

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



## CHILD CARE CONNECTION FALL 2022 EDITION

I am an  
EARLY  
CHILDHOOD  
PROFESSIONAL,  
not a  
babysitter.



I NEVER  
once sat  
on a baby!



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### STARs Help

QRIS/STARs is still in full swing. If you need assistance, please click the link below to request onsite assistance from a child care coach.

<https://oklahoma.gov/okdhs/services/child-care-services/qris/coaching.html>



Southeastern Oklahoma State University  
Department of Child Care Resource and Referral  
425 West University BLVD.  
Durant, OK, 74701-0609



# Developmentally Appropriate Practices: Teaching to Enhance Each Child's Development and Learning

Developmentally appropriate teaching practices encompass a wide range of skills and strategies that are adapted to the age, development, individual characteristics, family and social and cultural contexts of each child served. Grounded in the caring relationships that educators nurture with each child and family and among all children and families, these teaching practices foster development and learning for each child across all domains and subject areas. Teaching practices build on each child's multiple assets and actively counter various forms of bias. Through their intentional teaching, educators blend opportunities for each child to exercise choice and agency within the context of a planned environment constructed to support specific learning experiences and meaningful goals. Educators recognize children are active constructors of their own understanding of the world around them; they understand children benefit from initiating and regulating their own learning activities and from interacting with peers.

Recognizing play as critical for children to experience joy and wonder, early childhood educators incorporate frequent opportunities for play in their teaching strategies. They plan to learn in environments that provide a mix of self-directed play, guided play, and direct instruction. Educators maximize opportunities for children to choose the materials, playmates, topics, and approaches they use throughout the day for all children, from birth through age 8. Educators support and extend children's play experiences by providing materials and resources based on careful observation of children's play choices. Adult-guided activities provide for children's active agency as educators offer specific guidance and support to scaffold and extend children's interest, engagement, and learning.

Direct instruction—for example, providing children with relevant academic vocabulary, pointing out relationships, helping children recognize specific phenomena, or suggesting an alternative perspective—is an essential tool for supporting children's learning. Its effectiveness is determined by the degree to which it extends children's interests and learning in meaningful ways and educators' sensitivity to changes in children's interests. Individually or in small or large groups, across all activities—self-directed play, guided play, direct instruction, and routines—the teacher ensures that each child's overall experiences are stimulating, engaging, and developmentally, linguistically, and culturally responsive across all domains of development and learning. Promoting many opportunities for the agency for each child is essential to fulfilling this responsibility.

## 10 Effective Developmentally Appropriate Teaching Strategies:

1. **Acknowledge:** what children say or do
2. **Encourage:** efforts and persistence
3. **Give Feedback:** specific, not general
4. **Model:** good attitudes
5. **Demonstrate:** correct way to do something
6. **Adapt the Challenge:** to meet students' abilities
7. **Ask Questions:** to provoke thinking
8. **Give Assistance:** clue or hint
9. **Provide Information:** verbal facts, labels, and information
10. **Give Directions:** for actions and behaviors

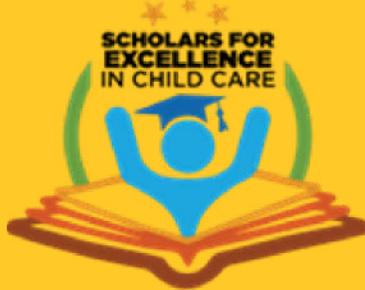


QRIS  
Stars

Shine  
ON

We look forward to updating all the new star levels beginning January 1st. In the meantime, if you need assistance with your QRIS/Stars recertification, please click the link below to request a child care coach.

<https://oklahoma.gov/okdhs/services/child-care-services/gris/coaching.html>



Oklahoma State Regents for  
Higher Education

**Heather McLean**

Murry State College  
580-319-0304 (Office)  
580-371-6679 (Cell)  
hmclean@mscok.edu

**Verna Corley**

Carl Albert State College  
918-647-1252 (Office)  
918-385-1341 (Cell)  
vcorley@carlalbert.edu

## Become a Master Teacher for Free!

The Scholars for Excellence in Child Care Scholarship Program is covering 100% of tuition and fees for students seeking either a CDA or Certificate of Mastery (CoM). The CDA can be earned by completing all 10 units of the "Pathway to your National Credential" curriculum. This can be done 100% online! **Contact Bailey Maxey, at 405-225-9133 or bmaxey@osrhe.edu** if interested in earning a CDA.

