



Family Child Care Professionals of South Dakota, Inc.

*Growing
Together*

Note From The Chair

Denita Dinger, Chair



Ten Red Apples

*Ten red apples growing on a tree.
Five for you and five for me.
There's one little worm that you can't see.
Were, oh where could that little worm be?*

DIRECTIONS:

Use cut out apples on popsicle sticks numbered on the front 1-10. Stick the popsicles in a large piece of Styro-foam – OR they can simply be laid on the floor – it is easier to see them if they are standing up however.

Tape a worm on the backside of one apple. Make your worm out of pipe cleaner, fun foam, pom poms or simply construction paper.

Have the children say the number of the apple they are going to look behind to find the worm.

When the worm is found, choose a child to hide the worm behind a different apple while everyone else hides their eyes.

Apples and Pumpkins and Leaves...oh My!

Fall is (in my opinion) the best time of year to be a child-care provider. There is so much to see and do and it's all right at our fingertips!

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Fall Member Meeting

Dawn Wahl, Professional Development

You are invited to attend our next FCCPSD Member Meeting on Saturday, September 15 in Aberdeen. We'll meet at the Holiday Inn Express, right across the street from the Ramada Convention Center at 9:00 A.M. We'll have a brief business meeting and then have a training time on *Scheduling & Transitions Throughout the Day* as well as networking time. We'll end at 11:30. **Providers will receive a certificate for two hours of training for attending this session.**

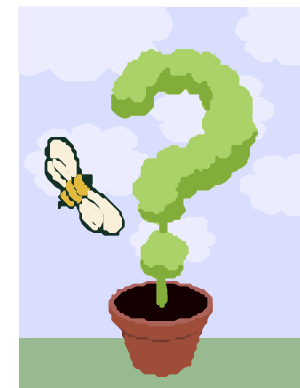
You are welcome to stay for lunch and then attend our Steering Committee meeting through the afternoon if you are interested in that!

Our Conference Committee is meeting at the Ramada Convention Center in Aberdeen at 2:30 P.M. Friday, September 14. If you would like to have a part, large or small, in putting on this conference, you are also invited to meet with us then. ☼

NAFCC Conference

By Lynette Lohan

Inquiring minds want to know. . . . WHAT did we miss by NOT going to the National Association for Family Child Care Conference in California on August 15-18???



I can hardly wait to visit with our Chair-Elect Tami Harrington and our Professional Development Chair Dawn Wahl and hear about their experiences at the National Conference. I want to thank ALL of you who helped financially at the conference so that we could send Tami to this special event. If you want to hear ALL about it, come to Aberdeen for our membership meeting on September 15th. I encourage you to find a friend or two or three and plan a road trip. You will meet providers from across the state and share ideas and laugh and eat out and just have a great time!

The next National Conference will be next summer in Chicago. Please dream with me and start planning to attend. ☼

Family Child Care Professionals of South Dakota, Inc.



Hand Crafted with
Love

Baby Sensory Quilt

Created by one of
FCCPSD's
extra special members

Debby Bullis

of Flandreau, South Da-
kota



Debby Bullis has sewn a beautiful and wonderful baby sensory quilt that she is donating to NAFCC's Silent Auction at the national conference this year. This auction raises funds to help the regional representatives travel to meetings and conferences. .

Thank you, Debby, it's absolutely lovely. The handiwork is marvelous. The babies will love it! FCCPSD owes you a BIG debt of gratitude!

Down Wahl

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Apples, leaves, scarecrows and pumpkins are my favorite fall themes. These can all be experienced by the children in your care in a way that teaches them much, much more than the theme itself. I think we sometimes underestimate just how much we teach children on a daily basis. When you get a chance, step back and take a closer look at what the children in your program are doing. Really look closely. I'd bet they are using small motor muscles to pick things up. They are learning language skills either by talking to themselves or listening to the sounds around them. Opportunities to learn social skills are everywhere and that's just the tip of the iceberg.

