



Early Childhood News

December 2007 – February 2008

Early Childhood Connections

Observing to 'See' What Babies are 'Saying'

What does it mean to truly see? We all look outdoors. Some see an idyllic gently falling snow, another envisions dangerous driving, while others observe (groan!) a driveway to be shoveled. Visions are informed by our previous experiences, hopes, dreams, fears, and other emotions that affect our responses to what is before our eyes.

As professionals who care for babies, our vision of them may also be clouded. When we are tired, we may miss the fact that a mess on the floor was the result of a baby "almost" passing an object from hand to hand. When George bites Jenny, we may not have seen that Jenny first kicked George and grabbed his toy — for the third time today. Do we notice that Isabella has discovered, to her delight, that if she tips the can of crayons just right, they all fall out? Or that Daniel is thrilled with what happens when he puts his finger over the sink's water spout? When such events happen, especially in rapid sequence, all we may notice is one more mess that requires immediate attention.



Observation is a powerful tool when it contributes to the effective care of babies who are constantly telling us something. We need to both "see" what they are "saying" and then decide how best to respond to babies. Remember there is a *reason* for their behavior that careful observation helps us determine. To begin this process, understanding how feelings can cloud what we see is important.

Facts and feelings — the objective and subjective

Let's *objectively* examine what happened with George, who sits on the floor playing intently with his toy. Jenny toddles by and grabs the toy. As he resists, she kicks his leg and pulls the toy from him. George leans forward and bites Jenny's arm, which prompts her to scream and then wail.

Mixing feelings with facts creates a *subjective* reaction. Responses to this situation may include the following: *It's hard to look at the welt and teeth marks on little Jenny's arm. She's a sweet little toddler, who is usually calm and nice to others. George, who is typically intense, is an absent-minded scientist in the making, who seems to get his way.* It's tempting to use clinical diagnostic language, like "compulsive biter" or "anti-social", which inappropriately describe a baby's behavior.

When reporting incidents it is always important to provide objective facts without adding personal impressions about behavior. Previous experiences can distort reality and interfere with developing sensitivity

and an understanding approach to providing care.

The context of what is happening — or what else is going on? In a busy setting where infants and toddlers receive care, any uproar can be riveting. When that happens, a great deal about the circumstances of the "incident" may

be missed. Is care truly responsive when events that surrounded an incident are not understood? Then, the attention may actually contribute to a problem rather than soothe it.

Context is the immediate surroundings of an event. There's a different context for distress when parents are dropping off or picking up their infants and toddlers than at mid-morning play when separation from parents is over. The ability to see an infant or toddler's behavior in context requires those who provide care to stand back and watch what is happening. Being able to really see what is happening benefits babies receiving care.

The ABCs of observation • Understanding the difference between objective observations and subjective responses along with the context of behavior is a useful skill. How? With a simple A•B•C reminder. Think of **A** or its antecedent: What happened just before this baby bit, or threw or screamed? Behavior happens for a reason and a close look at what prompts it can be helpful in discovering that reason. Then consider the **B** or behavior: What did the baby do? And then **C** — for its consequences: Did the care provider comfort, ignore, or scold? And how did the baby respond? Did screaming get the baby attention that other attempts failed to bring?

Everyone has emotions • Every care provider certainly feels tired, impatient and annoyed when nothing seems right and everything goes wrong. By careful observation, however, there may be discoveries that help to understand difficult situations, so that care may be more respectfully and effectively provided. Give Isabella a toy that's meant to be dumped. Let Daniel play outdoors with a funnel. Help Jenny learn not to disturb others when they're playing. George needs to understand that biting hurts others and that it's not acceptable behavior when someone takes his toys.

Care providers whose eyes are wide open truly see what happens. With this vision, they better understand behavior and can respond to what has actually happened without leaving babies feeling disconnected from those who care for them.

Holiday Closings

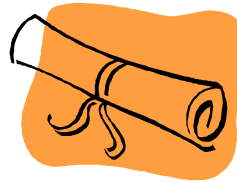
The ECC office will be closed on the following days:

November 22 and 23, 2007	Thanksgiving Holiday
December 24-26, 2007	Christmas Holiday
Dec. 31, 2007 and Jan. 1, 2008	New Year's Holiday
February 18, 2008	President's Day

Our normal business hours are:
Monday through Thursday 8 am to 5 pm
Friday 8 am to 4 pm

We are also closed from 12 pm - 1 pm for the lunch hour.

Congratulations!!



