free choice times are nearing an end, you can cue children by playing an instrument, singing a special song, or by moving from one area to the next and quietly letting children know that they only have a few more minutes until clean up time. When children become familiar with just a few transitional activities they become secure in their knowledge of what comes next.

Time To Clean Up Suggestions:

(Tune: Frere Jacques)

Are you helping? Are you helping?
Pick up toys, Pick up toys.
Let us all be helpers, Let us all be helpers.
Girls and boys, girls and boys.

(Improvise a tune)

Clean-up, clean up, Everybody get some toys.
Clean up, clean up, all the girls and boys.
Clean-up, clean up, Everybody do your share.
Clean-up, clean up, Everybody, everywhere.



To grab children's attention for a large group or small group time you may also have a favorite song. Or you may wish to introduce the planned activity with an interesting puppet. Allow time for the children to become “acquainted” with the puppet.

Circle or Story Time – Improvise Tunes

It's time to sit on the rug;
It's time to sit on the rug,
It's time to sit on the rug,
And clap your hands!

It's time to clap like this;
It's time to clap like this,
It's time to sit on the rug
And clap like this!

Sometimes my hands are at my side. (hold hands at side)
Then behind my back they hide. (Put hands behind back)
Sometimes I wiggle my fingers so. (wiggle fingers)
Shake them fast, shake them slow. (Shake fingers fast then slow)
Sometimes my hands go clap, clap, and clap. (Clap hands)
Then I rest them in my lap.
Now they're quiet as can be. (Sit down and rest hands in lap)

If children are all excused from a large group at once, such as from lunch table to bathroom or circle time to sink, they often race to the next activity and push and shove. This not only is disruptive but also could be dangerous. When excusing children from a large group to another activity, send only a few children at a time. You can excuse them according to a color they are wearing, “Everyone who is wearing red may go to the sink.” Use your judgment as to how many children should leave the group at one time. You may call them one by one using a rhyme or fingerplay with their name in it: “Softly on his/her tip-tip toes....(Child's name) through the forest goes....Sh! Sh! Sh! (Repeat child's name)”

Throughout the schedule and daily routine there are many changes and transitions. These times can be used as a valuable “teachable moment” or a time to lose control! The choice is yours!

Our Mission:

To enrich the lives of children by working with the adults who affect their lives—parents, caregivers, and educators.

Stand for Children Day - June 1, 2010

Early Childhood Connections will participate in Stand for Children Day on Tuesday, June 1, by sponsoring a day at Storybook Island. ECC staff and friends will be near the theatre hosting activities from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. for children including balloon tying, sidewalk art, bubbles, making a potted plant to take home, and face painting. Bring your children out, enjoy the park, and take part in the festivities.



Stand For Children-Grassroots Solutions-Lasting Change “envisions a society where all children receive the education and community supports that will enable them to live successful, fulfilling lives, and where parents and other concerned citizens are engaged and vigilant in ensuring that elected officials make decisions in the best interest of children and families.” The first Stand for Children Day took place in Washington, D.C. on June 1, 1996. A group of 300,000 citizens participated in the largest rally for children in U.S. history. Mrs. Rosa Parks, civil rights movement icon, through a statement of support challenged the nation to commit themselves to improving the lives of children, saying, “If I can sit down for justice, you can stand up for children.” To learn more about Stand for Children and how you can participate, visit www.stand.org.

Newsletter is “Going Green”

By January of 2011 we hope to be sending all of our newsletters by email with access to the newsletter also on our website. If you have an email address and would like to receive the ECC electronically now, please call the office at 342-6464 or e-mail Debbie at dhilt@rushmore.com.



ECC Office Holiday Closing

The ECC office will be closed on the following day:

May 31, 2010 Memorial Day
July 5, 2010* 4th of July Holiday

*Any classes scheduled for July 5 will be held as planned.

Our normal business hours are:

Monday - Thursday 8 am to 5 pm; Friday 8 am to 4 pm
We are closed from 12 to 1 pm for the lunch hour.