I would like to share some fall activities that have worked well for myself and other providers that give children the opportunity to have fun while they are learning. Enjoy!

APPLES

The poem at the beginning of this article is a great activity that children love to do again and again.

Tasting apples – red, green, and yellow.

Make a graph showing each child's favorite apple. The children will learn graphing skills and comparison. Lots of language opportunities as well: sour, sweet, juicy, more, less etc.

Cut open an apple and explore what is inside. After cutting the apple, dip the flat side in paint and stamp on paper.

Make applesauce – ask Lynette on the forum for her fabulous apple sauce recipe.

Finger paint with applesauce – messy and fun! Lot's of language opportunities here. A very good tactile experience.



AND WHO IS TO SEE ME NOW FROM BELOW

The book, Fox Makes a Friend, is an excellent book about a little fox who takes his mother's suggestion of "go make a friend" a little too literally. This book introduces children to turnips. It's fun to compare turnips and apples. We play a game where we sit in a circle, and pass an apple around. This is very challenging for young children, so patience is a necessity. While the apple is being passed, we add in a turnip. And the race begins. We try to get the turnip to catch up with the apple. There are loads of language opportunities as well. The turnip is much heavier than the apple and has a completely different texture.

LEAVES

Jump in a leaf pile! I live in a new development, so we lack the beautiful trees of our old neighborhood. Much to my husband's dismay, I have my daycare families bring bags and bags of leaves from their yards for us to crunch and rake and jump in!

Go on a leaf hunt. Make a leaf book out of the leaves you collected by capturing the leaves between two pieces of clear contact paper. Punch some holes in the pages, connect with fun fall ribbon or yarn and... presto! A leaf book.

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Tell Me The Last Book You Read?

Hopefully you take time to relax with a great read, even if it is with a little one (or three) curled in your lap and the book has big pictures and few words! Here are some titles from our libraries:

- *Harry Potter & The Deathly Hallows* by J.K. Rowling
- *Finding Your Smile Again* by Jeff Johnson
- *A Million Nightingales* by Susan Straight
- *Presenting to Win* by Jerry Weisman
- *Into the Wilderness* by Sara Donati
- *I wish I had time to read books!*
- *Persuasion* by Jane Austen
- *90 Minutes in Heaven*



Join us for our
Fall Caregiver Conference
"Going the Extra Mile"

Saturday October 20, 2007
Brookings, SD

Keynote speaker **Jeff Johnson**

Contact sdsu.frn@sdsu.edu for more information.

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Experiment with wind. Let the children use child-safe fans with foam blades to blow the leaves around the room – either real ones or silk leaves. If you have a big fan turn it on and see what happens!

Leaf rubbings – place a piece of paper on top of a leaf (vein side up) and rub with the side of a crayon.

SCARECROWS

A fun science experiment is to take a clear bowl filled with water – add a few drops of yellow food coloring (tell the children this is going to be our pretend corn field). Sprinkle beads of pepper into the water (the pepper is the crows flying in to eat the corn – oh no! What can we do to stop them?). Put ONE drop of liquid dish soap in the middle of the bowl of water – this is the scarecrow – observe as the crows quickly move out of the way. Be prepared to do this again and again.

Build a scarecrow using newspapers or straw to stuff it with.

Explore straw. Fill your sensory table with straw. Make straw collages by gluing straw onto paper. Discuss the difference between straw and straws that we drink out of.

The Little Old Lady Who Wasn't Afraid of Anything is a wonderful book about the little old lady described in the title. She is indeed not afraid of anything until two boots, a pair of pants, and a shirt begin following her home. This is a fun story to act out with props. I've made my props out of construction paper and laminated them, but you could certainly use the actual pants, shirt etc. Rhythm can be used when reading this book as well.



PUMPKINS

Carve a pumpkin house with loads of windows and doors for little hands to play inside. Give them to people or a pumpkin man (as the wonderful provider who discovered this fantastic activity does (not sure where she got the pumpkin man – oh Lynette!))

