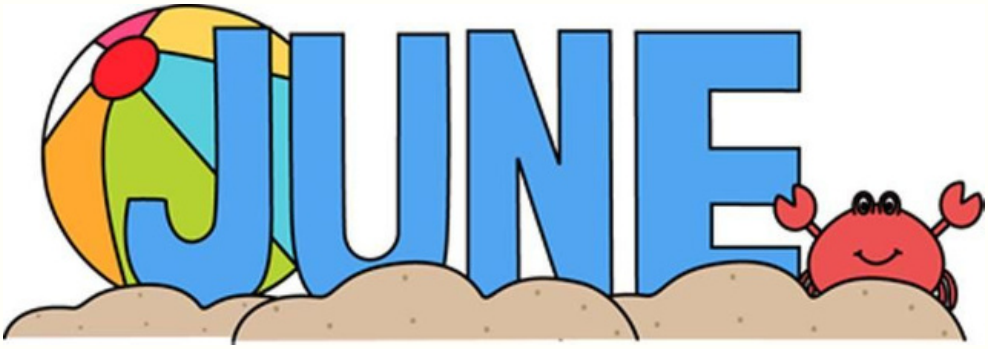
CCR&R Parent/Provider Newsletter

- June 2021-



Craven Smart Start
Each Child. Our Community.

Child Care Resource & Referral

From the Desk of the CCR&R Director

We hope that you have all had the opportunity to receive our free online trainings over the last year since the beginning of the Covid-19 Pandemic. Craven Smart Start / CCR&R staff realize that this has been a difficult season for everyone, and we were happy to provide the trainings for free during this time.

I wanted to give all our Early Childcare professionals notification that we will begin to charge for all our trainings as of July 1, 2021 which will be the start of our new Fiscal Year. Please note that our rates for our regular trainings have increased. As of July 1, 2021, the new rate for training will be $8.00 for Craven Smart Start members and $10.00 for non-members. This new rate will include any trainings offered virtually, or face to face. Craven Smart Start has not increased the cost of trainings for many years. There will not be an increase to any of our additional services at this time.

CCR&R Lending Library Membership Cards will automatically be renewed at no cost if your card was still active as of March 16, 2020. Please call our office at 252-672-5921 or email Venus Miller at venus@cravensmartstart.org to renew your card. We will be happy to mail it to you, or you can make an appointment to pick up your card at our office.

Our office is still currently closed to the public; however, we will accommodate the needs of our providers by appointment and approval of the CCR&R Director. This is to ensure the safety of our staff, the providers, and the families we serve. Our Lending Library materials will be available in the near future as our staff prepares the building to reopen. I will update our providers through email when we have a re-opening date. We are currently looking at the best way to re-open safely and still follow all Covid-19 requirements.

Thank you for your dedication to the children and the families we serve! Our providers were essential before the pandemic, during the pandemic and will be essential when the pandemic is over. You are the best, and please know that Craven Smart Start/ CCR&R staff appreciate you and are still here to support you!

Best Wishes!
Bonnie Gould
CCR&R Director
bonnie@cravensmartstart.org

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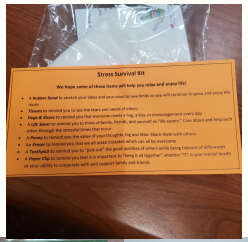
Provider Appreciation Day -Thank YOU Providers!

Provider Appreciation Day was May 7th, 2021. We at Craven Smart Start decided to put together "Stress Survival Kit" bags to give out to providers. While still practicing social distancing and wearing a protective face mask, staff members delivered the survival kit bags throughout the week to licensed child care facilities in Craven County.



We want you, our child care providers, to know that you are appreciated EVERY DAY, not just on provider appreciation day. We know all the hard work you put in every day, especially now during these challenging times we have faced in the past year.

Things To Do In New Bern

- Swimming Lessons at the New Bern Aquatic Center
  - Different classes for different ages
    - Classes for Ages 3-5
    - Classes for Ages 6 and older
    - Classes for Adults
  - City Resident $40 / Non Resident $70
  - To Register
    - Visit https://www.newbernnc.gov/departments/swimming_lessons.php?fbclid=IwAR01l8Q01gOO444UiDQRpcjne6F7sBZtAeug5Izryl7YQxGwXpfASrPmq7Q
  - Visit the City of New Bern Parks and Recreation Facebook Page for more information and for more local activities!