Suzie Foshier at Ft Meade Stepping Stones Child Care, Lucille Lone Elk with the Oglala Sioux Tribal Childcare in Manderson, and Stacy Bintliff from Community

Lutheran Child Care in Hill City recently received their CDA credentials. Congratulations on this achievement and all of your hard work! If you are interested in receiving information of the Child Development Associate Credential, you can contact Kim Booth at kimbooth@rushmore.com or at 342-6464.

Thick Coats and Snowsuits Reduce Car Seat Safety

As the coldest part of winter approaches, parents everywhere bring out their babies' winter coats or snowsuits to keep baby warm during travel. However, thick winter coats or snowsuits can compromise your child's car seat safety. In order for a baby car seat or toddler booster seat to function properly, the straps need to remain tight against the child's chest. Winter coats and snowsuits make car seat safety difficult because they change the way a child fits into the car seat. When the car seat straps don't fit the child properly, there is a chance the child could be ejected.

The car seat harness needs to stay close to the child's body at all times. If a coat is in between the harness and the child's body it could cause the child to be ejected from the seat. All coats and clothing will compress in a crash, but thicker winter coats and snowsuits could compress enough to allow the child to be ejected from the car seat.

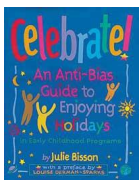
Keep Your Child Warm and Safe

Even if you can't safely use your child's winter coat in the car seat, there are ways to keep baby warm when temperatures drop. Here are some ideas for ensuring your baby is warm and safe in a car seat.

- For babies in an infant seat, dress them warmly in normal clothes, like a shirt, sweatshirt, long pants and a hat. Buckle the child into the infant seat, then cover the baby with a light blanket tucked around the sides. Make sure nothing is behind baby's back! Finally, add another heavier blanket over the top of the infant seat.
- Also for infant seats, there are car seat covers available that fit over the whole infant seat once the baby is buckled in. These covers have a peep-hole so that baby's face remains uncovered.
- For older babies and toddlers, take the child's coat off before buckling them into the car seat. Once the harnesses are secure, put the child's coat on backwards over their arms to keep them warm without compromising safety.
- Whenever possible, warm up your car before putting the baby in the vehicle.
- When buying winter coats, keep thickness and car seat safety in mind. Polar fleece jackets and snowsuits are warm but thin, making them a smart choice for winter baby wear.

Book Review: Celebrate! An Anti-bias Guide to Enjoying Holidays

by Julie Bisson



If you are struggling with how to enjoy holidays in a respectful, anti bias way or just looking for new and creative ways to celebrate holidays this book is a valuable resource. Holidays have personal and social meanings and should be handled in a sensitive manner. Throughout the book the author challenges us to evaluate and examine our own feelings about these issues and gives us strategies to check in with families and their beliefs. It is not a one way is right for all setting or program philosophy that I think everyone can appreciate. The author recognizes the value in celebrating holidays in the early childhood environment. She also cautions us to avoid centering classroom themes around a holiday. For example, some programs turn December into one giant holiday activity. This approach not only over-stimulates children but also leaves out a lot of other wonderful activities and curriculum themes that are meaningful to and reflective of the children and their interests. The chapter Addressing Stereotypes and Commercialism is so relevant with so many of our national holidays being heavily influenced by commercial interest that equates celebrating with buying.

Thumb Sucking and Pacifier Use

You may be worried about a child who is sucking his/her thumb or on a pacifier and wondering how old is too old for this behavior. Sucking is a natural reflex for infants. Ultrasounds have shown the fetus sucking on a thumb or finger, and babies sometimes are born with sucking blisters. Sucking serves many purposes for children as it makes them feel secure and happy, lets them learn about their world and may relax them and help them fall asleep. The question as to how long is too long usually arises when a child is at an age that an adult feels may be “too old” for thumb sucking or pacifier use or is worried about the “potential damage” to a child’s teeth.



More than three-quarters of infants suck their thumbs or fingers through the first year of life. The majority of children will give up thumb sucking or using a pacifier by kindergarten. As the child’s life becomes more active and the child learns other activities for feeling secure and for creating relaxation, the need for sucking diminishes. After the **permanent** teeth come in, sucking may cause problems with proper growth of the mouth and alignment of the teeth. It may also cause changes in the roof of the mouth. The intensity of the sucking action also plays

a part in how much change in the mouth structure occurs. A child should stop sucking his thumb by the time the permanent teeth are ready to erupt. Pacifier use can affect the teeth essentially the same way as thumb sucking. However, pacifier use is an easier habit to get the child to quit. Specialists agree that a child younger than five years of age who sucks his/her thumb should not be pressured to stop as it may make it more difficult to get him/her to stop.