Summer Fun, Sunscreen and Kids

Summer is once again just around the corner. It is important when kids are outside, that their skin is protected with sunscreen. The sun provides energy to all living things and provides us with Vitamin D which is important for bone mineralization. The ultraviolet (UV) rays can also hurt our skin by causing sunburn. There is increasing evidence that a sunburn, even at a very young age, permanently damages the skin placing a person at greater risk for skin cancer at a later age. The sun is the main cause of skin cancer which is the most common form of cancer in the United States. Your skin “remembers” each sunburn and each suntan year after year. It is estimated that children get about 80% of their total lifetime sun exposure in the first 18 years of life. Other problems associated with sunburns are dehydration (loss of essential water in the body), fever and, long term, wrinkles and eye cataracts.



To protect the skin from sunburn there are a few simple rules. Infants under 6 months of age should be kept out of direct sunlight. For this age group, keeping covered with clothing or in the shade is important. A small amount of sunscreen may be applied to the face (avoiding the eyes) and the back of hands. For older children, clothing of tighter weaves and hats with wide brims may be used for protection from the sun. Sunglasses and lip balm with UV protection are also a good ideas for all age groups.

Sunscreen is an important item for protection from the sun. When choosing a sunscreen, select one that will screen out both ultraviolet A (UVA) and ultraviolet B (UVB) rays. A value for sun protection factor (SPF) is another important consideration. Check the outdate on the bottle and consider buying new sunscreen every year to have optimal coverage. Apply a sunscreen with SPF 15 or greater at least ½ hour before going outdoors. Sunscreen should be reapplied at least every 2 hours even on cloudy days and when getting out of the water after swimming.

A Stay AWAY from the sun in the middle of the day.

B BLOCK the sun by using SPF 15 or greater.

C COVER UP Wear a Tshirt, hat and sunglasses.

S SPEAK OUT. Talk to family and friends about sun protection.

SLIP on a shirt

SLAP on a hat

SLOP on sunscreen

Prize Patrol Winners

Congratulations to the following providers who participated in the most training during 2009. The three areas were the Northern Hills, Southern Hills and Rapid City.



Jen (ECC), April Laabs-Children First-Spearfish, Deb (ECC)



Jen (ECC), Regina Luze – Family Day Care - Deadwood



Jen Garner-Kids Kastle-Little Miners-Rapid City



Melissa Stetser – Family Day Care-Rapid City



Stacey Bintliff-Community Lutheran Child Care-Hill City



Kellie Cole – Family Day Care-Hermosa

SDCDA Classes!

It's summer time and hard to think about fall just around the corner, but now is the time to think about registering for the fall SDCDA session. Depending on attendance, the classes will be held on Tuesday evenings from 6:30 pm – 9:00 pm. We will be offering classes every other Saturday from 9:00 AM – 3:00 PM depending on participant numbers.



Completing CDA training and applying for CDA assessment is a **big** commitment. It is, however, a very rewarding experience. It offers you, as a caregiver of young children, an opportunity to look at your own work in relation to national standards, receive support and mentoring from people who have experience with children and knowledge about early childhood education while improving your skills in ways that are satisfying to you and the children in your care. All this while you work towards a professional Credential that is recognized by early childhood educators nationwide.

The South Dakota Child Development Associate Training is designed to meet the 120 clock hours of training to meet the requirements to apply for CDA Assessment. Once you have obtained the CDA Credential from the Council for Professional Recognition, you qualify as a Level III provider on the SD Pathways Career Lattice.

Scholarships to cover a portion of the training cost are available through the Office of Child Care Services. For more information or to request scholarship application forms you can contact Kim Booth at Early Childhood Connections 1-888-999-7759 or 342-6464 or email her at kimbooth@rushmore.com.

Congratulations

Kirsten Jacobi received her CDA in April! Congratulations on this achievement and all of your hard work!



