



New Schoolage Specialist

My name is Letha Ricks, Region 2 School Age Specialist serving Beaufort, Craven, Hyde, Pamlico, Tyrrell and Washington counties. My office is located at Child Care Resource & Referral in New Bern. Before assuming the School Age Specialist position, I was a Quality Enhancement Coordinator working with child care centers and also have 32 years experience as an elementary public school teacher. As a School Age Specialist, my job is to offer assistance to school age providers in your area.

Some ways I can assist you are:

- ◆ Provide assistance and resources to answer any questions you may have regarding school age programs
- ◆ Help with activities for school age classrooms
- ◆ Review the School Age Child Environmental Rating Scale (SACERS)
- ◆ Help you prepare for a SACERS assessment
- ◆ Conduct a mock SACERS assessment to determine your classroom strengths, as well as
- ◆ any areas that need improvement
- ◆ Help with room arrangement
- ◆ Help develop learning centers
- ◆ Help with scheduling and full day planning
- ◆ Provide school age training opportunities
- ◆ Provide resources and suggestions relating to discipline
- ◆ Provide resources and suggestion relating to special needs children

Please feel free to contact me at letha@cravensmartstart.org or 675-7451.



November Observances & Holidays

Month

- *American & National Diabetes
- *American Indian Heritage
- *Family Stories Month
- *Lung Cancer Awareness
- *Military Family Appreciation
- *National AIDS Awareness
- *National Native American Heritage
- *National Peanut Butter
- *Sweet Potato Awareness

Weekly Observances

- *National Animal Shelter Appreciation Week 1-7
- *Dear Santa Letter Week 8-14
- *National Young Reader's Week 8-14
- *American Education Week 14-20
- *National Hunger & Homeless Awareness Week 14-20
- *Nation Family Week 21-28
- *National Game & Puzzle Week 21-28
- *National Teens Don't Text & Drive Week 21-27

Source: www.brownielocks.com



Working With Your Child Care Program to Keep Your Child Safe

Keeping your child safe while in child care is a big concern. You want your child to be safe, well-cared for and learning while in child care. You expect that safety includes having your child care provider:

- Pass background checks.
- Have regular health and safety inspections.
- Be licensed.
- Follow standard safety and health procedures.

A recent NACCRRRA parent survey confirms these expectations. Here are a few tips for helping you work with your child care program to keep your child healthy and safe while in child care and at home.

Background checks: Most parents assume that background checks are required for licensed child care providers. Unfortunately, this is not always the case. Parents simply cannot know if a provider has a violent criminal history unless a thorough background check is completed. See how your state stacks up on background checks for child care providers.

Regular inspections: Regular inspections of child care settings help keep children safe and help child care providers by offering on-site guidance in providing the best environment for children possible. NACCRRRA's website has information on the frequency of licensing inspections for centers and family child care homes, as well as information on the availability of inspection results.

Licensed child care: Nationally, there are more than 335,000 licensed child care facilities. NACCRRRA has resources that show, state by state, the types and numbers of licensed facilities, how many children must be present before a license is required, and the distinction between a small family child care home and a large family child care home.

Follow standard safety and health procedures: The following are examples of common health and safety issues that need to be addressed in child care settings:

Handwashing: Frequent handwashing is the most effective defense against illness and the spread of germs at home and in child care. Wash hands when arriving at child care; before preparing food or bottles, meals or snacks, giving medications or first aid; after using the bathroom, diapering, coughing or sneezing. Watch the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) video for proper handwashing techniques.

Coughing and Sneezing: The CDC recommends coughing or sneezing into the crook of the arm so germs are not transferred onto the hands.

Lice, pinworm, impetigo, and pink eye (conjunctivitis): No one likes to talk about them, but lice, pinworm, impetigo and pink eye are common in child care settings and schools across the country. Although they rarely pose a health threat, they are unpleasant and can be hard to control. These conditions spread quickly because of the way children play together - head to head or hand in hand. Check your children carefully if there is an outbreak, and teach your children to wash their hands regularly and not to share other children's blankets, stuffed animals and hats.