- 2021 Summer Camps
  - YES Summer Camp
    - Ages 5-12
    - At Jasper G. Hayes Omega Center
  - Color Splash Summer Camp
    - Ages: 11-14 (Grades 6-8)
    - At West New Bern Recreation Center
  - Visit the link below for more information on the camps and also to register https://newbern.recdesk.com/Community/Program?category=18
  - *****New Bern Bear Bunch Summer Camp & Cooking Camp Sessions are FULL*****

- Lawson Creek Drive-In Theatre
  - New Bern Parks & Recreation have posted their movie list for June and July. Please visit the link below for dates, times, and how to register
  - https://www.newbernnc.gov/departments/special_events/movies_in_the_park.php?fbclid=IwAR2hVJHuph_9wje82Wgb9chtzbD3Q3UJ7UeaK5QH1zdHISKK6HpWVgU6XLA

What's Going On in June

June is National Fruit and Veggies Month

It is important to make sure that children (adults too!) eat fruits and veggies daily. Many benefits come from eating fruits and vegetables, from getting different vitamins in your body to helping reduce the risk of some cancers and heart disease. Below are some other benefits and ways to help children eat more fruits and vegetables (Bianca Salinas)

- Fruits help children get a variety of vitamins.
  - Citrus fruits and strawberries are rich in immune system-boosting vitamin C; carrots are loaded with eye-healthy vitamin A and spinach is a good source of iron, a mineral that helps prevent anemia.

- Decreased Obesity
  - Encouraging kids to eat fruits and vegetables instead of sugary snacks and fat-laden fast food can help children avoid obesity.
  - A USDA study of 3,064 kids ages 5 to 18 linked higher fruit consumption to healthier body weights.

- Better School Performance
  - Regularly eating a diet that is full of fruits and vegetables may also lead to better school grades.
  - Studies have shown that diets high in saturated fats and refined carbohydrates negatively impair brain function, while fruits and vegetables help support proper brain functioning.
- More Tips
  - To increase the number of fruits and vegetables that your children eat, shop with your kids and let them prepare vegetable and fruit dishes. A child who makes the green beans himself may be more likely to eat them,
  - Sneak pureed vegetables into your children's favorite foods and
  - Stock kid-level shelves in the fridge with baggies of cut-up veggies, fruits, and fruit cups.
- Parent/Provider Specialist Tip- Try making eating fruit into a fun activity! When we did Play & Learn groups here, I would try to make cute little figures. For example, you could do ants on a log with raisins, peanut butter, and a celery stick. Another good example is making a bear face out of wheat bread, Nutella (or peanut butter), bananas, and blueberries. (Bianca Salinas)

https://healthyeating.sfgate.com/benefits-fruits-vegetables-kids-6463.html

From the Desk of the Parent/Provider Specialist Bianca Salinas

Father's Day is June 20th!

Father's Day is right around the corner so to make sure Dad feels loved and appreciated, make your dad or another father figure in your life a cute craft that he will surely cherish! Below are three ideas of a craft activity that you can do with your child(ren).

Father's Day Card

Father's Day Tie Craft

Handprint Craft for Dad

Are you looking for Child Care? We can help! Don't forget that the Find Child Care NC Hotline is still available for families!

If you are a parent or guardian who is searching for child care, please call our Find Child Care NC hotline. At this time, specialists are available to assist you on weekdays between 8 a.m. – 5 p.m. EST. We can help if you are looking for full-time care, part-time care, or anything in between!

Si usted es un padre o un guardian que esta buscando una guarderia para su hijo(s), por favor llama el numero de Find Child Care NC. Estamos conectados a la linea Lunes a Viernes 8 AM - 5 PM para ayudarles a encontrar lo que necesitan!

CALL

1-888-600-1685

NC Pre-K and Kindergarten Registration Craven County

NC Pre-Kindergarten Registration

NC Pre-K registration for Craven County is now open!
Please visit https://www.cravenk12.org/Page/18238 to register your child!

The Pre-Kindergarten application purpose is to determine the eligibility of your 4-year old for the North Carolina Pre-Kindergarten, Title 1 and/or Head Start Programs offered in Craven County.

Kindergarten Registration

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.

Below is a checklist that can help you with enrolling and registering.
https://drive.google.com/file/d/1TiGut3vw9Dt1H5XQoc2uliHZBooZdz2Q/view

Also, you can click here for A Family's Guide to Supporting Kindergarten Readiness

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 June

*NC Foundations for Early Learning & Development with Tammy Cullom
Monday, June 7th, AND Monday, June 14th, 2021
6:30 PM to 9:00 PM

*Emergency Preparedness and Response with Kelly Shaw
Tuesday, June 8th, 2021
6:30 PM-9:00 PM

*Grief and Loss in Young Children: Helping Young Children Cope with Sonia Sumner
Thursday, June 10th, 2021
6:30 PM-8:30 PM

*Playground Safety with Courtney Cartwright
Tuesday, June 22nd, 2021
6:00 PM-9:00 PM

*It's SIDS with Sandra Arasim
Wednesday, June 23rd, 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.