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Early Childhood Connections Training Calendar

****Payment is due before classes are conducted, or the class completion certificate(s) will be withheld.** Please note: Classes will be canceled or rescheduled if enrollment does not include 8 participants on the day before or the day of the class.**

Date	Day	Location	Class Description	Time	Cost
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Infant and Child CPR Training ~ Pathways: CPR

This introductory course includes First Responder information and hands-on experience with CPR mannequins required for Red Cross Certification. (Adult training available by request for total charge of \$30.)

June 9	Wed.	ECC	Infant & Child Instructor: Greg Hilt	6:30 – 9:30 pm	\$25
June 9	Wed.	Spearfish	Infant & Child Instructor: Jennifer Nelson	6:30 – 9:30 pm	\$25
June 16	Wed.	ECC	Infant & Child Instructor: Kevin Murray	6:30 – 9:30 pm	\$25
June 23	Wed.	ECC	Infant & Child Instructor: Greg Hilt	6:30 – 9:30 pm	\$25
July 6	Tues.	ECC	Infant & Child Instructor: Kevin Murray	6:30 – 9:30 pm	\$25
July 6	Tues.	Spearfish	Infant & Child Instructor: Jennifer Nelson	6:30 – 9:30 pm	\$25
July 12	Wed.	ECC	Infant & Child Instructor: Greg Hilt	6:30 – 9:30 pm	\$25
July 22	Thurs.	ECC	Infant & Child Instructor: Kevin Murray	6:30 – 9:30 pm	\$25
Aug. 4	Wed.	ECC	Infant & Child Instructor: TBA	6:30 – 9:30 pm	\$25
Aug. 25	Wed.	ECC	Infant & Child Instructor: TBA	6:30 – 9:30 pm	\$25
Sept. 9	Thurs.	ECC	Infant & Child Instructor: TBA	6:30 – 9:30 pm	\$25
Sept. 15	Wed.	Spearfish	Infant & Child Instructor: Jennifer Nelson	6:30 – 9:30 pm	\$25
Sept. 22	Wed.	ECC	Infant & Child Instructor: TBA	6:30 – 9:30 pm	\$25

First Aid in Early Childhood Settings Pathways: First Aid

Participants will gain knowledge related to common childhood accidents and injuries in addition to receiving hands-on instruction that will enable caregivers to perform First Aid.

July 5	Mon.	ECC	Instructor: Deb Kuehn	6:30 – 8:30 pm	\$5
Aug. 2	Mon.	ECC	Instructor: Deb Kuehn	6:30 – 8:30 pm	\$5
Sept. 13	Mon.	ECC	Instructor: Deb Kuehn	6:30 – 8:30 pm	\$5
Oct. 4	Mon.	ECC	Instructor: Deb Kuehn	6:30 – 8:30 pm	\$5
Nov. 16	Tues.	Spearfish	Instructor: Jennifer Nelson	6:30 – 8:30 pm	\$5

Enrichment Training

May 13	Thurs.	ECC	<u>Child Abuse & Neglect</u> : This training will explain how to recognize child abuse, how to report it, and understand the role of the child care provider. Instructor: Deb Kuehn <i>Pathways: Child Abuse & Neglect</i>	6:30 – 8:30 pm	\$5
May 20	Thurs.	Spearfish	<u>SIDS</u> : The newest guidelines for decreasing the risk of SIDS will be covered. Instructor: Deb Kuehn <i>Pathways: Program Safety</i>	6:30 – 8:30 pm	\$5
June 22	Tues.	ECC	<u>Creative Lesson Planning Using the Reggio Approach</u> : Participants will explore the philosophy of the “Reggio Approach” and its inspiring methods of planning activities and lessons based on the child’s interests and emerging curriculum. Instructor: Jan Tysdal <i>Pathways: Age Appropriate Planning</i>	6:30 – 9:00 pm	\$5
July 29	Thurs.	Spearfish	<u>Movie Night – “To Have and To Be”</u> A documentary portrait of a one-room school in rural France where the students (ranging in age from 4 to 11) are educated by a single dedicated teacher. Instructor: Jen Nelson	6:30 – 9:00 pm	\$5