Early Childhood Connections Training Calendar

Date	Day	Location	Class Description	Time	Cost
------	-----	----------	-------------------	------	------

Please note: Classes will be canceled or rescheduled if enrollment does not include 6 participants on the day before or of the class

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.)

Dec. 10	Mon.	Spearfish	Infant & Child Instructor: Jennifer Nelson	6:30 – 9:30 pm	\$20
Jan. 9	Wed.	Spearfish	Infant & Child Instructor: Jennifer Nelson	6:30 – 9:30 pm	\$20
Jan. 14	Mon.	ECC	Infant & Child Instructor: Greg Hilt	6:30 – 9:30 pm	\$20
Jan. 21	Mon.	ECC	Infant & Child Instructor: To Be Announced	6:30 – 9:30 pm	\$20
Jan. 30	Wed.	ECC	Infant & Child Instructor: Greg Hilt	6:30 – 9:30 pm	\$20
Feb. 5	Tues.	ECC	Infant & Child Instructor: Kevin Murray	6:30 – 9:30 pm	\$20
Feb. 11	Mon.	ECC	Infant & Child Instructor: Greg Hilt	6:30 – 9:30 pm	\$20
Feb. 27	Wed.	ECC	Infant & Child Instructor: Greg Hilt	6:30 – 9:30 pm	\$20

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.

Dec. 10	Mon.	ECC	Instructor: Deb Kuehn	6:30 – 8:30 pm	\$5
Jan. 7	Mon.	ECC	Instructor: Deb Kuehn	6:30 – 8:30 pm	\$5
Feb. 4	Mon.	ECC	Instructor: Deb Kuehn	6:30 – 8:30 pm	\$5
Feb. 27	Wed.	Spearfish	Instructor: Jennifer Nelson	6:30 – 8:30 pm	\$5
Mar. 12	Wed.	ECC	Instructor: Deb Kuehn	6:30 – 8:30 pm	\$5

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

Date	Day	Location	Class Description	Time	Cost
Bright Start Responsive Parenting Classes					
Jan. 10 Jan. 17 Jan. 24 Jan. 31 Feb. 7 Feb. 14	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: Kevin Murray	6:30 – 8:30 pm	No Charge Pre Registration Required
Feb. 20 Feb. 27 March 5 March 12 March 19 March 26	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: To Be Announced	6:30 – 8:30 pm	No Charge Pre Registration Required

Orientation Training					
This training is designed for persons or staff members who are new to the childcare field.					
Feb. 13	Wed.	ECC	<u>Introduction to Child Care: How Children Learn</u> Child Growth and Development, Age-Appropriate Planning Instructor: Autumn Gregory <i>Pathways: Child Growth and Development</i>	6:30 – 8:30 pm	\$5
Feb. 27	Wed.	ECC	<u>Introduction to Child Care: Guidance</u> Guidance and Behavior Management Instructor: Kim Booth <i>Pathways: Guidance and Behavior Management</i>	6:30 – 8:30 pm	\$5
Mar. 12	Wed.	ECC	<u>Introduction to Child Care: Health and Safety</u> Child Abuse and Neglect, Identification and Prevention of Communicable Disease, Program Health and Safety Instructor: Deb Kuehn <i>Pathways: Program Safety</i>	6:30 – 8:30 pm	\$5
Mar. 26	Wed.	ECC	<u>Introduction to Child Care: Partnerships and Communication</u> Interpersonal Communication and Relationships, Partnerships with Parents Instructor: Autumn Gregory <i>Pathways: Interpersonal Communication and Relationships</i>	6:30 – 8:30 pm	\$5

Preschool Block					
Feb 7	Thurs.	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. Instructor: Kim Booth <i>Pathways: Age-Appropriate Planning</i>	6:30 – 8:30 pm	\$5
Feb. 21	Thurs.	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. Instructor: Kim Booth <i>Pathways: Age-Appropriate Planning</i>	6:30 – 8:30 pm	\$5
Mar. 6	Thurs.	ECC	<u>Social Studies</u> Social studies allows 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. Instructor: Kim Booth <i>Pathways: Age-Appropriate Planning</i>	6:30 – 8:30 pm	\$5
Mar. 20	Thurs.	ECC	<u>Language 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. Instructor: Jan Tysdal <i>Pathways: Age-Appropriate Planning</i>	6:30 – 8:30 pm	\$5

