

CCR&R Parent/Provider Newsletter- October 2017



Introducing Our New CCR&R Director!!

Craven Smart Start is pleased to announce the appointment of our new Child Care Resource and Referral Director, Bonnie Gould! Bonnie is not new to Craven Smart Start, she has been our Infant and Toddler Specialist for the last four years. Bonnie is uniquely qualified to assume this role; she has had a 38 year-long career working with and in support of young children. Her experience involves not only early education but also child development, adult training in childcare, and childcare management. Bonnie holds a Bachelor's of Science degree in Child Development has worked as a Childcare Director in Craven County for 24 years prior to coming to Craven Smart Start. She holds certifications in early education, infant/toddler childcare training, and is certified to train childcare directors in infant toddler program management. Craven Smart Start is fortunate to welcome Bonnie Gould as our new CCRR Director!



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In Memory Of

Sadly, it was brought to our attention that Annette Hooten passed away. Annette was previously a Family Child Care Home provider and she recently worked at F.R. Danyus Child Development Center. For those of you who did not know her she was a nice and friendly individual who always was kind and loved working with children and families. She will be missed.



New Child Care Health Consultant– Jennifer East

I am thrilled to be joining Craven Smart Start in the role of Child Care Health Consultant! During the past thirteen years as a School Nurse, I have had the privilege of working closely with students, parents and teachers to promote health and academic success. This certainly broadened my perspective on the vital connection between well-being and education, and provided me with a greater understanding of the many challenges faced by families and our community as a whole. It is exciting to be able to work with caregivers and community partners to lay a foundation for optimal health outcomes.

As a native of New Bern, I truly value this unique and wonderful community and was happy to raise my two children here- John a sophomore at NC State and Michael a junior at New Bern High School. I earned a BA in Sociology from UNC-Wilmington and a BS in Nursing from UNC-Chapel Hill. My professional career has lead me from social work to nursing, where my primary focus has been children's services - Intensive Care Nursery, Labor and Delivery, camp nursing, School Nursing. I enjoy spending time with family and friends, and volunteering through church and community outreach programs.



From Trash to Treasure: Finding Inexpensive Materials for Your Classroom

Everyone loves a good deal! And if it's free, that makes the deal even sweeter. For many teachers, the hunt for free or inexpensive materials is a fun and challenging way to start the back-to-school season. Finding school supplies at a special sale, recycling materials, or repurposing other people's castoffs is a cost-effective way to bring in new classroom materials and props for play. In the [Thrifty Teacher's Guide to Creative Learning Centers](#), authors Shelley Nicholson, PhD, and Jessica Martinez share a variety of ways you can find inexpensive materials and turn trash into treasure for your classroom.

- **Clean Out Your Closet** – Your closet is a great place to find gently used clothes, shoes, and bags that children can use for dress-up activities in the dramatic play center.
- **Send Out Friendly Reminders** – Ask your friends and family and your classroom parents to remember you when they clean out their closets or clean up other rooms in their household. Don't be afraid to ask for first dibs if they have some things they're going to donate or sell.
- **Borrow from Your Own Kitchen** – Have any extra pots, pans, measuring cups, or other utensils you can spare? Do an inventory of your kitchen supplies to see if there is anything you can donate to your classroom and students.
- **Repurpose Packaging Materials** – In addition to repurposing items from recycling bins, you can also repurpose a variety of packaging materials, such as cardboard mailing tubes, large mailing envelopes, Styrofoam or molded-pulp braces from items shipped in boxes, etc.
- **Go to Surplus Events and Special Sales** – Manufacturing surplus events often feature free (or very cheap) materials, such as carpet squares, tiles, or fabric. You can also find some great deals on classroom materials during special sales, especially during back-to-school season.
- **Visit a Dollar Store** – Your local dollar stores and even the clearance aisles of your favorite stores are all great places to find inexpensive treasures for your classroom.
- **Stop at Garage Sales and Thrift Stores** – There's a reason garage sales and thrift stores are so popular. Whether you like to find diamonds in the rough that need a little TLC or gently used materials that can immediately be used in the classroom, garage sales and thrift stores are both fantastic places to look for budget-friendly classroom materials.
- **Ask for Donations from Businesses** – Local businesses may be able to donate menus, paper products, hats, and a variety of other cast-off materials and loose parts.

Safety Tip: Make sure the materials you bring in are safe and developmentally appropriate for the children in your care.