Create orange. Discover together how to make orange. I have done this with play-dough. I let the children guess which two colors we should mix. I then take a little of each color and we each take turns kneading the dough until a new color is formed. We do this until we discover orange.

Explore the many ways to make orange. Using yellow and red colored water and pipettes, let the children explore mixing different amounts of red with different amounts of yellow. They will be strengthening those small motor skills, learning that there are many different shades of orange, and using math skills when they find their favorite shade of orange is 3 drops of red with 6 drops of yellow.

Paper bag pumpkins. Materials: newspaper, white lunch bags (Wal-Mart), orange paint,

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brown paint, green pipe cleaners. Process: Let the children tear newspaper into small pieces. Give each child a bag and show them how to open it. Stuff the newspaper inside the bag. Tie a green pipe cleaner around the bag to close it leaving a stem sized amount of bag above the twist tie. Use a pencil to coil the pipe cleaner so it looks like the vine of a pumpkin. Paint the bottom portion orange, and the stem brown.

Have fun with the children in your care this fall. If you don't currently do a lot of activities with your children, please start small as to not get overwhelmed. Pull one child at a time for the art projects, enjoy some one-on-one time with each child. Remember everything is a learning experience for a young child.

I know you all have fabulous fall ideas to share as well. Please feel free to share on our forum at www.focped.org! Happy Fall y'all! ☺



SDAEYC/SDHSA Conference April 24-26, 2008

Sioux Falls, SD

Proposals are due by October 1, 2007. If you are interested in submitting a workshop proposal, email Marlys or Wendy at engebrem@sanfordhealth.org or wendy.vanden-brink@k12.sd.us.

Provider Profile

Elizabeth Dinger, Sioux Falls

Elizabeth is FCCPSD member number 300!! We are so thankful for our members who make this association possible.

Do you have a business name? No

How many years have you been involved in child care?

I worked in child care centers for 1 year and have been open with my daycare for 10 months.

Information about your family:

I am 18 years old and I do not have any children.

Education:

High School

Special Projects Currently Involved in with FCCPSD:

No

What is your favorite activity to do with the children in your care?

I love taking the children on walks. They get so excited by all the things we get to see. Its fun watching their faces light up when they learn about something new.

Is there something you would change about your child care environment if you could?

Right now I am running my daycare out of my apartment, it works but it's a little crowded some days. I plan on moving in the next 6 months and eventually want to open a center for daycare and not run it out of my home anymore.

What keeps you in the child care field, even on the worst day?

Even on the worst day all the hugs and "I wuv you's" I get makes it all worth it.

How do you want to be remembered by the children?

I want to be remembered as the loving provider that welcomed them into my home with open arms and taught them everything that they would ever want to know.

Do you have advice you would give to someone thinking about entering the profession?

Having your own daycare is definitely a lot of work but if you think that you can do it everyday is rewarding. Just seeing all the children's faces light up when they get to see you everyday is amazing.

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Do you have a special project currently in progress?

I am planning on getting my CDA in January as long as everything works out.

What are some fun, inexpensive ideas you've used for gifts for your dc children?

This year for Christmas I am making the parents all DVD's with pictures of their children throughout this year. We do many different projects for Christmas around here. Last year we made 15 different Christmas tree ornaments because the children liked making them so much.

What are your thoughts about state registration and/or CACFP?

I am state registered and I think that its a lot better to register because by doing so it gives you some benefits as well. I considered joining the food program but decided it wasn't for me. I follow a very strict menu that would be accepted by the food program though.

What is your favorite age group and why?

I love infants just because I enjoy watching all their milestones they hit in the first year.



What is your favorite part about this time of year?

I love when the weather cools off enough that we can go outside and not get hot right away. I have a feeling we will be taking many more walks in the next month to see all the leaves changing colors and to learn new things.

Which 3 words describe you best?

