



Early Childhood News

June – August, 2005

Early Childhood Connections

Office of Child Care Services Announces New Infant Toddler Certificate

The Office of Child Care Services, with its partner agencies, the regional Early Childhood & School Age Enrichment offices (ECSE's), will be offering training which can lead to a state issued Infant Toddler Certificate.

How do I earn an Infant Toddler Certificate?

- Complete the 20 hours of entry level Infant Toddler Training offered through the regional ECE offices.
*Note: I/T Classes completed after January 1, 2004 may be counted toward the certificate.
- After completing the entry level training, participants move on to complete the Child Growth and Development area of the South Dakota CDA program which consists of 45 hours of advanced training.
- Successful completion of the entry level Infant Toddler Training and the Child Growth and Development area will earn the participant a South Dakota Infant Toddler Certificate.

Why should I consider earning an Infant Toddler Certificate?

Caring for infants and toddlers takes a special set of skills and knowledge. The Infant Toddler Certificate offers an individual an opportunity to receive training specific to this age group which will allow them to gain a deeper understanding of the significant development which occurs in these early years of life.

In addition, the training hours included in the Infant Toddler Certificate will count toward licensing and Pathways training hours. Upon completion of the entry level training the participant may qualify for an Infant Toddler Mini-Grant.

Will my South Dakota Infant Toddler Certificate articulate into other credentials?

YES! The South Dakota Infant Toddler Certificate will articulate into 45 hours of training toward the South Dakota Child Development Associate (CDA) program.

How do I get started?

To request a registration packet including mini grant information and scholarship applications **contact** Kathryn Kettering at kkettering@rushmore.com or call her at 342-6464 or toll free at 1-888-999-7759.

*This project is made possible by the Department of Social Services,
Office of Child Care Services with funding from the Child Care & Development Block Grant.*

Early Childhood Connections is proud to be Western South Dakota's Early Childhood Enrichment provider.

CEU Opportunity Offered with New Series

Gwen Simmons will be teaching a new series this summer entitled "Developmentally Appropriate Practice: New Understanding of Best Practices." This 5 week series is an in-depth study of DAP principles using new tools and strategies. A demonstration classroom will be used by students to develop environments, projects and curriculum. This is offered as a series only, and not available for individual class attendance. The series encompasses 10 clock hours and 1 CEU credit. Cost for the series is \$15 plus \$10 for CEU credit and includes the book Developmentally Appropriate Practice in Early Childhood Programs. You can contact Gwen at gsimmons@rushmore.com or 342-6464 for more information.

South Dakota OST Training

This training is part of Child Care Services' (CCS) "Move to Quality" Initiative. We feel that consistent high-quality training yields higher quality staff along with better staff retention, which results in higher quality programs. We hope you will choose to participate and encourage your OST staff to participate! Currently, the regional Early Childhood & School-Age Enrichment (ECSE) offices provide OST "**core**" training, OST "**series**" training and are adding OST "**advanced**" training for providers who serve school-age children.

The OST "**core**" training consists of 10 modules, 1.5 hours each, which meet licensing requirements for staff. The OST "**series**" training consists of 4 series, with 6 modules in each series (each module is 2.5 hours). The SD Department of Education has approved this "**series**" training for Teacher Renewal CEUs.

Those participants that complete the 15 hours of OST "**core**" training plus the 60 hours of OST "**series**" training will earn the SD OST **Certificate** (total = 75 class hours).

Staff Incentives! CCS is providing incentives to each OST staff person completing each "**series**". Incentive payments (\$75) will be paid to individuals who complete all six classes for each of four "**series**". Total possible is \$300; payment will be made directly to the student at completion.

An additional 45 hours of OST "**advanced**" training is being developed and will be available in the fall of 2005. This training, combined with the "**core**" and "**series**" training will provide OST program staff the opportunity to earn a school-age "**Credential**" similar to the national CDA credential for staff who work with infants, toddlers and preschool age children. We are exploring the possibility of having the **Certificate** and **Credential** training articulate into college credit.