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

Date	Day	Location	Class Description	Time	Cost
Infant/Toddler Certificate Training Series					
Feb. 4	Mon.	ECC	<u>Social Emotional Milestones/Temperaments</u> Child growth/development and guidance Instructor: Tammy Arens-Beauchamp <i>Pathways: Guidance and Behavior Management</i>	6:30 – 9:00 pm	\$5
Feb. 11	Mon.	ECC	<u>Understanding Behavior/Guidance and Discipline</u> Guidance and behavior management Instructor: Tammy Arens-Beauchamp <i>Pathways: Guidance and Behavior Management</i>	6:30 – 9:00 pm	\$5
Feb. 25	Mon.	ECC	<u>Respectful Care ~ Making It Happen/Primary Caregiving</u> Interpersonal communication, relationships and learning environments Instructor: Jan Tysdal <i>Pathways: Interpersonal Communication and Relationships</i>	6:30 – 9:00 pm	\$5
Mar. 3	Mon.	ECC	<u>Environments for Group Care/More Than Just a Routine</u> Child growth, development and guidance Instructor: Jan Tysdal <i>Pathways: Learning Environmentst</i>	6:30 – 9:00 pm	\$5
Mar. 10	Mon.	ECC	<u>Discoveries of Infancy/Brain Development</u> Brain development and learning Instructor: Jan Tysdal <i>Pathways: Child Growth and Development</i>	6:30 – 9:00 pm	\$5
Mar. 17	Mon.	ECC	<u>Special Needs/Language Development</u> Inclusion of all children plus child growth and development Instructor: Autumn Gregory <i>Pathways: Inclusion of All Children/Child Growth and Development</i>	6:30 – 9:00 pm	\$5
Mar. 24	Mon.	ECC	<u>Harmonizing Cultural Diversity/Acknowledge, Ask & Adapt</u> Cultural diversity and communication Instructor: Jan Tysdal <i>Pathways: Cultural Diversity/Interpersonal Communication and Relationships</i>	6:30 – 9:00 pm	\$5
Mar. 31	Mon.	ECC	<u>Responding to Families/Protective Urges</u> Working with parents and communication Instructor: Autumn Gregory <i>Pathways: Partnerships with Parents /Interpersonal Communication and Relationships</i>	6:30 – 9:00 pm	\$5

Enrichment Training					
Nov. 26 Dec. 3 Dec. 10 Dec. 17	Mon.	ECC	<u>Family Child Care Provider Training</u> Are you looking for a way to rejuvenate your current family child care program? Are you a new provider looking for the nuts and bolts of starting a program? If so, we may have just what you have been looking for. Instructor: Candy Kalil (Pathways noted on next page) Class 1: Quality Care and Developmentally Appropriate Practice Class 2: Contracts and Policies and Communicating with Parents Class 3: Record Keeping and Marketing Your Program Class 4: Learning Environments and Inclusive Care	6:30 – 9:00 pm	\$15 for series \$5 per class
Nov. 29 Dec. 6 Dec. 13 Dec. 20	Thurs.	ECC	<u>Beginning With Mother Goose (Series Only)</u> This training was created to help adults bring the joy of looking at books and listening to stories and nursery rhymes into the lives of very young children. Research makes it clear that the sooner children are exposed to all the wonders that books have to offer, the more likely their language and literacy skills will blossom. If books are part of infants' daily experiences, when they become toddlers, they will make time for books—to look at on their own or for an adult to read—every day. This training includes a set of books and a canvas bag for each Child Care Center or Family Child Care program, plus age-appropriate ideas! <i>Pathways: Age Appropriate Planning</i>	6:30 – 9:00 pm	\$20 for series \$10 for CEU
Jan. 7 Jan. 14 Jan. 21 Jan. 28 Feb. 4 Feb. 11 Feb. 18	Mon.	Spearfish	<u>Love and Logic (Series Only)</u> Jan. 7: Raising Responsible Kids Jan. 14: The Love and Logic Formula Jan. 21: "C" Stands for Control That's Shared Control Jan. 28: "O" is for Ownership of the Problem Feb. 4: "O" is Also for Opportunity for Thinking Feb. 11: "L" Stands for Let Empathy & Consequences do the Teaching Feb. 18: Let's Wrap It Up and Take It Home Instructor: Candy Kalil	6:30 – 8:30 pm	\$50 single \$60 couple