Transportation: Injuries are more likely to occur during the times when a child is in transit and when a child's surroundings or routine changes. The U.S. Department of Transportation offers travel and safety tips for children.

Crib Safety: The Consumer Product Safety Commission (CPSC) has a video on how to use your crib safely and just proposed new safety standards for full-size and non-full-size baby cribs. These standards will apply to all owners and operators of child care facilities, including family child care homes.

Indoor Safety: Watch indoor spaces for:

- Improperly stored cleaning supplies
- Broken toys
- Clutter that could trip a child
- Sharp objects (scissors, knives)
- Open containers of water
- Exposed electrical outlets or cords
- Small items that could present a choking hazard
- Non-secured TV or video equipment on moveable carts

Outdoor Safety: Children need and enjoy outdoor time every day. Outdoor play space should include the following:

- Soft surface beneath play structures
- Equipment that is sturdy, well-maintained and free of splinters
- Good adult supervision
- Fenced-in area protected from the street

Source: Parent Central October Newsletter

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Play and Learn Group

Is open to members of the Lending Library!
Join Us Here At The Lending Library For
Story Time & Activities Hour

Time:

10 am till 11 am

Theme:

Thanksgiving

When:

November 10th- Ages 2-3

November 17th- Ages 3-5

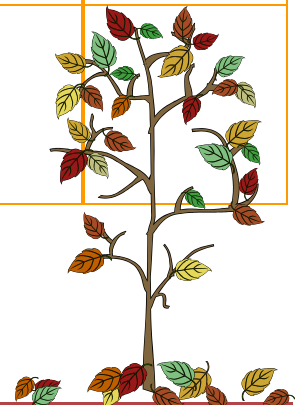
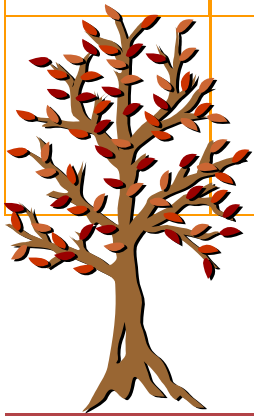
This Will Include:

- Reading Stories
- Making Crafts
- Learning Tools
- Snack/drinks

Parents Must be present and willing to work
with their child.

November 2010

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1 Read a book together as a family	2 Have family game night	3 Make your favorite Sandwich for lunch	4 Help Dad make dinner	5 Have a camp fire outside and roast marshmallows	6 Sadie Hawkins Day
7 Daylight Savings Ends	8 Create your own book and share with your family	9 Read a book to your younger sibling	10 Marine Corps Birthday Show Support for Our Marines	11 Veterans Day	12 Learn How to Play Domino's	13 World Kindness Day Do something nice for a neighbor or friend.
14 Bake your favorite treat to share with friends and family	15 Recycle Day Make sure you recycle your cans, plastic, & newspapers	16 Practice writing your name and address.	17 Homemade Bread Day Make your favorite bread with your family	18 Mickey Mouse Day Make Mickey Mouse Pancakes for Breakfast	19 Children's Day Do your favorite activity	20 National Family Volunteer Day Go help out at your local soup kitchen
21 Make your own relay race outside.	22 Find pine cones and make a bird feeder.	23 Collect Leaves and create an art project	24 Make Table Top Decoration For Thanksgiving	25 Thanksgiving Holiday CCR & R Closed	26 Black Friday CCR & R Closed	27 Go to the library and pick out books to read with your family
28 Have a scavenger hunt looking for fall objects	29 Make a tent inside and have an indoor camping trip.	30 Start making homemade Christmas gifts				



**Our Office Will Be Closed
November 25th & 26th 2010
For The Thanksgiving Holiday**



Leaf Sun Print Mural

By: Amanda Formaro Age: 4 and up



Here's a clever way to use fall leaves in artwork. This is a fun and simple project uses the power of the sun to create some lovely results! Fall is full of fun for the kids. Try out more of our fall crafts, as well as some of our great fall recipes and printable activities.