SD Pathways to Professional Development Those staff completing training and earning the SD OST **Credential** will be on Level III of the SD Pathways to Professional Development System.

Daytime Training Opportunities

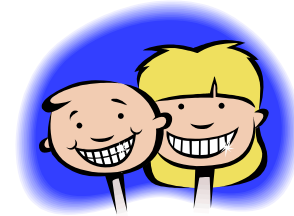
Early Childhood Connections would like to announce "daytime" training opportunities. Classes will be held August 1 and October 10 when programs may be closed or have low census. You may register for individual classes or sign up for the whole day. The classes will begin at 8:30 AM and finish by 4:00 PM. The cost of the training is \$5.00 per class not to exceed \$35.00 for a group or center.

Teeth-on-the-Go Program

We are pleased to announce the **Teeth-on-the-Go** oral health program. It is an interactive program for children in childcare settings that emphasize the importance of proper and regular dental hygiene.

The **Teeth-on-the-Go** program involves brief lessons on brushing, flossing, and how nutritional habits affect teeth in a fun way that children will understand.

This project has been generously supported by area dentists. Call Lee Ann at Early Childhood Connections to make an appointment.



Resource Library



Did you know that you can check out materials from our Resource Library for free? All we ask is that you complete a membership agreement each year and return the items in a timely manner. Materials of interest may include children's books, read-a-long books with cassette tapes, videos, provider resources, and magazines.

The Resource Library is located in the training room at Early Childhood Connections. If you have any questions, please contact Lee Ann at laweddl@rushmore.com or 342-6464

Upcoming Local Meetings

Celebrating Children Family Childcare Association: For more information, please contact Dawn at 342-0573.

Child Care Specialists of the Black Hills: Meetings are the 2nd Thursday of each month at All About Kids Daycare, 344 Cleveland Street. Call Terry or Pam at 341-6350 for more information.

Quality Childcare Professionals will continue to meet the 3rd Thursday of each month. New members are always welcome. Call for information at 348-6753 or 348-1728.

Especially for Directors

ECC is sponsoring a series of professional development and networking opportunities for directors of early childhood programs in the Black Hills region. Two facilitated meetings have already occurred, and have been well attended! Watch for this corner in future ECC newsletters. It will feature articles, resources, events and profiles of successful leaders. ECC is committed to supporting current and future early childhood leaders in the Black Hills region!

Online: Check out the January 2005 issue of *Young Children*. NAEYC has produced a cluster of articles devoted to "Leadership". Not an NAEYC member? You can access these articles at *Beyond The Journal*, online at www.naeyc.org.



"I value getting to know other directors in the area. It's neat to put a face with a program. For them, I don't feel like I'm all alone out there." - **Amy Willman**, Program Director, YFS Child Care

Recommended Reading on Early Childhood Leadership:

The Visionary Director by Margie Carter and Deb Curtis. (Redleaf Press) *"The process of creating change in any kind of organization can be painful and slow. But I suspect that most of all we have trouble because as a field, we are so used to settling for what we can get, and 'coping creatively' with too few resources, that we don't ask the fundamental questions about how child care ought to be. We don't raise enough challenges. We forget to dream."*

"Every adult needs to acknowledge, be responsible, and be accountable for the impact she has on the life of a child. Children look to us for learning and we are all providing those things whether we intend to or not. In the same way, you are leading whether you intend to or not, whether you are the director of the child care center, a home provider at a licensing meetings, or the infant room teacher. That's why it's so important to acknowledge your leadership – are you leading others in the direction you want to go?"

Intrigued? To read more check out Learning to Lead: Effective Leadership Skills for Teachers of Young Children by Debra Ren-Etta Sullivan. (Redleaf Press).

For more information please contact Gwen Simmons at gsimmons@rushmore.com or call her at 342-6464 ext 18.

Summer Fun, Sunscreen & Kids

Summer is once again just around the corner. When kids are outside it is important, 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.