The Certificate of Mastery (CoM) is a credential earned through Community College coursework and never needs to be renewed! If you're interested in earning a CoM, please contact [qwilczek@osrhe.edu](mailto:qwilczek@osrhe.edu) if interested in a Community College Scholarship.

Both credentials translate to Master Teacher status and increase levels of providers on the Oklahoma Professional Development Ladder. Stipends are also available upon completion of the credentials.

# Autumn Recipe

## Mummy Pizzas

### Ingredients:

- English Muffins (biscuits, bagels, and other items can be used)
- Pizza Sauce
- Mozzarella String Cheese
- Black Olives



### Directions:

1. Cut each English muffin in half. Place on a plate for children to make pizza.
2. Using a spoon for each child, spread pizza sauce on each muffin half.
3. Allow children to pull apart string cheese and criss-cross the pieces to create a wrapped mummy look.
4. Cut olives for eyes, noses, and mouths as desired. Other ingredients can also be added.
5. Bake at 425 degrees Fahrenheit for 12 minutes, for a crisp crust and bubbly cheese. Bake for less time to keep the cheese white.

## Orange Jack-O-Lanturn Shakes

### Ingredients:

- TruMoo Orange Scream Milk
- Orange Sherbert or Orange Ice Cream



### Directions:

All you need is TruMoo Orange Scream milk and Orange Sorbet or ice cream. The TruMoo Orange Scream is only available for a limited time. We made three different smoothie and shake recipes using it, plus it's yummy to drink by itself. If you can't find it, regular milk will be just fine but not as orange. You could also add food coloring.

Fill a blender with as much Sorbet/ice cream that you think you will need. Add the milk and blend. Use lots of milk for thinner shakes. If it's too thin, you can always add more ice cream. If it's too thick, you can always add more milk.

These jack-o-lantern shakes would be super cute for a Halloween party for kids! We made ours just because and the four of us loved them.



HAPPY  
HALLOWEEN!

# Families and Friends

Children can use the following experiences to build friendships, develop language, and strengthen resiliency.



## Where Should I Live?



**Age Group:** Infants

**What You Need:** Materials not needed

**What You Do:** Chant this fingerplay with infants: Where should I live? In a castle with towers and a moat? (Bring your hands together over your head) Or on a river in a houseboat? (make wave motions) A winter Igloo made of ice may be just the thing (pretend to make blocks of ice with snow), but what would happen when it turns to spring? (Tap your chin and pretend to think) I like tall apartments and houses made of stone (stretch up with your arms over your head), but I'd also like to live in a little mobile home (scrunch down and pretend to drive). A cave or cabin in the woods would give me lots of space (stretch arms out wide), but I guess my home is really the best place! (Hug yourself and smile).

**What They Learn:** Children are introduced to rhyming words and vocabulary that describes different types of homes. Interacting with a caregiver also builds trust and strengthens the relationship they share.

**Source:** Rhyme adapted from <https://www.kidspar.kz.com/preschool-sings-family.html> in October 2021.

## Dinosaurs Go Out To Play



**Age Group:** Preschool

**What You Need:** Large bed sheet or parachute to be the cave.

**What You Do:** Invite children to join you in an open space outside and grab an edge of the sheet or parachute. Choose a child to be the first "dinosaur" under the sheet. Sing this chant as everyone moves the sheet up and down: One dinosaur went out to play, into his cave so far away, he had such enormous fun, that he called for another dinosaur to come. The child under the sheet chooses a second child, and so on until all children are under the sheet. Invite children to play it again. The child who went last can now go first.

**What They Learn:** Children have the opportunity to practice waiting and taking turns as they engage in physical activity.



