

Y CHILD CARE COMMUNIQUE

Linking families, child care professionals and the greater San Diego community.

July/August 2009

Childcare Resource Service: A Department of the YMCA of San Diego County. Funded by California Department of Education, Child Development Division.

What Makes it Rain?

Science Teaches Children about the World around Them

The important thing in science is not so much to obtain new facts as to discover new ways of thinking about them

-William Lawrence Bragg

When you think of science, what comes to mind? Is it looking under a microscope? Mixing different liquids and finding out what happens? Perhaps it was the class where you actually got to “do” something? There are many different types of science. That’s because in its simplest meaning, science is the way you study or learn or think about something. Science is all about studying, finding out and making sense of the how, what and why of the world we live in.

Science mixes well with a child’s natural sense of curiosity. Young children learn through their senses – smelling, tasting, touching, hearing, and seeing. Science uses all of these senses and it is also fun! Science can help children learn how the light from the sun helps flowers grow, how water becomes ice and about other things in the environment.

More Than Discovering

Science has an even more important role for children than just showing them what and how things happen. Science teaches children how to learn. It uses thinking (cognitive) skills and promotes creativity. By using imagination, creativity, testing, experimenting, and observing, children get ideas that help them learn basic facts and rules about the world around them. Science is about experimenting – learning by trial and error, not giving up, following steps, and coming up with results. Science uses many math skills including guessing, measuring, comparing, organizing and observing.

Science is Everywhere

Science is all around us. Science can be found in any environment. For young children, science does not have to be “formal” or take a lot of time or money. It just has to be an activity where children “do” something and “see” the results. Science is one of the easiest and most fun ways to engage children in learning at school or at home. Science helps children come up with their own answers and ideas. It’s what true learning is all about!

Adapted from The Daily Parent prepared by NACCRRRA, The National Association of Child Care Resource & Referral Agencies, with funding from the Citi Foundation, New York, New York.



The *Child Care Communique* is published six times per year by YMCA Childcare Resource Service (CRS), a department of the YMCA of San Diego County, 3333 Camino del Rio S. #400, San Diego, CA 92108-3839

Executive Director.....Debbie Macdonald
Editor.....Karen Shelby
Design.....Erika Ramirez Lee/
Brenda Aguirre

The *Child Care Communique* is sent as a public service to licensed child care facilities and other professionals in the community. To be placed on the mailing list, call 619.521.3055 x2312.

Guest editorials and announcements are welcome and may be addressed to the editor, 3333 Camino del Rio S. #400, San Diego, CA 92108-3839. Opinions expressed by guest writers do not necessarily reflect the views of YMCA CRS. Efforts to preserve the intent of each submission will be made with final editorial authority resting with the editor. Submissions will be considered for publication as space and time allow.

YMCA CRS Referral Policy

YMCA CRS provides free child care referrals to parents for their specific child care needs in licensed and legally license exempt facilities in San Diego County. Service is provided to all persons requesting them regardless of income or other eligibility factors. Confidentiality of both parents and providers is maintained. Child care referral lines are open Monday–Thursday from 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. and Fridays from 8:00a.m.–12:00p.m. or a message may be left 24hrs a day.

Consumers are offered a variety of child care options including family child care homes, child care centers, preschools, before and after school care, and in-home agencies. YMCA CRS seeks to promote and develop quality care for children but does not make recommendations regarding particular providers. YMCA CRS strongly encourages parents to visit facilities and review provider histories with Community Care Licensing at 619.767.2200, prior to making the final decision for child care arrangements.

Responsibility for selecting a child care provider rests with the parent or guardian. YMCA CRS referral and complaint policies are available to parents, providers, or other interested persons by calling 1.800.481.2151 to request a copy.