SLIP on a shirt
SLAP on a hat
SLOP on sunscreen



Free Children's Car Seat Inspection

Saturday, June 4th

1:00 – 4:00 pm

at Early Childhood Connections

High-Quality Child Care: Luxury option or standard equipment?

We may be able to forgo luxury options when buying a car, deciding against cruise control or an expensive stereo system. But what about choosing an early childhood program? Shouldn't all characteristics of high-quality care and education be standard features in every program and center? In her article in the January 1997 issue of *Young Children*, Deborah Koshansky reminds us that "option packages" do not exist when it comes to a high-quality early childhood education.

To ensure all children receive the kind of care and education they need to thrive, early childhood programs and centers must fully meet criteria of high quality. A "stripped down" model of a car may get us safely from place to place, but a "stripped down" model of child care and education means that children's learning and development will be compromised. How can any of these options be considered a "luxury" when it comes to high-quality care?

Warranty -- License and/or accreditation for the program

Seat belts and air bags -- Health and safety guidelines to protect the child from illness and accidents

Fuel injection system -- Nutritious meals and snacks

Responsive handling -- Small groups and teacher-child ratios to allow prompt and appropriate attention to the child's needs

Shock absorbers -- Teachers' sensitive assistance as the child encounters rough places on the road to maturity

Preventive maintenance agreement -- Teachers' knowledge of child development and early childhood education for recognizing problems and addressing them early

Steering mechanism -- Developmentally appropriate curriculum to guide the child's curiosity, creativity, and problem-solving skills

Automatic transmission -- Teachers' ability to change gears to meet the child's changing interests

Comfortable interiors -- Teachers' smiles, hugs, and appreciation that provide a cushion for the child's self-esteem

Cruise control -- Appropriate limit setting and strategies to assist the child in learning self-control

Maneuverability -- Opportunities for children to interact with each other and develop social skills

Choice of color and style -- Environment in which each child feels special and unique

Radio, directional signals, horn, hazard lights -- Opportunities for children to learn to communicate effectively

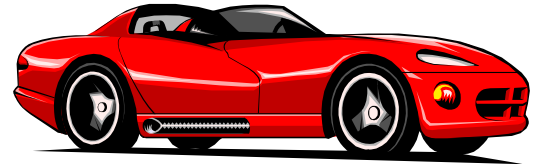
Air conditioning -- Opportunities for outdoor play and physical development

Reliability -- Good working conditions and an equitable pay scale to reduce teacher turnover, thus ensuring greater consistency of care

Customer satisfaction -- Parents involved in their child's program and seen by teachers as partners in a child's growth.

In high-quality early childhood programs and centers, all of the above are standard features. But like all quality features, they cost money. No child's learning and development should be compromised because her parents cannot afford a high-quality early childhood program. Only by continuing our efforts to find alternate resources will we ensure that no child has to settle for a "stripped down" model of child care. When all children receive high-quality education and care, we will yield children equipped with the skills necessary for life in the 21st century. And that's an investment that won't depreciate.

Adapted from "High-quality child care: Luxury option or standard equipment?" by Deborah Koshansky. *Young Children* 52 (2).



Traveling Safely With Children: The Basics

- Everybody needs a child safety seat, booster seat, or safety belt!
- There must be one safety belt for each person. Buckling two people, even children, into one belt could injure both.
- People who are not buckled up can be thrown from the car or around inside the car, and seriously hurt themselves or others.
- Never hold a child on your lap! You could crush him/her in a crash, or the child may be torn from your arms.
- Never ride in the cargo area of a station wagon, van, or pickup! Anyone riding in the cargo area could be thrown out and severely injured or killed.
- No one seat is 'best'. The 'best' child safety seat is the one that fits your child and can be installed correctly.
- Children age 12 and under should ride properly restrained in back.

For more information regarding child passenger safety or for a free inspection of your child's safety seat, contact Kathy at khuntington@rushmore.com, 342-6464, or toll free 1-888-999-7759.