## Memory Book

**Age Group:** School Age

**What You Need:** Photos of friends and family from each child, scissors, construction paper, double-sided adhesive tape or acid free glue sticks, stickers, hole punch, yarn, fine tip markers, and colored pencils.

**What You Do:** Invite each child to put their photos in order from oldest to most recent. Children may wish to trim photos. Children can arrange their photos on pieces of construction paper and use tape or glue to affix them. Markers can be used to draw borders around the photos, write captions, dates, or names. Once photo pages are done, children can design a cover and give their book a title. The final step is to bind the pages together by punching holes down one side of each page and using yarn to tie them together.

**What They Learn:** Children recall happy memories as they identify the family members and friends who are part of their social support system. This helps strengthen the resilience of children



## Find A Friend



**Age Group:** Toddlers

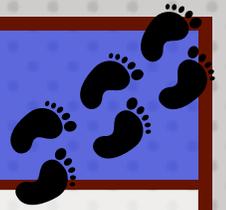
**What You Need:** A cereal box, scissors, hole-punch, brad fasteners, small photos of each child, and a marker.

**What You Do:** Draw a large heart in the center on the blank side of the cereal box. Divide the heart into sections based on the number of children. Place a photo of each child in a section and write their first name below the photo. Make a spinner by cutting a piece of the poster board or box into an arrow shape, and punch a hole in the center of the arrow. Use a brad fastener to fix the arrow to the center of the heart. It should be tight enough to stay together, but loose enough for the arrow to spin. Hang the spinner on the wall. As children arrive in the morning, they can spin the arrow and say the name of the person it lands on. Then they can find that child and offer a hug, high five, or wave as a greeting.

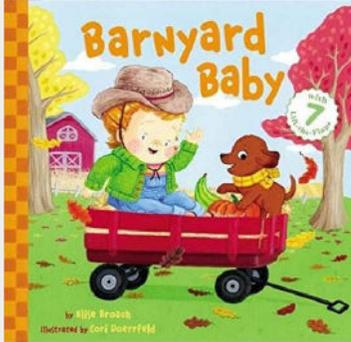
**What They Learn:** Children build language and develop friendships by associating photos and names to each other. This is also a useful tool to ease the transition from home to child care or school.



# AUTUMN LITERACY FOR ALL



## Barnyard Baby (Baby Season)



Barnyard baby,  
Autumn day.  
Flannel baby  
Out to play!

Little ones will love playing along with baby during a day full of fall fun, from hayrides to apple picking. This interactive novelty board book features large lift-the-flaps on each spread, hiding charming surprises underneath. With acclaimed author Elise Broach's delightful rhyming text and playful illustrations by Cori Doerrfeld, this is the perfect read-aloud to share after a beautiful autumn afternoon!

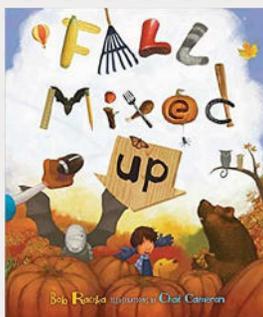
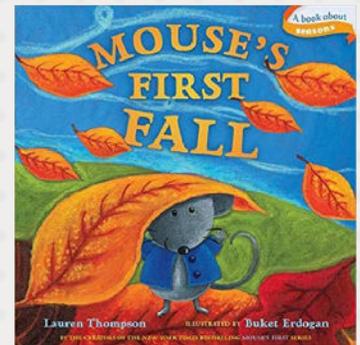
**Ages Infant - 3**

## Mouse's First Fall (Classic Board Book)

Lauren Thompson and Bucket Erdogan show what makes fall so much fun in Classic Board Book edition of Mouse's First Fall!

One cool day Mouse and Minka venture out to play. From leaves of all colors—red, yellow, orange to brown—to leaves of all shapes and sizes—Mouse learns what makes fall such a special season! Before their fun, fall day is over, Mouse takes a big "leap!" Now featuring the newly redesigned Classic Board Book logo, this sturdy book is perfect for little ones learning about the seasons!

**Ages 2-4**



## Fall Mixed Up

Fall is all mixed up in this silly book from Bob Raczka! Can you find his mistakes in the words and pictures?