Date	Day	Location	Class Description	Time	Cost
Infant/Toddler Enrichment – Instructor: Jan Tysdal					
July 13	Tues.	Spearfish	<u>Creating Learning Environments for Babies and Tots</u> In the Reggio Approach there is great emphasis on the environment, so as to refer to “it” as the “third teacher”. Participants will explore new ways of setting up the environment to provoke infant’s interest and engagement for learning. <i>Pathways: Learning Environments</i>	6:30 – 9:00 pm	\$5
Aug. 10	Tues.	ECC	<u>When Separation Hurts – Easing the Pain Between Parent & Child</u> There can be nothing more painful than the separation process between a parent and child. Explore together how caregivers can be an important resource in helping children and parents work through this experience. <i>Pathways: Partnerships with Parents</i>	6:30 – 9:00 pm	\$5
Aug. 17	Tues.	ECC	<u>Creating Learning Environments for Babies and Tots</u> In the Reggio Approach there is great emphasis on the environment, so as to refer to “it” as the “third teacher”. Participants will explore new ways of setting up the environment to provoke infant’s interest and engagement for learning. <i>Pathways: Learning Environments</i>	6:30 – 9:00 pm	\$5

Infant/Toddler Certificate Training Series I Instructor: Kathryn Kettering					
July 1	Thurs.	ECC	<u>Social Emotional Milestones/Temperaments</u> Child growth/development and guidance <i>Pathways: Guidance and Behavior Management</i>	6:30 – 9:00 pm	\$5
July 8	Thurs.	ECC	<u>Understanding Behavior/Guidance and Discipline</u> Guidance and behavior management <i>Pathways: Guidance and Behavior Management</i>	6:30 – 9:00 pm	\$5
July 15	Thurs.	ECC	<u>Respectful Care ~ Making It Happen/Primary Caregiving</u> Interpersonal communication, relationships and learning environments <i>Pathways: Interpersonal Communication and Relationships</i>	6:30 – 9:00 pm	\$5
July 22	Thurs.	ECC	<u>Environments for Group Care/More Than Just a Routine</u> Child growth, development and guidance <i>Pathways: Child Growth and Development</i>	6:30 – 9:00 pm	\$5

Infant/Toddler Certificate Training Series II Instructor: Kathryn Kettering					
July 29	Thurs.	ECC	<u>Discoveries of Infancy/Brain Development</u> Brain development and learning <i>Pathways: Learning Environments</i>	6:30 – 9:00 pm	\$5
Aug. 5	Thurs.	ECC	<u>Special Needs/Language Development</u> Inclusion of all children plus child growth and development <i>Pathways: Inclusion of All Children</i>	6:30 – 9:00 pm	\$5
Aug. 12	Thurs.	ECC	<u>Harmonizing Cultural Diversity/Acknowledge, Ask & Adapt</u> Cultural diversity and communication <i>Pathways: Cultural Diversity</i>	6:30 – 9:00 pm	\$5
Aug. 19	Thurs.	ECC	<u>Responding to Families/Protective Urges</u> Working with parents and communication <i>Pathways: Partnerships with Parents</i>	6:30 – 9:00 pm	\$5

Infant/Toddler Certificate Training Series II Instructor: Jennifer Nelson					
Oct. 14	Thurs.	Spearfish	<u>Discoveries of Infancy/Brain Development</u> Brain development and learning <i>Pathways: Learning Environments</i>	6:30 – 9:00 pm	\$5
Oct. 21	Thurs.	Spearfish	<u>Special Needs/Language Development</u> Inclusion of all children plus child growth and development <i>Pathways: Inclusion of All Children</i>	6:30 – 9:00 pm	\$5
Oct. 28	Thurs.	Spearfish	<u>Harmonizing Cultural Diversity/Acknowledge, Ask & Adapt</u> Cultural diversity and communication <i>Pathways: Cultural Diversity</i>	6:30 – 9:00 pm	\$5
Nov. 4	Thurs.	Spearfish	<u>Responding to Families/Protective Urges</u> Working with parents and communication <i>Pathways: Partnerships with Parents</i>	6:30 – 9:00 pm	\$5

