



Resource & Referral Center

a publication of the Quality Child Care Initiative

# Children Count

June/July 2008

## New Training Videos Available!

We have added several videos from NAEYC and the Child Care Collection series to the Lending Library. These videos are in DVD format and available for 2-week loan.

Contact Sarah Foster at 540-245-5437 or by email SarahFoster@ntelos.net to check availability or to reserve a video.

- Acquiring Self-Regulation (infants/toddlers)
- Communication & Learning (infants/toddlers)
- Making Friends (infants/toddlers)
- Developmental Infant Care
- Creative Outdoor Environments
- Structured Play: Gross Motor Plan
- Designing Developmentally Appropriate Days
- Painting a Positive Picture: Proactive Behavior
- Daily Dilemmas: Coping with Challenges
- Child Care Administration: Tying it Together
- B.U.S.I.N.E.S.S. of Family Child Care
- Dramatic Play: More than Playing House
- Exploring Science & Nature
- Basics of Dev Apprpr. Practice (book & DVD)
- Infant Curriculum: Great Explorations
- Toddler Curriculum: Making Connections
- Partnerships with Parents

## Quality Child Care Initiative

Family Resource & Referral Center

934 North Augusta Street

Staunton, Virginia 24401

(540) 245-5437

www.FRCenter.org



## What is the Resource Center?

The Family Resource & Referral Center is located in Staunton and provides a wide range of services through three family-oriented programs --

- Information & Referral (2-1-1 Virginia)
- Project STAR
- Quality Child Care Initiative

**Information & Referral (I & R):** Our office houses one of six regional 2-1-1 VIRGINIA call centers, responding to over 600 calls per month requesting resource information on local health and human services.

**Project STAR:** The Project STAR (Supportive Training to Assist Parent-Child Relationships) program serves families with children 0-3 years of age through home visits, developmental screenings and group meetings. Pre-natal counseling and support groups are offered.

**Quality Child Care Initiative:** This program coordinates and subsidizes the cost of early childhood trainings for both center-based staff and family caregivers. Training videos, books, toys and other resources are available for loan through the Lending Library. The initiative also provides listings of child care settings and offers suggestions to parents on how to find quality care.

Staff members can be reached by dialing 540-245-5899 followed by their extension number.

Alan Fairfield, Executive Director ..... x101

Faith Miles, I&R Manager ..... x102

Crystal Harris, I&R Assistant ..... x104

Pat Hughes, Project STAR Parent Educator ..... x106

Sarah Foster, QCCI Program Manager..... x108

The **Resource Center** is open from 8:30 am—5:00 pm. Please contact Sarah Foster about the Lending Library, as the QCCI program operates with limited hours.

## Summer Fun

Almost any activity that can be done indoors can be adapted for the outdoors. Be creative, have some fun!

Dramatic play— add plastic animals, people, vehicles, etc. to the outdoor sand-and-water table.

Art activities— make collages using items found in nature. Offer messy art such as goop or fingerpaints. Even better, how about letting the kids make mud out of dirt and water?

Blocks— why not? If rain isn't in the forecast, move the entire block center outside in the shade.

Science and Nature — introduce the children to birds, insects, worms. Provide opportunities to explore on their own, to design their own games, to build forts.



## Goop Recipe

1 cup cornstarch

½ cup water (tinted with food color)

Add cornstarch to a large bowl, followed by water.

Mix lightly. The consistency you are trying to achieve is great – when first pressed, the mixture will feel hard, but it will instantly “give” to pressure. Hold some in your hand; it stays hard for only a split second before “melting” in your hand!

To make a large batch of goop, use 2 parts cornstarch to 1 part water.

This is a wonderful activity for experimentation.

What happens when you add more water? Then more cornstarch? Can you scoop it with a spoon? Will it pour from one bowl to another?

## Upcoming Events

Event:	<b>Infant Workshop</b>
Date:	June 11, 2008
Time:	7-9 pm
Location:	The Atrium, 411 Stone Spring Rd. Harrisonburg, Virginia
Cost:	\$20
Register:	HealthSource at 800-433-4531
Notes:	Participants will learn about ages/stages, developmental concerns, and ways to encourage development. Also, the principles of the Happiest Baby on the Block will be taught.
Event:	<b>Success by Six Quarterly Meeting</b>
Date:	August 5th, 2008
Time:	12:30-1:30 pm
Location:	The Atrium, 411 Stone Spring Rd. Harrisonburg, Virginia
Lunch:	Provided by Chick-Fil-A
Register:	Pat Kennedy kennedpa@jmu.edu / 540-568-2557 www.valleysb6.org

## Book Corner

Perfect for summer reading, Richard Louv's 2005 best-selling book, Last Child in the Woods, introduces the phrase “nature-deficit disorder”. He cautions that today's children are becoming disconnected from nature and are slowly losing the ability to explore the outdoors and design their own play. Louv also claims that exposure to nature provides significant psychological and emotional benefits not available elsewhere.

## Provider Profile

**Celia Wade** is the Director of the Lighthouse Early Childhood Center in Swoope. The center opened in August 2006 and currently has 33 children attending. It is located in the lower level of the Lighthouse Church. Science and Art projects are a favorite at the center. The children also love painting at the easel and the weekly Bible lessons.

Celia has enjoyed working with children for 20 years. Her earlier experience was with Shelvy Shank at Hunting Hills Early Learning Center. She attended MBC and is still taking classes online. Celia lives in Staunton with Eric, her husband of 21 years, her son Miles, 16, and daughters Mary Scott, 12 and Maddie, 10. Hobbies include her children's sports events, home decorating, and spending time with her pets— Jack, Kipper, and Kitten. Keep up the good work, Celia!