

APRIL 2021

CCR&R Parent/Provider Newsletter

-April 2021-



Craven

smart start
Each Child. Our Community.

Child Care Resource & Referral


April is a Busy Month for Craven County!

National Child Abuse Prevention Month / Month of the Military Child / Week of the Young Child: April 10–April 16

April is a special month for those who work with and on behalf of children. It is National Child Abuse Prevention Month and the Month of the Military Child. It is also the month that we celebrate “the young child.” The purpose of the week and the month, which is designated by the National Association for the Education of the Young Children (NAEYC), is to focus public attention on the needs of young children and their families and to recognize the early childhood programs, services, and providers that meet those needs. Craven Smart Start would like to encourage all local child care facilities and preschools to support these awareness efforts by posting flyers, displaying children’s artwork, hosting special events for children and parents. We want to promote the Month of the Young Child activities (and the work of our early childhood educators) on our Facebook page and in our newsletters. We also would like for everyone in Craven County to support National Child Abuse Prevention Month by wearing blue on April 1st for **Wear Blue Day** (Bianca Salinas & Pinkie Moore)



All children deserve great childhoods because our children are our future.



Advocacy Committee and Upcoming Drive In Movie Event "No Small Matter"

Craven Smart Start is thrilled to announce the formation of our first Advocacy Committee. Our current Committee is made up of a handful of employees dedicated to bringing early childhood issues to the forefront of local and state policy decision-makers. Our goal is to educate and mobilize our families, teachers, and administrators to work together to affect policy change that promotes healthy development and safe educational environments for our youngest citizens.

We are planning a series of events that will educate our early learning communities and grow the attention of our local and state policymakers. Our first event is a Drive-In presentation of “No Small Matter” at Lawson Creek Park. This is an award-winning documentary film about the vital importance of experiences in a child’s first years.

Registration information and a film description is available at

https://docs.google.com/document/d/1C3AoUQAeL1GOsm9PoAjEfZXfzThxxucOvI7Ob_mo6lY/edit?usp=sharing

This Advocacy Committee focuses on our local needs. We are looking to you to take the lead and let us know what your priorities are. Please join us at as many events as possible and share your stories to help us educate our families, community stakeholders, and elected officials. Keep an eye out for more information and we will be looking out for you and your children! (Sandra Arasim, Infant Toddler Specialist)

Things To Do In New Bern

- Teen Virtual Art Contest
 - To Enter
 - Register at www.newbernnnc.gov
 - Create a piece of original artwork
 - Take a picture of it and send it to godettee@newbern.nc.gov with "Teen Virtual Art Submission" in the subject line. Submissions will be accepted beginning April 12 and no later than May 3, 2021.
 - Please be aware that the different categories have different themes depending on your child's age. Please check the flyer for more information at <https://newbern.recdesk.com/Community/Page?pageId=5063>



- Mommy & Me Group
 - Free to the Public,
 - For kids ages 2-5
 - At Jasper G. Hayes Omega Center / 12 PM-1 PM / Every Tuesday & Thursday / February 2 through April 1, 2021
 - At West New Bern Recreation Center / 12 PM- 1 PM / Every Wednesday & Friday / February 3 through April 2, 2021
 - To register, visit the Parks & Recreation page at www.newbernnnc.gov or stop by West New Bern Recreation Center, 1225 Pinetree Dr. For more information contact Ashley Parham at 252-639-2913 or email parhama@newbernnnc.gov



- Family Flight: A family kite flying experience!
 - At Lawson Creek Park / April 17, 2021 / 1 PM- 3 PM
 - \$25 per family,
 - You and your family will turn your original art kites into high flying masterpieces. First build a kite, decorate it and then fly it!
 - One kite per family; Kite and decoration items will be provided
 - Register at www.newbernnnc.gov and visit the website for more information



NC Pre-K and Kindergarten Registration Craven County

Kindergarten Registration is still going on for Craven County! You can register online by visiting <https://www.cravenk12.org/Domain/251>. There you will find all the steps you need to do to enroll your child.

There is also a checklist that can help you with enrolling and registering. You find it here <https://drive.google.com/file/d/1TiGut3vw9Dt1H5XQoc2uliHZB0oZdz2Q/view>

Please be on the lookout on www.cravenk12.org for information about NC Pre-K Registration!



