



Holiday Hustle Thank You!

The staff of Craven Smart Start would like to sincerely thank the community for its support of our Holiday Hustle 10K, 5K, and Family Fun Run. It was through the generous support of our returning sponsors, in-kind sponsors, volunteers, and participants that this event was a great success! As you know, Craven Smart Start's mission is to ensure that all children are healthy and ready to be successful when they reach kindergarten. Funds raised through events like the Holiday Hustle help us meet the financial demands of providing programs that will help us achieve our mission. We appreciate your support and hope we can count on your participation next year!

*Thank
You*

Our Office Will Be Closed

Our office will be closed January 1st– January 2nd. We will reopen on Tuesday, January 3rd, 2017.

We will also be closed on Monday, January 16th, 2017 for Martin Luther King Day.



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Making New Years Resolutions With Your Child

For many of us, the New Year means it's time to take stock of our lives and fix what we don't like. Whether it's our diet, exercise routine or tendency to procrastinate, there is always room for improvement in the coming year. We not only benefit from New Year's resolutions; our children can also learn a lot about self-discipline and the value of making goals. Here are some tips on how to help your kids benefit from making resolutions.

Make It A Family Activity

The best way to teach your children the importance of New Year's resolutions is by making it part of the family tradition. Sit down each December and reflect on the past year, discussing your accomplishments and goals, as individuals and as a family. In your resolution conversation you can each talk about what worked this year and what didn't.

Dr. Benjamin Siegel, professor of pediatrics and psychiatry at Boston University School of Medicine, suggests saying, "Each one of us is going to state a few things that we want to continue to do and things we'd like to change that would make us feel better about ourselves and how our family works." Each family member gets a turn sharing something they are proud of and something they want to improve. It may help for parents to go first, to give children a model. If your child is old enough to write, he or she should write down their accomplishments and goals, and you can help your younger child by writing theirs down. Resolutions for the entire family might include taking a monthly hike, playing board games twice a month or committing to more volunteering activities. Try to limit the number so they are more doable and more meaningful. "A list of 100 things is impossible," Siegel says. "It should be based on things that are doable without economic hardship." You can make a master list to hang in a public spot, like a bulletin board in the kitchen. Dr. Kathleen Clarke-Pearson, a clinical assistant professor of pediatrics at the University of North Carolina School of Medicine, suggests making a resolution box, in which each family member can drop in his or her resolutions, then pull them out at a later date to review them.

Different Resolutions for Different Ages

What your child needs to work on depends on your child. If you are concerned about his diet, then encourage healthier eating habits for him as well as the whole family. If your daughter's room is a mess, try to help her commit 10 minutes a day to cleaning it. As your child ages, he can be more active in coming up with goals, which will mean more to him when he achieves them. For preschool-aged children, the American Academy of Pediatrics (AAP) recommends resolutions that focus on cleaning up toys, brushing teeth and washing hands and being kind to pets. However, parents who consider these behaviors part of their regular expectations may want to provide resolutions that focus on higher goals. Clarke-Pearson suggests preschoolers be encouraged to work on listening and helping skills. A resolution could be "I will be a better listener when Mommy

or Daddy asks me to do something" or "I will help out more when Mommy or Daddy asks me." If you keep it simple, your child is more likely to understand the concept as well as succeed. As a child reaches age five and up to age 12, he or she is more able to comprehend a resolution and participate more in the process of picking one. The AAP suggests this age group commit to drinking more milk and water on a daily basis, wearing a seat belt and being friendly to all children. What your child needs to work on is very personal, so work with your child to come up with areas for improvement. Is she having trouble with a certain subject at school that needs more attention? Is he oversleeping and nearly missing the bus most mornings? When your child gets into adolescence, the AAP recommendations focus more on the child taking more responsibility for his actions, including taking care of his body, dealing with stress in a healthy way, talking through conflict, resisting drugs and alcohol and helping others through community service.

Serve As A Role Model

No matter what age your child is, he or she is more likely to understand the value of goal setting if you take the lead. Just as with everything else you do, your child is watching. "Parents should be reflective about how they wish to be in the coming year," Siegel says. "It's a good opportunity to promote good mental and physical health." Think of how you can include your child in your resolution. "I'm going to drink more water this year, because water is good for me. Do you want to join me?" If you are finding yourself checking your e-mail when you should be spending time as a family, consider incorporating that into a goal. "I'm going to turn off my phone when I get home. Can you remind me and also remember to keep your computer in your room until after dinnertime?"

Rewards Are Long Lasting

We all know the feeling of meeting a goal, whether it be losing five pounds, quitting smoking or putting in extra hours to earn a promotion. Children also relish that thrill of accomplishment, especially when their parents are acknowledging it. As you go over the family list of resolutions each month or quarter, take time to acknowledge the successes, along with reinforcing the resolutions that need more attention. "Children will benefit by having the parent praise them, which will improve their self-esteem," Siegel says. "This will help them with self-regulatory behaviors that they can integrate into being a healthy adult." When you sit down to review resolutions, this is not time for punishment, however. It's important to be flexible and understanding, especially if the child is making the effort. "You don't penalize if you don't fulfill a resolution," Clarke-Pearson says. "The resolution is not written in stone. It's a guide."

However your family arrives at resolutions, the best part is that you're doing it together and learning how to manage your role not only in the family but also in the larger world.