What you'll need:

- 1 sheet construction of each color: red, green, and orange
 - Tape
 - Leaves in different shapes and sizes
- Pennies, stones or pebbles

How to make it:

Tape the three sheets of construction paper together. Only use tape on one side. (See photo.)

Place paper so it gets some direct sunlight, good side up, and place leaves on top. Position some leaves so that they cover two colors of paper. Also try leaving some hanging off the edge. Place pennies, stones or other weights onto leaves so that they will not blow away. (See photo.)

1. Leave the project in the sunlight for 3-4 hours. Check after an hour or so to see if any of the leaves have begun to curl, adjust the weights if necessary.

Remove the weights and leaves.

Tips:

1. If the sunlight isn't strong enough to bleach the paper in only 3-4 hours, leave the leaves on for longer.
 2. To dress your project up a bit, tie twine into a bow and glue to the center of the paper, or glue one to each color.
 3. You will need flat leaves, so use fallen leaves that have been pressed in a heavy book, or pluck one or two from a tree.
- Try different shapes and sizes to add visual interest.

Source: <http://crafts.kaboose.com/leaf-sun-print-mural.html>



Save The Date Breakfast With Santa

This free event is for families that have a child with special needs.

When: December 04, 2010

Time: 8:30 am

Place: Garber

Methodist Church

4201 Country Club Road

Trent Woods, NC 28562

For More Information

call 252-675-2751 or email
fsn_crystalcoast@yahoo.com



Fall Leaf Turkey

This simple craft is made with natural materials (leaves and a pinecone).

Materials Needed:

- Fall leaves
- pinecone
- eyes (wiggly or paper)
- paper
- Glue scissors



Instructions:

- Go outside and collect autumn leaves and a pinecone (this is LOADS of fun, especially if it requires a trip to a park!)
 - OPTIONAL: You can press the leaves for a few days before making the craft. This will help keep them from getting crunchy. We didn't do this for ours (we've had it about 2 weeks now and it still looks fine)
 - Glue the leaves onto a piece of paper in a fan shape. Younger kids won't get a nice fan, but they'll still have lots of fun gluing!
 - Glue the pinecone onto the bottom of the fan (use lots of glue)
 - Make eyes from a scrap piece of paper and markers or use wiggly eyes. Glue them to the pinecone.
 - Make an orange beak and a red wobbler from felt, construction paper or white paper and markers. Glue them onto the pinecone.
- Let dry and hang up!

Source: <http://www.dltk-holidays.com/p.asp?b=m&p=http://www.dltk-holidays.com/thanksgiving/pleafturkey.asp>

Child Care Resource & Referral

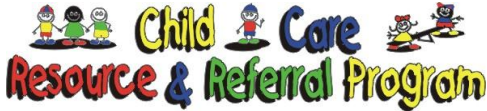
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Visit us on the web

www.cravensmartstart.org

or find us on Facebook,

Craven Smart Start!

Mission Statement For CCR&R

To enhance the quality and quantity of child care services in Craven County by providing a wide range of information, referrals, advocacy and training services to families, providers and the community in general.



November

Dear Lending Library Members,

Our library now has a special play area for the children! Due to the difficulty of items becoming lost and broken, we have redesigned the Lending Library and created a separate play area. We ask that members do not remove items from the bookcases unless they intend to check them out. Items from the bookcases are to remain on the shelves and not to be taken into the play area. Please note items in the children's area will be rotated periodically to keep things fun and interesting. We hope that this new set up will help keep children safe and prevent items from becoming misplaced and broken. As you know we are limited in our funds and replacing items is costly.

We thank you for your help and cooperation with the change. We also hope you and your children find the redesign relaxing and enjoyable.

Thank You,

Child Care Resource & Referral Staff