**Infant/Toddler Module Series: Observation and Documentation
as the Foundation of Relationship-Based Care**
The South Dakota Infant/Toddler Project: A Collaborative Project Funded by the Bush Foundation
Instructor: Jan Tysdal

Please Note: each module runs 3 hours starting at 6:15 pm

Date	Day	Location	Class Description	Time	Cost
July 6	Tues.	ECC	<u>Module 1: Image of the Child, Teacher and Family</u> Teachers are not only caregivers, but also researchers who are always observing, reflecting, interpreting, and acting. This session will look at how the image of the child and family and the multiple roles of the teacher influence care. <i>Pathways: Interpersonal Communication and Relationships</i>	6:15 – 9:15 pm	No Charge 1.5 CEUs available for \$15
July 20	Tues.	ECC	<u>Module 2: Rethinking the Curriculum: The Role of Observation and Documentation</u> True observation and documentation is driven by curiosity. Indeed, observation is the foundation for quality early childhood programs. The role of observation and documentation will be discussed in the context of relationships and collaboration. <i>Pathways: Observing Children</i>	6:15 – 9:15 pm	
July 27	Tues.	ECC	<u>Module 3: Responsive Environments: The Use of Open-Ended Materials</u> Infant and toddler development is best supported through responsive emotional and physical environments. This session will challenge participants to think beyond the use of more traditional toys to consider the value of open-ended materials. <i>Pathways: Learning Environments</i>	6:15 – 9:15 pm	
Aug. 3	Tues.	ECC	<u>Module 4: Looking to the Natural World for Inspiration</u> The unpredictability of the natural world engages us in a constant state of adaptation and accommodation, of questioning, risk-taking, and learning. This session will explore some of the opportunities the natural world offers young children and the role natural materials play in our lives and in the lives of our children. <i>Pathways: Age-Appropriate Planning</i>	6:15 – 9:15 pm	
Aug. 24	Tues.	ECC	<u>Module 5: Children's Rights as Members of Their Community</u> Together we will explore the multiple communities, which exist in the lives of the children in care, and how these settings can support children's learning and growth. <i>Pathways: Cultural Diversity</i>	6:15 – 9:15 pm	

Preschool Block
Instructor: Kim Booth

July 7	Wed.	ECC	<u>Mathematics</u> Counting, adding, subtracting...is this what math is all about? Learn how to connect activities, early learning guidelines, environments, materials and parent communication to create a rich math curriculum. <i>Pathways: Age-Appropriate Planning</i>	6:30 – 8:30 pm	\$5
July 14	Wed.	ECC	<u>Science</u> Dive into the world of science for preschoolers! Learn how to connect activities, early learning guidelines, environments, materials and parent communication to create a rich science curriculum. <i>Pathways: Age-Appropriate Planning</i>	6:30 – 8:30 pm	\$5
July 21	Wed.	ECC	<u>Studies</u> Social studies allow children to learn about themselves in their family and community. Learn how to connect activities, early learning guidelines, environments, materials and parent communication to create a rich social studies curriculum. <i>Pathways: Age-Appropriate Planning</i>	6:30 – 8:30 pm	\$5
July 28	Wed.	ECC	<u>Language Arts and Literacy</u> Learn how to aid in the skills, knowledge, and attitude that allow children to be successful readers. Learn how to connect activities, early learning guidelines, environments, materials and parent communication to create a rich language and literacy curriculum. <i>Pathways: Age-Appropriate Planning</i>	6:30 – 8:30 pm	\$5
Aug. 4	Wed	ECC	<u>Creative Arts</u> Creative Arts? What does that mean exactly? Learn how to connect activities, early learning guidelines, environments, materials and parent communication to create a rich creative arts curriculum. <i>Pathways: Age-Appropriate Planning</i>	6:30 – 8:30 pm	\$5