**Ages 2-5**

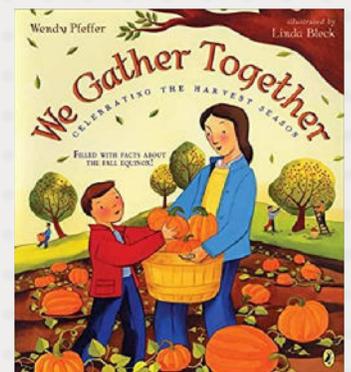
## We Gather Together

What is the fall equinox? The official start of the harvest season, it occurs around September 21 each year. It marks the end of summer and the beginning of longer nights and shorter days. For many cultures around the world, the fall equinox represents a time to celebrate the harvest and begin collecting and storing crops.

Looking at both the science of weather and the history of how the fall equinox has been celebrated by various cultures throughout the world, this book will inspire a new understanding of autumn and the harvest season.

Science activities, ideas for celebrating the fall equinox, and further reading list included!

**Ages 6-9**



# Southeastern Child Care Resource & Referral Training Schedule

For questions or assistance with locating training near you, please call  
CECPD at 1.888.446.7608 or visit [www.okregistry.org](http://www.okregistry.org)

You can find training courses at <https://okregistry.org/v7/trainings/search>,  
and use the search bar to locate specific courses by name, trainer, in-person,  
online, etc.



## Virtual Training



**FREE INFORMAL:** Early Childhood Investigations Webinars is a wonderful resource to utilize in earning informal professional development hours for FREE. It is an ongoing series of conference-quality free webinars for early childhood educators. The engaging webinars are presented by many of the thought-leaders and experts in the field of early care and education. The webinars explore critical topics that offer new ideas and insights to all early childhood professionals. To learn more, visit their website at <https://www.earlychildhoodwebinars.com/presentations/>



### PennState Extension

**FORMAL APPROVED:** The Center for Early Childhood Professional Development has partnered with **PennState Extension**, a modern organization dedicated to providing research-based information for online education. The **Better Kid Care Program** with PennState Extension, offers On Demand Web Lessons at only \$5 per course and you may receive formal credit with courses that are 2+ hours. Lesson topics range from the importance to sleep to building community support and so much more! Of the many courses that they offer, 13 are specific to Family Child Care Homes. Visit their site today to try two lessons for FREE– Resilient Caregivers: ‘Bouncing Back’ from Stress and Safe Sleep Practices for Caregivers: Reduce the Risk of SUID. To learn more go to <https://extension.psu.edu/programs/betterkidcare/on-demand>

Click Below to Visit the CECPD Statewide Training Calendar:

[Visit the CECPD Statewide Training Calendar for additional information  
or to register for trainings!](#)



# Autumn in Different Cultures

Autumn is generally regarded as the end of the growing season. Also known as the harvest season, autumn ushers in a time of celebration for many farming cultures when they gathered in their crops.

"Autumn, or fall, is rich with different festivals which mainly celebrate the return of light, harvest, and, like spring, rebirth through death," stated Cristina De Rossi, an anthropologist at Barnet and Southgate College in London. For example, the harvest festival in the United Kingdom is a time when people give thanks for the fruits of the land and collect food to donate to those in need.

## Bonfire Night: United Kingdom

On November 5, UK residents celebrate Bonfire Night, also known as Guy Fawkes Day. This day commemorates the failure of the Gunpowder Plot of 1605, when 14 people were plotting to blow up the House of Lords at the State Opening of Parliament.

Their plot was foiled and ever since, UK residents commemorate the victory. They celebrate by lighting bonfires and with fireworks shows, eating foods like meaty sausages topped with fried onion, ketchup, and mustard. Oftentimes, Brits celebrate on the weekend closest to November 5 to maximize the festivities.

## Chuseok: Korea

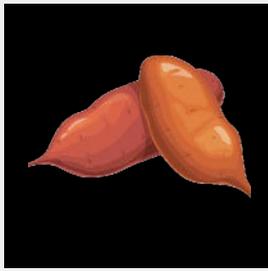
Also known as Hangawi, Chuseok is the Korean version of Thanksgiving. It is a three-day festival that is celebrated starting on the full moon of the eighth month of the lunar calendar. The Korean people celebrate this holiday to thank the heavens for a successful harvest.