**IF YOUR CHILD TURNS 5
BY AUGUST 31, 2021,
IT IS TIME TO REGISTER
FOR KINDERGARTEN**

**Online Registration
is Open Now**

**Please visit
www.cravenk12.org
to enroll your child today**

**EACH
ELEMENTARY
SCHOOL WILL
HOST A VIRTUAL
OPEN HOUSE**

**Contact the school
for more
information**

**Required
documentation for
registration is listed
on the Craven County
Schools Website**

From the Desk of the Parent/Provider Specialist

Easter Activities

Easter is Sunday, April 4, 2021. Easter is a great time to spend time with loved ones. What better way to spend time with your loved ones than by playing some fun Easter-themed games/activities.

Egg and Spoon Race

What you will need:

- Eggs (hard-boiled tend to be less messy or use plastic)
- Metal or wooden spoons

*This activity is a great way to get some fresh air and exercise! Also, it can help enhance their fine motor skills, balance and coordination.



Jelly Bean Guessing Game

What you will need:

- jelly beans
- a glass jar or some container

*This activity is a great way to enhance math skills and help to learn colors!



(Bianca Salinas)



Are you looking for Child Care? We can help!

If you are a parent who provides necessary services to or cares for, members of our communities and your child care has fallen through or is unavailable because of COVID-19 closures, call 1-888-600-1685 to be connected with the right fit for you and your child. At this time, representatives are available to assist you on weekdays between 8 a.m. – 5 p.m. EST.

- Care options are for parents whose typical child care arrangements are unavailable due to school or child care closings and who cannot access other care.
- Options are available for infants up to children age 12.

CALL

1-888-600-1685

Si usted es un padre que brinda los servicios necesarios a los miembros de nuestras comunidades o se preocupa por ellos, y su cuidado de niños no se cumplió o no está disponible debido al cierre de COVID-19, llame al 1-888-600-1685 para comunicarse con el apto para usted y su hijo. En este momento, los representantes están disponibles para ayudarlo entre semana de 8 a.m. a 5 p.m. EST.

- Hay opciones para bebés hasta los niños de 12 años

Training Information Craven Smart Start

Thinkific Training Platform Information

Are you looking for new ways to receive training? Is it hard to come to trainings in the evenings? Would taking trainings at your own pace at your convenience be helpful to you? Then our new Thinkific training platform may be the solution for you! When using the Thinkific platform, you will be able to take trainings at any time!

Thinkific is a self-paced virtual training platform. The same with in-person learning, there are a few small activities that will need to be completed to receive full credit. Once all assignments and activities are completed, you WILL receive a training certificate. If you are familiar with Moodle, then the platform is very similar. These trainings are currently FREE. If you have missed a training or a training has been too full for you to join, you should check to see if it is available on Thinkific. We are currently working hard to add new trainings!

To access our Thinkific platform, you can go to www.cravensmartstart.org and click on the e-learning tab; or, you can access the platform at <https://cravensmartstart.thinkific.com/>.

Please reach out to the Quality Enhancement Team if you have any questions!
(Kelly Shaw, Quality Enhancement Coordinator/Professional Development)



To register for a training, please RSVP to venus@cravensmartstart.onmicrosoft.com and more information will be sent regarding the online training.

Online Zoom Training's in April

*Connections Matter with Courtney Cartwright

Tuesday, April 6, 2021

6:30 PM-8:30 PM

*Toxic Stress and Its Impact on Children with Sonia Sumner

Thursday, April 8, 2021

6:30 PM-8:30 PM

*Building Relationships with Children and Youth that Challenge Us with Tammy Cullom

Monday, April 12, 2021

6:30 PM-8:30 PM

*The Art & Science of Technical Assistance with Kelly Shaw

Tuesday, April 13 AND Tuesday, April 27, 2021

9:30 AM-4:30 PM

Must attend both sessions! No partial credit will be given.

*Creating Outdoor Learning Environments for Infants and Toddlers: It's Not Called a "Playground Anymore with Tammy Cullom

Thursday, April 29, 2021

6:30 PM-8:30 PM

Child Care Resource & Referral

2111 Neuse Blvd.
Suite F.
New Bern, NC 28560

Phone: 252- 672-5921
Fax: 252-672-5922
Email: bianca@cravensmartstart.onmicrosoft.com



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

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.