Date	Day	Location	Class Description	Time	Cost
Jan. 10 Jan. 17 Jan. 24 Jan. 31	Thurs.	ECC	<u>Growing With Mother Goose (Series Only)</u> This training was created to help adults bring the joy of looking at books and listening to stories and nursery rhymes into the lives of very young children. Research makes it clear that the sooner children are exposed to all the wonders that books have to offer, the more likely their language and literacy skills will blossom. If books are part of infants' daily experiences, when they become toddlers, they will make time for books—to look at on their own or for an adult to read—every day. This training includes a set of books and a canvas bag for each Child Care Center or Family Child Care program, plus age-appropriate ideas! <i>Pathways: Age Appropriate Planning</i>	6:30 – 9:00 pm	\$20 for series \$10 for CEU
Jan. 21 Jan. 28 Feb. 4	Mon.	Spearfish	<u>Red Cross Babysitter's Training</u> This course is designed for 11-15 years old to learn how to: interview for a babysitting job, choose safe and age-appropriate toys and games, perform first aid, learn diapering and feeding techniques, handle bedtime issues, learn tips for having a safe babysitting experience, and more. Instructor: Candy Kalil	3:45 – 5:45 pm	\$50 for series
Jan. 23 Feb. 6 Feb. 20 Mar. 5 Mar. 19 Apr. 2	Wed.	Spearfish	<u>Exploring Attachment Disorders (Series Only)</u> What is attachment disorder? This series will explore the signs and symptoms of attachment disorder and provide proven techniques to support individual children. Instructor: Susan Lorenzen <i>Pathways: Guidance and Behavior Management</i>	6:30 – 9:00 pm	\$20 for series \$15 for CEU
Jan. 22 Jan. 29	Tues.	ECC	<u>Managing Higher Functioning Autism</u> This course will explore PDD, Aspergers, and the Autistic Spectrum, what does it all mean? Topics will include managing behaviors, sensory difficulties, the effect on family and siblings, and the role of medication. Instructor: Julie Babbe <i>Pathways: Inclusion of All Children</i>	6:30 – 9:30 pm	\$10
Jan. 30	Wed.	ECC	<u>Normal Sexual Development</u> Learn what is normal sexual development at the different ages and developmental stages. Instructor: Deb Kuehn <i>Pathways: Child Growth and Development</i>	6:30 – 8:30 pm	\$5
Feb. 21 Feb. 28 Mar. 6 Mar. 13 Mar. 20 Mar. 27 Apr. 3	Thurs.	ECC	<u>Love and Logic (Series Only)</u> Feb. 21: Raising Responsible Kids Feb. 28: The Love and Logic Formula Mar. 6: "C" Stands for Control That's Shared Control Mar. 13: "O" is for Ownership of the Problem Mar. 20: "O" is Also for Opportunity for Thinking Mar. 27: "L" Stands for Let Empathy & Consequences do the Teaching Apr. 3: Let's Wrap It Up and Take It Home Instructor: Tammy Arens-Beauchamp	6:30 – 8:30 pm	\$50 single \$60 couple
Feb. 25 Mar. 3 Mar. 10 Mar. 17	Mon.	Spearfish	<u>Family Child Care Provider Training</u> Are you looking for a way to rejuvenate your current family child care program? Are you a new provider looking for the nuts and bolts of starting a program? If so, we may have just what you have been looking for. Instructor: Candy Kalil Class 1: Quality Care and Developmentally Appropriate Practice Class 2: Contracts and Policies and Communicating with Parents Class 3: Record Keeping and Marketing Your Program Class 4: Learning Environments and Inclusive Care	6:30 – 9:00 pm	\$15 for series \$5 per class
Mar. 13	Thurs.	ECC	Ordinary to Extraordinary! Is it possible to make extraordinary toys and activities from ordinary everyday items? This hands-on class will provide you with dozens of ideas (and a few make 'n take projects) to create developmentally appropriate toys/activities, using items easily found in a "do it yourself" home store. All projects are designed to promote child directed play, exploration, creativity and discovery! Presenters: Janet Maddox and Janelle Havermann <i>Pathways: Age-Appropriate Planning</i>	6:30 – 9:00 pm	\$5