Early Childhood Connections Training Calendar

Date	Day	Location	Class Description	Time	Cost
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Infant/Toddler Certificate Training Series

Jul. 7	Thurs.	ECC	<u>Respectful Care/Environments for Group Care</u> Interpersonal communication, relationships and learning environments Instructor: Kathryn Kettering	6:30-9:00 pm	\$5 (Infant/Toddler)
Jul. 14	Thurs.	ECC	<u>Primary Caregiving/More than Just a Routine</u> Age appropriate planning for infant and toddler learning Instructor: Lori Buck	6:30-9:00 pm	\$5 (Infant/Toddler)
Jul. 21	Thurs.	ECC	<u>Understanding Behavior/Guidance and Discipline</u> Guidance and behavior management Instructor: Kathryn Kettering	6:30-9:00 pm	\$5 (Infant/Toddler)
Jul. 28	Thurs.	ECC	<u>Social Emotional Milestones/Temperaments</u> Child growth and development and guidance Instructor: Kim Booth	6:30-9:00 pm	\$5 (Infant/Toddler)
Aug. 4	Thurs.	ECC	<u>Discoveries of Infancy/Brain Development</u> Brain development and learning Instructor: Kathryn Kettering	6:30-9:00 pm	\$5 (Infant/Toddler)
Aug. 11	Thurs.	ECC	<u>Special Needs/Language Development</u> Inclusion of all children plus child growth and development Instructor: Kathryn Kettering	6:30-9:00 pm	\$5 (Infant/Toddler)
Aug. 18	Thurs.	ECC	<u>Cultural Diversity/Protective Urges</u> Cultural diversity and communication Instructor: Kathryn Kettering	6:30-9:00 pm	\$5 (Infant/Toddler)
Aug. 25	Thurs.	ECC	<u>Responding to Families/Acknowledge, Ask & Adapt</u> Working with parents Instructor: Kathryn Kettering	6:30-9:00 pm	\$5 (Infant/Toddler)

Orientation Training

Jun. 23	Thurs.	ECC	<u>The Ages and Stages of Infants and Toddlers</u> Learn about research regarding the importance of early brain development and creating nurturing relationships plus understand the developmental stages of infants and toddlers. Instructor: Lori Buck	6:30-8:30 pm	\$5 (Infant/Toddler)
Jul. 7	Thurs.	ECC	<u>Building Blocks for Preschoolers</u> Learn about preschool child development. Explore ways to promote learning through play. Hands on activities and handouts. Instructor: Kim Booth	6:30-8:30 pm	\$5 (Enrichment)
Jul. 26	Tues.	ECC	<u>Communicable Diseases</u> Review safety standards for early childhood programs. Learn about communicable illnesses, identification and prevention. Instructor: Janet Smith	6:30-8:30 pm	\$5 (Enrichment)
Aug. 18	Thurs.	ECC	<u>Recognizing and Reporting the Secret Hurts</u> How to recognize child abuse and how to report it. Understand the role of the childcare provider Instructor: Deb Kuehn	6:30-8:30 pm	\$5 (Enrichment)

Enrichment Training

Jun. 22 Jun. 29 Jul. 6 Jul. 13 Jul. 20	Wed.	ECC	<u>Developmentally Appropriate Practice: New Understanding of Best Practices</u> This 5 week series is an in-depth study of DAP principles using new tools and strategies. 10 clock hours (1.0 CEU available). A demonstration classroom will be used by students to develop environments, projects and curriculum. This is offered as a series only, and not available for individual class attendance. Cost includes the book <u>Developmentally Appropriate Practice in Early Childhood Programs</u> Instructor: Gwen Simmons	6:30 – 8:30 pm	\$15 (Enrichment) CEU Credit \$10 Pre Registration Required
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Early Childhood Connections Training Calendar