Child Care Provider, Friend, Multi-Tasker

It was wonderful to get to know you a little, Elizabeth! I'm looking forward to meeting you at a conference, hopefully in Aberdeen on May 2-3, 2008 if not before. ☺

Parent Page

Brought to you by Family Childcare Professionals of South Dakota, Inc. - www.sdfcc.org

SEPTEMBER 2007

FOREST FRIENDS

Fishy Beanbag

Your child will have as much fun helping you make this easy beanbag as she will playing with it.

Materials

- Tube sock
- Dried beans
- Yarn
- Marker
- Glue
- Felt scraps (optional)

Directions

- Fill a child-size tube sock about three-quarters full with dried beans.
- Tie tightly with yarn to make a tail.
- Push in the toe of the sock to form the mouth, and insert glue to hold the shape.
- Use a marker to draw eyes and gills, or you can cut eyes, gills, and fins from scraps of felt and glue them to the sock.
- Use the fishy beanbag to play catch, or try to throw it in an empty laundry basket.

from *The Toddler's Busy Book* by Patricia Kufner

Snuggle Time

Each month you will find an age-appropriate book list to use when it's "snuggle time" at your home.

Infants and Toddlers:

Forest by Lizi Boyd. A board book
Spot's Walk in the Woods by Eric Hill

Preschoolers:

All in the Woodland Early: An ABC Book by Jane Yolen
In the Woods: Who's Been Here? by Lindsay Barrett George
A Log's Life by Wendy Pfeffer

K through 2nd Grade:

Raccoons (Rookie Read-Aloud Science) by Allan Fowler
Scotty's Adventure in the Forest by Ameliese Goldbeck



Makin' Memories

Binoculars/Microscope

Provide real binoculars for the children to explore their world with - take them on a nature walk to view birds, squirrels, trees, etc. Set up a microscope and gather various items for children to view up close.

Share a Song:

Big Bear

Sing to: Row, Row, Row Your Boat

Big bear, big bear,
Resting in your den.
Sleeping through the winter
Before you're out again.

Your child would love nothing more than some relaxed time with you—enjoying nature in whatever capacity it exists near your home. You can make up stories about woodland creatures, spy on bunnies, plant flowers or make up a song about goin' fishing. It really doesn't matter what you do as long as you do it together!

DAP—What is it?

DAP stands for Developmentally Appropriate Practice. What this means is children need to learn in a way that is meaningful to them. For instance, a preschool child may learn about apples by looking at a picture of an apple, but they will learn more about an apple if you give them an apple. Used properly, DAP helps to ensure children develop the skills they need to be successful in their journey through life.

Preschool learning is about discovering through science and math. It's about developing language skills, social skills, self-help skills, fine and gross motor skills, and most importantly it's about developing a good self-esteem. All this can be learned through play, providing it's meaningful. It is not our job to teach the children the skills they need, but rather to guide them in the direction they need to go to learn these skills for themselves.

Most activities should be open-ended to allow the children the opportunity for self-discovery as well as self-accomplishment. If a program is done correctly, children will also learn fundamental basics (A,B,C's, etc.). The difference between DAP teaching and traditional teaching is they will learn them in a more meaningful way.

From - childcarecenter.com

Family Child Care Professionals of South Dakota, Inc.

We are a state association of family and group family child care professionals dedicated to supporting child care providers and promoting high quality care for all children through networking, professional development, education, and advocacy.

We invite you to come grow with us—
to grow professionally
to grow friendships
to grow intellectually and emotionally just as the children in our care do.
Together we can make a difference—
for each other,
for our parents,
for the children of South Dakota!

Advertise in our newsletter!

Full page ad - \$80
Half page ad - \$40
Quarter page ad - \$20
Business Card ad - \$10

Congratulate someone on our FCCPSD web site!

Home Page Banner Announcement - \$15 per week for members; \$20 per week for non-members
Interior Page Banner Announcement - \$5 per month for members; \$10 per month for non-members.

Send ad and payment to FCCPSD, 530 Berry Boulevard, Rapid City, SD 57702
email admin@sdfcc.org for advertising restrictions

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