<https://www.kaplanco.com/blog/post/2017/07/31/from-trash-to-treasure-finding-inexpensive-materials-for-your-classroom.aspx>

8 Dramatic Play Ideas for Preschoolers

Make-believe play is a crucial part of early childhood education. Not only is dramatic play fun for preschoolers, but it also helps to build social and emotional skills, language skills, and problem-solving skills! Here are eight dramatic play ideas for your preschool classroom.

1. **Workshop** -Set up a workshop area for the children in your classroom to enjoy. The Real Projects Workshop is perfect for little builders. Make sure your workshop is also equipped with the right tools for building. The Handyman Tool Sets include power tools that are like the real thing. Additionally, every handyman needs a tool belt. Encourage the children in your care to let their creative imaginations run wild while they build.
2. **School** -All children love to play school! The Let's Play School set is perfect for the little teachers in your classroom. The set is equipped with all the essentials for the ultimate pretend classroom. Encourage the children to take turns with different roles. The preschoolers in your care will enjoy playing both the teacher and the student.
3. **Food Market**- Set up a food market to encourage dramatic play in your classroom. Preschoolers will love pretending to buy and sell fresh produce. The Carolina Market, which includes a colorful awning and ample space for storing and displaying food, is the perfect piece of furniture for this type of dramatic play. Make the market even more realistic with the Go Green Market Set. The children in your care will enjoy using eco-friendly bags to tote their fruits and veggies.
4. **Bakery**- You can't go wrong setting up a bakery-themed area in your dramatic play center! For starters, you'll need a play kitchen and a bakery set. You can spice up the center with the Baking Spice Set! Encourage little chefs to bake goodies and "sell" them to other preschoolers in the classroom.
5. **Puppet Show**- Encourage your preschoolers to have a puppet show! Children will love the Floor Puppet Theatre, which includes all the essentials for a sell-out show. But what's a puppet show without puppets? Visit the Puppets & Accessories section of our website to browse hand and finger puppets for the little ones in your care to enjoy.
6. **Cleaning Service** -Little ones love to help clean up! Cleaning is a skill that children will need to learn for the future, so engaging in cleaning-themed pretend play is not only enjoyable but also a necessary life skill for your preschoolers. The Housekeeping Stand with Accessories has all the essential cleaning supplies as well as storage space to keep them organized. Additional supplies to put in the center include the 2-in-1 Vacuum Cleaner and the Spray, Squirt, & Squeegee Play Set. Bring a cleaning service to your classroom with this dramatic play idea.
7. **Hospital**-Encourage the preschoolers in your care to pretend to be the doctor and patient with a hospital-themed area in your dramatic play center. Get the little doctors into character with this realistic Doctor Outfit. When the doctors have on their outfits, they will be ready to explore their Doctor Kits and find the right tools to get to work on the patients! The children can take turns playing different roles in the hospital.
8. **Camp Out**- A classic camp out makes a great dramatic play activity! Pitch the Super Duper 4-Kid Play Tent in your classroom, and watch the children play. Complete the indoor camp out with the Pretend & Play™ Camp Set and the Grill-and-Go Camp Stove. Preschoolers will love pretending to cook food and camp out in the wilderness.

Imaginative play is an important part of the development of the preschoolers in your care. For more dramatic play products, visit the dramatic play section of our website. You can also learn more about dramatic play learning centers by reading our "How to Set Up Your Preschool Dramatic Play Learning Center" Insights and Inspirations article. Additionally, for suggestions on what to include in your dramatic play learning centers, read our "10 Must-Have Items for the Dramatic Play Center" blog post.

<https://www.kaplanco.com/blog/post/2017/08/09/8-dramatic-play-ideas-for-preschoolers.aspx>

SAVE THE DATE!

Free Adult Dental Clinic

Where: Epiphany School of Global Studies
2301 Trent Rd. New Bern, NC

When: Friday Oct. 27, 2017 & Saturday Oct. 28, 2017

Doors Open: 6 AM

Patients served on FIRST COME, FIRST SERVE BASIS
(no appointments, one service per patient)

****Plan to arrive early, line will start forming at midnight. Please bring any food, water, medicine or items you might need while waiting.****

Services offered: Teeth Cleaning, Teeth Fillings, Tooth Extractions, Partial Dentures (must come Friday & Saturday and FRONT TEETH ONLY)

Parade of Preschoolers

~Friday, October 27, 2017~

9:30AM-11:30AM

Come and join the fun before Halloween Day. We will have lots of things to see and say, while we parade down Middle Street in our own creative way. We shall end at Union Point Park for special treats at the end of the day.
(Rain site will be West New Bern Recreation Center)

Please, no scary costumes.