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

Date	Day	Location	Class Description	Time	Cost
Out of School Time (OST) – Certificate Training Instructor: Candy Kalil					
OST Certificate Series I – School-Age Growth and Development: Linking Developmental Needs to Programming					
Nov. 10	Sat.	Pierre	Module 1 & Module 2 & Module 3	9 am – 5 pm	\$5 per class \$15 for CEU Teacher Re- newal Credit
Dec. 15	Sat.	Pierre	Module 4 & Module 5 & Module 6	9 am – 5 pm	
OST Certificate Series II – Building the Foundations for Human Relationships					
Nov. 8	Thurs.	ECC	Module 7-Observation Skills-What's Really Going on Here? <i>Pathways: Observing Children</i>	6:30-9:00 pm	\$5 per class \$15 for CEU Teacher Renewal Credit
Nov. 15	Thurs	ECC	Module 8-Human Relations Skills Development <i>Pathways: Observing Children</i>	6:30-9:00 pm	
Dec. 1	Sat.	ECC	Module 9-OST as a Family Service: Emphasis on Relationship Build- ing <i>Pathways: Partnerships with Parents</i>	8:30–10:30 am	
Dec. 1	Sat.	ECC	Module 10-OST as a Family Service: Emphasis on Planning Oppor- tunities for Family Involvement <i>Pathways: Partnerships with Parents</i>	10:30-1:00 pm	
Dec. 13	Thurs.	ECC	Module 11-Building Relationships with School Personnel <i>Pathways: Professionalism</i>	6:30-9:00 pm	
Dec. 20	Thurs.	ECC	Module 12-Growing as a Professional in OST <i>Pathways: Professionalism</i>	6:30-9:00 pm	
OST Certificate Series III – Developing and Implementing Quality OST Programs (Part One)					
Jan. 3	Thurs.	ECC	Module 13-Creating and Maintaining Safe OST Environments <i>Pathways: Program Safety</i>	6:30-9:00 pm	\$5 per class \$15 for CEU Teacher Renewal Credit
Jan. 10	Thurs.	ECC	Module 14-Creating and Maintaining Healthy OST Environments <i>Pathways: Nutrition for Children</i>	6:30-9:00 pm	
Jan. 17	Thurs.	ECC	Module 15-Designing Effective Indoor OST Play and Learning <i>Pathways: Learning environments</i>	6:30-9:00 pm	
Jan. 24	Thurs.	ECC	Module 16-Developing and Implementing Effective Indoor Interest Areas <i>Pathways: Learning environments</i>	6:30-9:00 pm	
Jan. 31	Thurs.	ECC	Module 17-Developing and Implementing Effective OST Outdoor En- vironments and Interest Areas <i>Pathways: Learning environments</i>	6:30-9:00 pm	
Feb. 7	Thurs.	ECC	Module 18-Exploring Diverse Activity Formats, Planning, Tools and Staff Roles <i>Pathways: Program Management and Regulation</i>	6:30-9:00 pm	
OST Certificate Series IV – Developing and Implementing Quality OST Programs (Part Two)					
Feb. 14	Thurs.	ECC	Module 19-Involving School-Age Children in Activity Planning and Implementation <i>Pathways: Observing Children</i>	6:30-9:00 pm	\$5 per class \$15 for CEU Teacher Renewal Credit
Feb. 21	Thurs.	ECC	Module 20: Developing Activities That Encourage Creativity and Cog- nitive Development <i>Pathways: Age-Appropriate Planning</i>	6:30-9:00 pm	
Feb. 28	Thurs.	ECC	Module 21-Creating Successful Clubs in OST <i>Pathways: Guidance and Behavior Management</i>	6:30-9:00 pm	
Mar. 6	Thurs.	ECC	Module 22-Developing Activities That Support Character Develop- ment and Promote Social Interaction	6:30-9:00 pm	
Mar. 13	Thurs.	ECC	Module 23-Providing Homework Support <i>Pathways: Age-Appropriate Planning</i>	6:30-9:00 pm	
Mar. 20	Thurs.	ECC	Module 24-Helping Children With ADD Succeed in OST Programs <i>Pathways: Guidance and Behavior Management</i>	6:30-9:00 pm	

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

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
809 South Street, Suite #304
Rapid City, SD 57701



NONPROFIT ORG.
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
PERMIT NO. 740

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

With the New Year comes a time for new resolutions. This is a great time to plan for your Professional Development. The choice to work with young children is one of the most important career decisions that one can make. Completing SDCDA 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.

In January, we will start a new SDCDA training series here at Early Childhood Connections. 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. If you are interested in starting the classes please contact Kim Booth at 342-6464 or kimbooth@rushmore.com.



HAPPY HOLIDAYS!