To show their gratitude, they gather and enjoy the fruits of their harvest, hoping for another fruitful year ahead. After the Lunar New Year, Chuseok is the biggest holiday in Korea. Traditional foods include a popular rice cake known as songpyeon, filled with chestnuts, red beans, or sesame. Other traditions include percussion quartets, talchum dance, and ssireum, traditional Korean wrestling.

## Día De Los Muertos: Mexico

Often associated with Halloween, but with a very different meaning, Día De Los Muertos happens on November 1 and 2 every year. The name translates to "day of the dead." It coincides with the Catholic All Souls' Day and incorporates indigenous traditions from Mexico.

During this autumn holiday, family and friends gather to pray for their dearly departed loved ones. Preparations for Día De Los Muertos include making or buying decorations for the graves of lost loved ones.



### **Diwali: India**

South Asians celebrate this well-known holiday for five days in either October or November. Diwali is India's festival of lights, but it also falls on the Hindu New Year, making it a massive celebration.

To observe Diwali, Indians decorate their homes with lamps, candles, and colorful sand. Lanterns across the subcontinent symbolize the power of light over darkness. This joyful and peaceful event has also become important worldwide for the Indian diaspora.

### **Festival of the Yams: Ghana**

In the Volta Region of Ghana, the Festival of Yams—also known as Asogli Te Za—takes place every September. This festival holds deep religious and economic meaning for the Ghanaian people.

A good yam harvest means a prosperous year. The festival's religious overtones include thanking the ancestors and gods for a fruitful harvest. The festival is celebrated in slightly different ways all over Ghana and among Ghanaian people around the globe.

### **Halloween: U.S., Canada, Scotland, Ireland**

Halloween has become global, though it's most widespread in the United States. Children dress up in costumes and go door-to-door "trick-or-treating." Families may place carved pumpkins, known as Jack-o'-Lanterns, out front. Children show off their costumes in exchange for some sweet treats.

On Halloween in Scotland, this practice is known as "guising." Kids also perform jokes and short performances to earn their candy treats. Halloween dates back about 2,000 years to the ancient Celtic festival of Samhain.

Origins also include Catholic traditions. Celebrants would light fires and dress up in scary attire to ward off ghosts on All Hallows Eve, the evening before All Souls' Day on November 1. Pope Gregory III designated this date as the Day of the Dead in the 8th century.

### **Mid-Autumn Festival or Moon Festival: China, Vietnam, Korea, Japan, and Southeast Asia**

This festival is a big deal in many parts of Asia. The Moon Festival is celebrated in China, Hong Kong, Japan, Korea, Vietnam, and Singapore, as well as around the world by Japanese, Chinese, and Vietnamese communities.

Chinese National Day usually coincides with Moon Festival. Known as both the Moon Festival and the Mid-Autumn Festival, this holiday celebrates the moon at its fullest and brightest.

In Chinese culture, the full moon symbolizes reunion. This is a time when families reunite and spend time together, enjoy a reunion dinner, and share mooncakes.

### **Thanksgiving: United States and Canada**

Thanksgiving is celebrated in both Canada and the USA, with particular emphasis in the U.S. In Canada, Thanksgiving falls in October, and in the U.S., near the end of November.

The day calls for a feast. Traditionally, families come together, even from a distance, so everyone is seated together around the table. A traditional Thanksgiving meal involves roasted turkey, cranberry sauce, sweet potatoes, and of course, a warm pumpkin pie—just to name a few items!

Throughout U.S. history, many immigrants have added their own cultural traditions to the American Thanksgiving table, from rice with gravy to ube cheesecake and so much more.