**For more information/register call:
New Bern Parks & Recreation at 639-2902**

Safety Tips for Trick or Treating

- Use only flame-resistant costumes.
- Plan the trick-or-treat route - make sure adults know where children are going. A parent or responsible adult should accompany young children as they make their way around the neighborhood.
- Make sure trick-or-treaters can see, and be seen. Give them a flashlight to light their way. Add reflective tape to costumes and Trick-or-Treat bags. Have everyone wear light-colored clothing to be seen.
- Instead of masks, which can cover the eyes and make it hard to see, use face paint instead.
- Be cautious around animals, especially dogs.
- Visit only the homes that have a porch light on. Accept treats at the door – never go inside.
- Walk only on the sidewalks, not in the street. If no sidewalk is available, walk at the edge of the roadway, facing traffic. Look both ways before crossing the street, and cross only at the corner. Don't cut across yards or use alleys. Don't cross between parked cars.
- Make sure a grown-up checks the goodies before eating. Remove loose candy, open packages and choking hazards. Discard any items with brand names that you are not familiar with.

<http://www.redcross.org/news/article/Red-Cross-Offers-Tips-For-Safe-Halloween-Fun>

What's Going On At Our Office

Trainings in October

***Staying on Track-Routines and Schedules:** Thursday, October 12th, 2017 6:30pm - 8:30pm CCR&R / Cost: \$6.00 for Library Members, \$8.00 for non-members / Credit: 2 CHC's

***IT'S SIDS:** Thursday, October 19th, 2017 6:30pm - 8:30pm CCR&R / Cost: \$6.00 for CCR&R Library Members, \$8.00 for non-members / Credit: 2 CHC's

***Playground Safety:** Saturday, October 21st, 2017 8:00am - 12:00pm CCR&R / Cost: \$12.00 for CCR&R Library Members, \$16.00 for non-members / Credit: 2 CHC's

***Temperament of Infants and Toddlers-Understanding and Supporting Individual Differences:** Wednesday, October 25th, 2017 6:30 pm - 8:30 pm CCR&R / Cost: \$6.00 for CCR&R Library Members, \$8.00 for non-members / Credit: 2 CHC's

***Ray & The Sunbeatables-A Sun Safety Curriculum for Preschoolers:** Thursday, October 26th, 2017 6:30 pm - 8:30 pm CCR&R / Cost: \$6.00 for CCR&R Library Members, \$8.00 for non-members/ Credit: 2 CHC's

Maximum Capacity: 12

This training is only open for FCCH.



Save the Date!!!

Craven Smart Start Holiday Hustle
Saturday, December 9th, 2017

Union Point Park

Register at:

<https://runsignup.com/>

Search for:

Craven Smart Start Holiday Hustle

October 2017

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1 <i>International Music Day</i>	2 <i>Child Health Day</i>	3 <i>Techies Day</i>	4 <i>Taco Day</i>	5 <i>World Teachers Day</i>	6 <i>National Diversity Day</i>	7 <i>National Personal Safety Day</i>
8 <i>Ministry Appreciation Day</i>	9 <i>Columbus Day</i>	10 <i>World Child Development Day</i>	11 <i>Stop Bullying Day</i>	12 <i>Spanish Language Day</i>	13 <i>National Family Bowling Day</i>	14 <i>Universal Music Day</i>
15 <i>National Pregnancy and Infant Loss Awareness Day</i>	16 <i>National Boss's Day</i>	17 <i>National Pasta Day</i>	18 <i>National Chocolate Cupcake Day</i>	19 <i>Play "I SPY"</i>	20 <i>What Color Are Your Shoes today?</i>	21 <i>Sweetest Day</i>
22 <i>National Color Day</i>	23 <i>What is your favorite toy? Why?</i>	24 <i>Food Day</i>	25 <i>Unity Day</i>	26 <i>National Day of the Deployed</i>	27 <i>Navy Day</i>	28 <i>St. Jude's Day</i>
29 <i>Internet Day</i>	30 <i>National Candy Corn Day</i>	31 <i>Halloween</i>				

Child Care Resource & Referral

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*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.**

Do you shop on Amazon?

You can now support Craven Smart Start with every purchase!

Just go to <https://smile.amazon.com> before you start
shopping!