This article came from: www.pbs.org



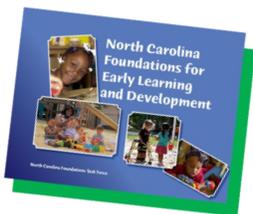
Quality Tips from Q.E.

Building Skills Through Block Play

Many providers and parents wonder why children are encouraged to play with blocks when they should be learning the ABCs & 123s. After all, block play can be chaotic and loud! When children play in the block center, they are developing many skills that encourage growth in multiple developmental areas. NC Foundations for Early Learning and Development (NC FELD) is a comprehensive, but yet easy to use resource for teachers, caregivers and parents. It provides age appropriate expectations for the whole child's development and learning. These are some of the goals addressed through block play:

- **Approaches to Play and Learning**
Children maintain attentiveness and focus.
- **Emotional and Social Development**
Children express positive feelings about themselves and confidence in what they can do.
- **Health and Physical Development**
Children develop small muscle control and hand-eye coordination to manipulate objects.
- **Language Development and Communication**
Children participate in conversations with peers and adults in one-on-one, small, and larger group interactions.
- **Cognitive Development**
Children identify and use common shapes and concepts about position during play.

For more information about creating a play environment to support learning, come join us for NC Foundations Thursday, February 16th & 23rd, 2017. Registration information is available on our CCR&R Quarterly Training Calendar for January.



Contributed by...

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We're here to help! Please contact us if you would like more ideas on how to improve the quality of your classroom!



What's Going On At Our Office

Trainings in January

-Emergency Preparedness & Response for Childcare: Tuesday, January 10th, 2017 6:30pm-8:30pm CCR&R AND Tuesday, January 17th, 2017 6:30pm-8:30pm CCR&R / Cost: \$20.00 for CCR&R Library Members, \$25.00 for non-members / Credit: .5 CEU's **Must attend both sessions! No partial credit will be given.**

-It's SIDS: Thursday, January 12th, 2017 6:30pm-8:30pm CCR&R / Cost:\$6.00 for CCR&R Library Members, \$8.00 for non-members / Credit: 2 CHC's

-Foundations of Inclusion: Wednesday, January 18th, 2017 6:30pm-8:30pm CCR&R / Cost:\$6.00 for CCR&R Library Members, \$8.00 for non-members / Credit: 2 CHC's

-Stress and the Developing Brain: What Every Preschool Teacher Needs to Know: Monday, January 23rd, 2017 6:30pm-8:30pm CCR&R AND Tuesday, January 24th, 2017 6:30pm-8:30pm CCR&R / Cost: \$25.00 for CCR&R Library Members, \$25.00 for non-members / Credit: 0.5 CEU's **Must attend both sessions! No partial credit will be given.**

-Let's Talk About That! Positive Language & Interactions with Preschoolers: Wednesday, January 25th, 2017 6:30pm-8:30pm CCR&R / Cost:\$6.00 for CCR&R Library Members, \$8.00 for non-members / Credit: 2 CHC's

-Social & Emotional Milestones-Birth to 36 Months: Building Blocks for Future Learning: Thursday, January 26th, 2017 6:30pm-8:30pm CCR&R / Cost:\$6.00 for CCR&R Library Members, \$8.00 for non-members / Credit: 2 CHC's

-Staying On Track: Tuesday, January 31, 2017 6:30pm - 8:30pm CCR&R / Cost:\$6.00 for CCR&R Library Members, \$8.00 for non-members / Credit: 2 CHC's

Come out and join our Play & Learn Group!

What is Play & Learn?

Children and their parents are invited to participate in Play & Learn groups led by Craven Smart Start/CCR&R!

We'll have fun while learning with music, art activities, and snacks.

Where? Craven Smart Start/CCR&R

When? Every Monday

What time? 9:30 AM-10:30 AM



Who should attend? Children who have not started school and their parent/caregiver

January 2017

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1 New Years Day	2 National Buffet Day	3 National Chocolate Covered Cherry Day	4 World Braille Day	5 Bird Day	6 National Technology Day	7 National Bobblehead Day
8 Bubble Bath Day	9 Law Enforcement Appreciation Day	10 National Poetry At Work Day	11 Learn Your Name in Morse Code Day	12 National Hot Tea Day	13 National Sticker Day	14 International Kite Day
15 World Religion Day	16 Martin Luther King Day	17 Popeye Day	18 Thesaurus Day	19 Popcorn Day	20 Penguin Awareness Day	21 National Hugging Day
22 Celebration Of Life Day	23 National Pie Day	24 National Compliment	25 Opposite Day	26 National Peanut Brittle	27 National Geographic	28 National Kazoo Day
29 National Puzzle Day	30 Bubble Wrap Appreciation Day	31 Inspire Your Heart With Art Day				

Child Care Resource & Referral

2111 Suite F
Neuse Blvd.
New Bern, NC 28560
Phone: 252-672-5921 Ext. 23
Fax: 252-672-5922
E-mail: bianca@cravensmartstart.org

*For training calendars
& special events, check
out our website or
Facebook!*



*Child Care Resource and Referral is here
for you. FREE referrals to fit your child
care needs with a licensed, regulated, or
legally exempt childcare program.*

Looking for:

**Full-Time/Part-Time Care*

**Before/After School Care*

**Part-Time Preschool*

**Weekend Care*

**Drop-In Care*

**Hourly Care*

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.