# SE CCR&R Hours



**Southeastern Campuses are open to the public. We are a small staff and travel frequently. Please call before you visit to ensure someone will be in the office. SE is a mask-friendly campus, and our office will provide masks to those that would like to use them. If you need assistance, please call or email our office, and we will do our best to accommodate your needs.**

**Thank you for helping us in providing a safe environment for all!**

## Special Holidays / Office Closures

### October

2nd - World Farm Animals Day  
**14th - Fall Break  
(SE CLOSED)**  
17th - National Pasta Day  
29th - National Cat Day

### November

11th - Veteran's Day  
17th - Homemade Bread Day  
**21st - 25th - Thanksgiving Break  
(SE CLOSED)**  
25th - National Parfait Day

### December

8th - National Brownie Day  
14th - International Monkey Day  
20th - Caroling Day  
**23rd - 30th - Christmas Break  
(SE CLOSED)**

We are here to help! However, we are a small staff and our office hours vary depending upon staff travel. Extended hours are available upon request. Before you plan a visit, regardless of time, please call ahead to be sure our office is open. Thank you!

## Get Remind Updates



Want newsletters sent directly to your phone, information about trainings and special events?

**Text @secrr2 to 81010 or  
Click here to join our Remind group!**

Remind is also a wonderful resource for keeping communication open with your families.

[Click here to find out how Remind can help you.](#)

Pick a way to receive messages for Southeastern Child Care Resource & Referral - 2:

**A** If you have a smartphone, get push notifications.

On your iPhone or Android phone, open your web browser and go to the following link:

[rmd.at/secrr2](http://rmd.at/secrr2)

Follow the instructions to sign up for Remind. You'll be prompted to download the mobile app.

## Southeastern Child Care Resource & Referral



### About Us

SECCR&R's focus is to assist child care providers in delivering quality child care to children and families. SECCR&R does this by presenting or arranging training for those who work with children, recruiting additional child care providers, and administering one-on-one coaching and technical assistance in child care programs.

### Provider Services

- coaching/technical assistance
- professional development opportunities
- use of our resource room
- use of our lending library

For more information, call (580) 745-2105 or, check out our website: <http://www.se.edu/dept/childcare/>



## The Center for Early Childhood Professional Development

The Center for Early Childhood Professional Development (CECPD) reflects Oklahoma's commitment to quality early care and education by providing professional development that produces results! Created in 1998 using federal child development block grant funds, the Center supports the individuals who work in licensed child care facilities throughout Oklahoma. The settings include Head Start programs, family child care homes, child care centers, and pre-Kindergarten.



For more information, go online at [cecpd.org](http://cecpd.org)

To find a training in your area, go to the Oklahoma Statewide Training Calendar at [www.okregistry.org](http://www.okregistry.org)



# Child Care WARMLINE



The Warmline for Oklahoma Child Care Providers offers free telephone consultations on numerous topics of concern. Consultants refer providers to appropriate services and resources within their communities. A consultant can help clarify a problem, provide information, help generate ideas and solutions, offer guidance on developmentally appropriate practices, provide referrals to meet individual needs and requests, direct providers to relevant resources to assist with a concern, and provide follow-up when needed.



Call: 1-888-574-5437

Email your questions: [warmline@health.ok.gov](mailto:warmline@health.ok.gov)



# Scholars for Excellence in Child Care, Stipends



The Scholars program awards stipends for the completion of a Child Development Associate (CDA), Certificate of Mastery, Directors Certificate of Completion, Associates Degree, and Bachelors Degree.

- CDA stipends start at \$600
- Certificate of Mastery stipend starts at \$800
- Directors Certificate of Completion \$1,000
- Associate Degree stipend starts at \$1,500
- Bachelors Degree stipend starts at \$2,000

For more information about the Scholars Program in the Southeastern Region please contact Verna Corley at Carl Albert State College at 918.647.1252 or The State Scholarship Office at 405.225.9397



Go to <https://www.okhighered.org/scholars/> for more information



## Coronavirus News & Resources for Child Care Professionals, Families and Policymakers

Child Care Aware® of America (CCAoA) is committed to providing news and the latest information to help prepare families, child care providers and policymakers as we closely monitor the situation around the Coronavirus(COVID-19) outbreak. To equip communities, CCAoA gathered resources to ensure the safety of all individuals. We are also interested in learning how Coronavirus has impacted your community. Your comments will help inform CCAoA and policymaker