Date	Day	Location	Class Description	Time	Cost
First Aid in Early Childhood Settings					
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.					
Jun. 21	Tues.	ECC	Instructor: Janet Smith	6:30 – 8:30 pm	\$5 (Enrichment)
Jul. 19	Tues.	ECC	Instructor: Janet Smith	6:30 – 8:30 pm	\$5 (Enrichment)
Aug. 9	Tues.	ECC	Instructor: Janet Smith	6:30 – 8:30 pm	\$5 (Enrichment)

ing tion and hands-on experience with CPR mannequins required for Red Cross Certification.					
Jun. 14	Tues.	Spearfish	Infant & Child Instructor: Jennifer Nelson at Hudson Hall, Room B	6:30 – 9:00 pm	\$20 (Enrichment)
Jun. 16	Thurs.	ECC	Infant & Child Instructor: Candy Kalil	6:30 – 9:00 pm	\$20 (Enrichment)

Please Note

As of July 1, 2005 Early Childhood Connections will require that payment for CPR classes be made at the time of registration. If you register by e-mail or telephone, payment will need to be received in our office within 3 business days from the day your registration was received. Thank you.

Jul. 19	Thurs.	ECC	Infant & Child Instructors: Kathy Huntington and Lee Ann Weddle	6:30 – 9:00 pm	\$20 (Enrichment)
Jul. 26	Tues.	ECC	Adult & Child Instructor: Candy Kalil	6:30 – 9:00 pm	\$20 (Enrichment)
Aug. 9	Thurs.	ECC	Infant & Child Instructors: Kathy Huntington and Lee Ann Weddle	6:30 – 9:00 pm	\$20 (Enrichment)

Bright Start Responsive Parenting Classes

Jun. 29 Jul. 6 Jul. 13 Jul. 20 Jul. 27 Aug. 3	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: Lori Buck	6:30 - 8:30 pm	No Charge Pre Registration Required
Aug. 10 Aug. 17 Aug. 24 Aug. 31 Sept. 3 Sept. 14	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: Kathryn Kettering	6:30 - 8:30 pm	No Charge Pre Registration Required

Out of School Time (OST) – Basic Training Curriculum

Sept. 13	Tues.	ECC	OST Module 1 – Child Growth & Development OST Module 2 – Activity Planning	6:30-9:30 pm	\$5 (OST)
Sept. 20	Tues.	ECC	OST Module 3 – Learning Environments OST Module 4 – Communication & Relationships	6:30-9:30 pm	\$5 (OST)
Sept. 27	Tues.	ECC	OST Module 5 – Behavior Management & Guidance OST Module 6– Social & Cultural Awareness	6:30-9:30 pm	\$5 (OST)

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.

Early Childhood Connections (ECC) Registration Form

605-342-6464 - Toll Free 888-999-7759 - FAX 605-394-0153

Email dhilt@rushmore.com or laweddle@rushmore.com

Provider Name: _____

Street Address: _____

E-Mail Address: _____

City, State and Zip Code: _____ Phone No: _____

Course Name: _____ Course Date: _____

Attendee Names: _____

Total Number Attending: _____ Fee Enclosed: _____

Course Name: _____ Course Date: _____

Attendee Names: _____

Total Number Attending: _____ Fee Enclosed: _____

Course Name: _____ Course Date: _____

Attendee Names: _____

Total Number Attending: _____ Fee Enclosed: _____

Course Name: _____ Course Date: _____

Attendee Names: _____

Total Number Attending: _____ Fee Enclosed: _____

Course Name: _____ Course Date: _____

Attendee Names: _____

Total Number Attending: _____ Fee Enclosed: _____

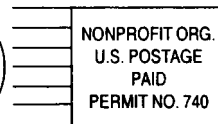
Class sizes are limited. Register early.

Total Fee Enclosed: \$ _____

- Payment must be made prior to class date.
- Enrollment is based on a first come/first serve basis.
- Registration fees are non-refundable.

Mail To: Early Childhood Connections
809 South Street, Suite #304
Rapid City, SD 57701

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Rapid City, SD 57701



ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED



Mark your Calendars
The 5th Annual Early Childhood Connections Expo
in Spearfish November 5, 2005