YMCA CRS Programs

Administration..... 619.521.3055
Alternative Payment 619.521.3055
Centralized Eligibility List..... 1.800.521.0560
Special Needs Unit..... 619.521.3055
North County Office 760.726.9100
South County Office 619.474.4707
HealthLine 1.800.908.8883
Child Care Referrals 1.800.481.2151
On-line Referral Search.....www.ymcacrs.org
Inclusion Specialist..... 619.521.3055 x2325
CATS Calendar..... 619.521.3055 x2315
Resource Library 619.521.3055 x2304
San Diego CARES 1.866.CARES SD
Military Family Programs..... 1.800.441.9199

www.ymcacrs.org

Fun Science Activities for Young Children

Although the following activities are grouped by age, all activities are appropriate for any group. Ask older children questions about the activities to build their thinking skills. Of course adults have to get the materials together and help younger ones with cutting or other skills but let children actually do the mixing, pouring, measuring, stirring, spraying and other activities. Be sure to keep a narrative picture journal and have fun!

Growing Grass Sponges

Older Toddlers (2's)

What you need:

Small sponges, small plastic containers, water, grass seeds, small plastic spray bottles, sunny area/window

What you and the children will do:

Soak a sponge piece in water.
Place it in the container.
Sprinkle seeds on the sponge.
Set in a sunny space.
Water it a little every day.
Keep a journal of children's pictures and observations.
Watch as the grass begins to grow!

What the children will learn:

The sun helps plants grow. Water helps plants to grow. How to grow things.
Language: sun, water, sprinkle, grow, wait, observe.

Magical Frost

Preschoolers

What you need:

Empty coffee or other metal can, teaspoon, salt, ice cubes

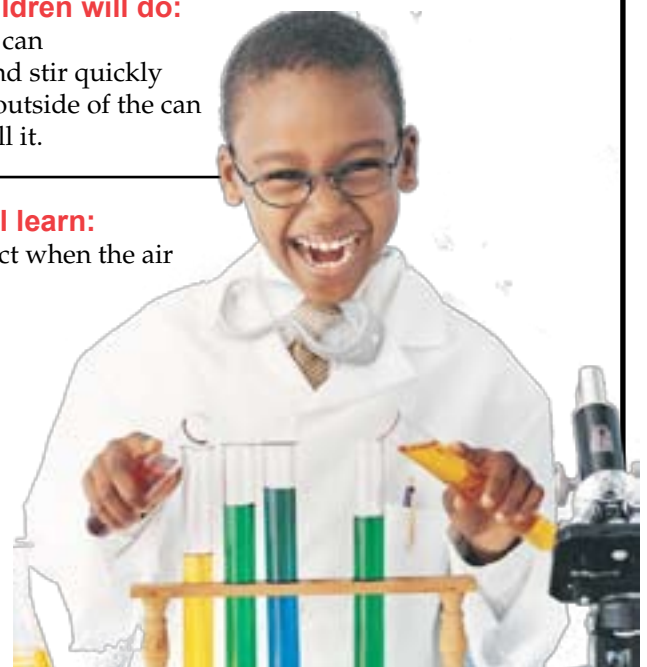
What you and the children will do:

Put ice cubes into the tin can
Add a teaspoon of salt and stir quickly
Watch frost form on the outside of the can
Examine, touch and smell it.

What the children will learn:

What happens to an object when the air around it gets very cold?

Language: watch, frost, temperature, metal, stir, quickly, inside/outside



Making Volcanoes School-Age

What you need:

Baking soda, vinegar, paper towels, small pitcher, plastic tub or sand table, small plastic bottle

What you and the children will do:

Place the plastic bottle in the tub or sand table/box

Pour two spoonfuls of baking soda in to the bottle

Pour some vinegar in to the small pitcher

Pour a little vinegar from the pitcher into the bottle with the baking soda. This will cause a chemical reaction. The baking soda will bubble over like a volcano.

Repeat the process a few times, adding more baking soda and vinegar.

What the children will learn:

What happens when two ingredients are combined. Trial and error. How vinegar smells. Skill of pouring.

Language: Pour, mix, repeat, chemical, vinegar

Before the activity ask:
What do you think will happen when you pour the vinegar?
After the activity ask: Why do you think there are foam and bubbles?