**Click below for resources:**

<https://info.childcareaware.org/coronavirus-updates#providersdit>



## DHS County Offices for Southeast Region

**Atoka County DHS**  
801 S. Greathouse Dr.  
Atoka, OK 74525-3436  
(580) 889-3394  
1-800-225-0051

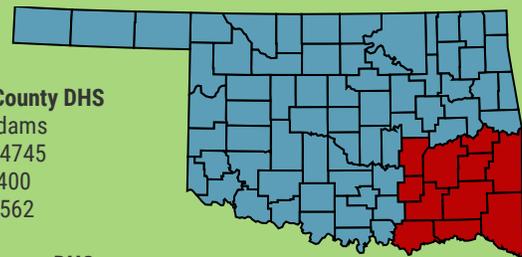
**Bryan County DHS**  
4302 Hwy. 70 West  
Durant, OK 74701  
(580) 931-2500  
1-800-225-0062

**Leflore County DHS**  
511 S. Harper  
Poteau, OK 74953  
(918) 649-2300  
1-800-493-7960

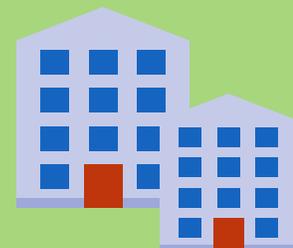
**Pushmataha County DHS**  
104 S.E. "B" St.  
Antlers, OK 74523  
(580) 298-3361  
1-800-270-0803

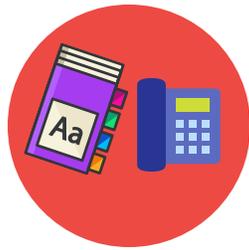
**McCurain County DHS**  
1300 S.E. Adams  
Idabel, OK 74745  
(580) 208-3400  
1-800-815-7562

**Pittsburg County DHS**  
1900 South Main  
McAlester, OK 74501  
(918) 421-6100  
1-800-270-0792



**Due to DHS office closures, office hours and locations are subject to change.**





# Helpful Contacts and Resources

## Reaching for the Stars

**Tiffany McPherson**

918.348.8518

Tiffany.Mcpherson@okdhs.org

**Serving the following SE OK counties:**

Atoka, Bryan, Choctaw, Coal, Haskell, Hughes, Latimer, LeFlore, McCurtain, Pittsburg, and Pushmataha.

## Services

**Child Care Warmline**

888.574.5437

warmline@health.ok.gov

**Center for Early Childhood Professional Development**

888.446.7608

[www.cecpd.org](http://www.cecpd.org)

**Office of Background Investigations**

800.347.2276

**OK DHS Child Care Services**

844.834.8314

**Scholars for Excellence in Child Care**

866.343.3881

[www.okhighered.org/scholars](http://www.okhighered.org/scholars)

## Resources

**Locate Quality Child Care**

800.438.0008

**211 Oklahoma**

<https://www.211ok.org/>

**Zero to Three**

202.638.1144

[www.zerotothree.org](http://www.zerotothree.org)

**Child Care Aware**

800.424.2246

[www.childcareaware.org](http://www.childcareaware.org)

**NAEYC**

800.424.2460

[www.naeyc.org](http://www.naeyc.org)

**Online Provider Training**

[www.SmartHorizons.org](http://www.SmartHorizons.org)

## CCR&R Staff

**Lyndi Scarberry**

Director

580.745.3166

[lscarberry@se.edu](mailto:lscarberry@se.edu)

**Judy Morgan**

Infant/Toddler Specialist

580.745.3108

[jmorgan@se.edu](mailto:jmorgan@se.edu)

**Marsha McClour**

Administrative Assistant

580.745.2105

[mmccclour@se.edu](mailto:mmccclour@se.edu)

**Nicole Helmer**

CCR&R Specialist

580.745.3176

[nhelmer@se.edu](mailto:nhelmer@se.edu)

**Lori Turman**

Business Specialist

580.745.2950

[lturman@se.edu](mailto:lturman@se.edu)

## Choctaw Nation CCA Staff

**Angie Hodge**

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