Date	Day	Location	Class Description	Time	Cost
Social Emotional Development					
Aug. 25 Sept. 1 Sept. 8 Sept. 15 Sept. 22 Sept. 29	Wed.	ECC	Class 1 - Within the Context of Relationships Class 2 - Within the Context of Relationships (cont.) Class 3 - Responsive Routines, Environments and Strategies Class 4 - Individualized Interventions for Infants & Toddlers Class 5 - Individualized Interventions for Infants & Toddlers (cont.) Class 6 - Individualized Interventions for Infants & Toddlers (cont.) Instructor: Tammy Arens-Beauchamp <i>Pathways: Child Growth and Development</i>	6:30 – 8:30 pm	\$30 for series
Bright Start Responsive Parenting Classes					
May 13 May 20 May 27 June 3 June 10 June 17	Thurs.	ECC	<u>Bright Start Responsive Parenting Class</u> Responsive Parenting classes can increase the enjoyment and satisfaction of parenting young children. Parents will learn about topics such as social-emotional growth, early brain development, temperament and guidance. Instructor: Kathryn Kettering	6:30 - 8:30 pm	No Charge Pre Registration Required
June 23 June 30 July 7 July 14 July 21 July 28	Wed.	ECC	<u>Bright Start Responsive Parenting Class</u> Responsive Parenting classes can increase the enjoyment and satisfaction of parenting young children. Parents will learn about topics such as social-emotional growth, early brain development, temperament and guidance. Instructor: Bridget Stone	6:30 - 8:30 pm	No Charge Pre Registration Required
Aug. 4 Aug. 11 Aug. 18 Aug. 25 Sept. 1 Sept. 8	Wed.	ECC	<u>Bright Start Responsive Parenting Class</u> Responsive Parenting classes can increase the enjoyment and satisfaction of parenting young children. Parents will learn about topics such as social-emotional growth, early brain development, temperament and guidance. Instructor: Bridget Stone	6:30 - 8:30 pm	No Charge Pre Registration Required
Sept. 7 Sept. 14 Sept. 21 Sept. 28 Oct. 5 Oct. 12	Tues	Spearfish	<u>Bright Start Responsive Parenting Class</u> Responsive Parenting classes can increase the enjoyment and satisfaction of parenting young children. Parents will learn about topics such as social-emotional growth, early brain development, temperament and guidance. Instructor: Jen Nelson	6:30 - 8:30 pm	No Charge Pre Registration Required

Please Note: We realize at times it is difficult to find childcare in the evenings. However, it is not appropriate to bring children to classes at Early Childhood Connections. Our learning environment is not designed to ensure the safety of children. It is also important that we are respectful of fellow students and the instructor. Please make other arrangements for your children while attending classes at Early Childhood Connections. Thank you.

To Register, Contact: Early Childhood Connections (ECC)
605-342-6464 - Toll Free 888-999-7759 - FAX 605-394-0153
 Email dhilt@rushmore.com or kmurray@rushmore.com

Early Childhood Connections
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Rapid City, SD 57701-3585

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Bright and Beyond Age 2 **Escape from the Zoo**
Imagination, Observation & Discovery



In one room in your house, hide several of your child's plastic or stuffed toy animals. Put each animal in an easy-to-find place, such as on the couch, on a table, next to the door, and in the middle of the floor. Exclaim, "Four animals have escaped from the zoo!" Help him find the animals for return to the "zoo." He can learn more about counting as he finds each one. "You've found two. There are two more animals still on the loose!" Once he has rounded them all up, he can play again. After playing a few times, encourage your child to hide the animals for you to find.

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Bright and Beyond Preschool Ages 3-5 **Oat Cereal Spire**
Small Motor Skills, Math Skills



Place a small lump of play-dough or clay on a table. Stick one or more uncooked strands of spaghetti straight up into the play-dough or clay, and let your child thread round oat cereal onto the strands. It can be a challenge to thread the oat cereal onto the spaghetti without breaking the strands! You can practice counting the cereal pieces with your child and also introduce simple concepts of addition and subtraction.

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