



Southeastern Child Care Resource & Referral and Choctaw Nation Child Care Assistance

Child Care Newsletter

May - June 2011

Child Care Conference

The annual child care conference sponsored by Choctaw Nation Child Care Assistance, Southeastern Child Care Resource and Referral, and Smart Start Durant will be held on July 30, 2011. This year's conference is entitled *The ABCs of Child Care* and will be held in Durant, OK at the Choctaw Nation Casino Resort Conference Center. The keynote speaker will be Lisa Murphy, also known as The Ooey Goey Lady®. Save the Date Cards were mailed to providers Wednesday, February 23. Registration booklets will be mailed in June. This will be a fun-filled event and we hope to see you there.

Office Holiday Closures

The Choctaw Nation Child Care Assistance & Southeastern Child Care Resource & Referral offices will be closed on Monday, May 30, 2011 in honor of Memorial Day. The office will re-open at 8:00 am on Tuesday, May 31st.

CCRR Extended Office Hours

Extended hours are usually the second Thursdays of each month from 5:00—8:00 pm.

Please feel free to visit us at these times, we are open for you!

Otherwise, you can schedule an appointment to use our resource library.

May 2011
(School Aged Activities)
Thursday, May 12th

June 2011
(Summer Activities)
Thursday, June 9th

July 2011
(Sand & Water Fun)
Thursday, July 14th

REMINDER:

We are open by appointment at any time as long as you call in advance and schedule a time. We realize it is hard for you to come at times, so we will be happy to accommodate you!

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Get Caught Reading Month

May is *Get Caught Reading Month*, although the *Get Caught Reading* campaign is promoted all year round.

The campaign is supported by the Association of American Publishers and was started by the Chief Executive Officer and former Congresswoman Pat Schroeder. The purpose of the campaign is to promote the joys of reading nationwide. Reading has so many benefits, especially for a young child. It supports brain growth and language development. To learn more about this program and how you can contribute visit www.getcaughtreading.com. The Choctaw Nation Child Care Assistance Program supports reading with our Early Steps to Literacy Program (ESL). This free program is for children under 6 years of age receiving assistance from CCA and living in Choctaw and McCurtain County. Each week and educator will bring the family a FREE book and activity card. If you have any questions about the program please call The Early Steps to Literacy Coordinator, Rhonda Vaught at (580) 775-3869

Sample Lesson Plans

CCR&R will continue to provide you with lesson planning resources each month, but from now on we will only provide weekly calendars, resource websites, and tips for implementing lesson plans. We realize that some of you may not have access to the internet or simply don't have the time. We encourage you to call our office toll free at 1-888-320-5205 and we will be happy to print things and send resources for you. Please keep in mind that our resource library has a good selection of children's books, resource books, toys, & theme bags available for you to check out.

May 6, 2011 is **Provider Appreciation Day**, a day to recognize child care providers, teachers, and those who are responsible for the education and care of young children.



May is Mental Health Month

Mental Health Month is an annual observance designed to increase awareness about mental health and mental illness. This is to remind Americans that caring for their mental health is as important as taking care of their physical health because mental health impacts all areas of life. Good mental health is essential to overall health and personal well-being. It also contributes to the ability to lead a healthy, balanced, and productive life. Emotional problems can impair a person's thinking, feelings, and behavior and, over time, can become increasingly serious and disabling. Unfortunately, many people do not seek treatment for mental health issues for a number of reasons. They may not be completely aware of the extent of their problem, they may be hesitant to make contact with a mental health professional because they fear they will be stigmatized, or they may not know how to access services. Yet, overall quality of life is greatly improved when a person with a mental health concern or problem seeks help and receives appropriate treatment from a qualified professional. During this month, the National Children's Mental Health Awareness Day will be held on May 3, 2011. The goal of this day is to raise awareness about the importance of children's mental health and that positive mental health is essential to a child's healthy development from birth. This year, the national theme will focus on building resilience in young children dealing with trauma. Communities around the country will participate by holding their own Awareness Day events, focusing either on the national theme, or adapting the theme to the populations they serve.

Self-Esteem

A healthy self-esteem is very important and begins to develop quite early in childhood. Self-esteem affects how you act and interact with other people. In order to help the child develop a healthy self-esteem, praise the accomplishments of the children you care for. The praise should be genuine and heartfelt or it could have the opposite effect you are trying to achieve. Give them plenty of different experiences so they can decide what they like and dislike, as well as what they are confident doing. Remind children that learning a new skill can take time and that everyone makes mistakes. Also, don't be overly harsh on yourself, as children do pick up what you say and do.



- Please remember that you must sign up for trainings one week in advance with payment.
- We have to confirm rental cars and training locations, so it is important that you sign up for trainings in advance.
- If you would like to request a training or assistance, please do so ahead of time. We have 3 people in the office and cover 11 counties, therefore, our schedules fill up quickly and we may not be able to get to you right away.
- We know that it is important for you to get your training hours, but in order to hold trainings, there must be at least 5 participants in advance, so please spread the word.
- If you have a need for a specific training, let us know and we will be happy to accommodate you.
- If you would like to request library items, die cuts, copies, laminating, etc please let us know! We will deliver or mail the items to you.
- Remember to always check our website for upcoming trainings and additional information at www.se.edu/childcare.

Resource Library Winners

Each month, anyone who checks out items from our resource library in person or by mail, will be entered into a monthly drawing.

February Winner Sue's Day Care Center, Durant

March Winner Kiddie Korral, Durant

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Who You Gonna Call?

CECPD: 888-446-7608 www.cecpd.org

Reaching for the Stars: Marchell Newton

800-884-1534 Marchell.Newton@okdhs.org

Scholars for Excellence:

Gina McPherson 866-343-3881

www.okhighered.org/secc

Murray State - Heather McClean

580-371-2371 ext 234

Carl Albert State College - Verna Corley

918-647-1252 vcorley@carlalbert.edu

Eastern Oklahoma State College - Lori Cook

918-465-1742 lcook892@eosc.edu

Warmline: 888-574-5437



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 Durant, OK 74701

We want to hear from you! If you have exciting news you'd like to share or information to submit, please let us know.

Southeastern Child Care Resource and Referral @ SOSU, Continuing Education

Call toll free 1-888-320-5205 • www.se.edu/childcare • M-F 8:00 am-5:00 pm

Mission Statement

All Oklahoma families have access to quality care and education for their children through community based resources and referral services.

Choctaw Nation Child Care Assistance

Call toll free 1-800-522-6170 • M-F 8:00 am-4:30 pm

Southeastern CCRR

1405 N. 4th Ave PMB 4232
 Durant, OK 74701
 Phone 1-580-745-3162
 Fax 1-580-745-7452



The resource library at CCRR will be open the first Thursday of each month from 5:00 - 8:00 pm or by appointment.



Choctaw Nation CCA

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