Activities are reprinted (and adapted) with permission from The Giant Encyclopedia of Preschool Activities for Three-Year-Olds, 2004 Gryphon House Inc.

Visit the YMCA CRS Resource Library On-Line Catalog at www.ymcacr.org to search for and reserve science and other curriculum books. View our new environmental section with resources for Living Green! Call 619.521.3055 ext. 2304

Sid the Science Kid

Rediscover your sense of wonder with Sid the Science Kid, the new PBS children's series from the Jim Henson Company and KPBS. In this fun, interactive workshop discover how to teach preschoolers to think and act like scientists. Walk away with science tools, activity ideas and concrete strategies that will help children develop confidence in themselves as explorers and learners. Workshop cost is \$15.00 per person (open only to adults) and approved for three (3) SD CARES Professional Development Training hours. For more information call 1.800.481.2151 or e-mail to mytraining@ymcacr.org. Log on to www.ymcacr.org/providers/cats/index.php to print a registration flyer.

July 21
YMCA CRS,
Mission Valley
6:30 p.m. – 9:30 p.m.

August 1
Health & Human Services,
Chula Vista
9:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.

Web Sites

www.sesamestreet.org/parents/

Offers parents articles and activities based on activity type, theme or learning area.

www.apples4theteacher.com

Online interactive games and printouts for multiple disciplines including science, math, literacy and social studies.

<http://science.preschoolrock.com/>

Provides activities for preschoolers related to science and nature including themes such as astronomy, weather, experiments and much more!

<http://pbskids.org/zoom/activities/sci/>

Science activities in theme areas such as water, chemistry, engineering, energy, and life science. Includes a list of materials needed, instructions and testimonials of real kids who have done the activities.

What is the H1N1 Virus?

The H1N1 virus is a new strain of the swine flu caused by type A influenza virus that has not been seen in humans in the United States until now. The first cases were reported in late March and early April 2009. Although swine flu outbreaks generally occur in pigs, human infection can and does happen.

The symptoms of the swine flu are very similar to those of the regular flu which include fever, cough, sore throat, body aches, headache, chills and fatigue. Some people have also reported diarrhea and vomiting with the swine flu. Since this is a new strain of the swine flu it is possible that cases could die down now and return later this fall when flu season enters back into full swing.

As of right now there is no vaccine available for the swine flu. It is important to take these steps to protect your health:

- Wash hands often with soap and water
- Avoid touching eyes, nose and mouth as much as possible
- Avoid people who are sick
- Cover mouth and nose with tissues or a sleeve when sneezing or coughing
- Get adequate rest, proper nutrition and exercise

For more information please call the YMCA Childcare Resource Service HealthLine at 1.800.908.8883 or visit the Center for Disease Control and Prevention web site at: www.cdc.gov/swineflu/.

New Military Respite Care Program for Deployed Marines

Is your spouse currently deployed? Do you need a break from the stress of parenting alone? The YMCA Childcare Resource Service has received funding for a new Military Respite Care service for U.S. Marine Corp families. The Deployment Respite Care Program provides 16 hours of free respite care each month for families with a deployed spouse.

Parents may use their existing licensed child care program (family child care home or child care center) or choose to receive referrals to respite care providers that will come into their home. YMCA CRS will pay for respite services directly to the respite providers. Respite Care providers are required to complete pre-service training, program orientation, and a LiveScan fingerprint background clearance before providing respite services.

To learn more about the Deployment Respite Care Program, contact Blanca Maldonado, Program Director, at 619.521.3055 ext. 3325 or send an e-mail to mymilitarycare@ymcacrs.org. To apply for the Deployment Respite Care Program contact Child Care Aware 1.800.424.2246.

YMCA CRS is currently recruiting experienced individuals who are interested in working part-time with children as a Military In-Home Respite Provider. Apply online at www.ymcacrs.org. YMCA CRS Military Respite Care Program services are provided through a partnership between YMCA Childcare Resource Service, the National Association of Child Care Resource & Referral Agencies, the U.S. Marine Corps and U.S. Navy.

New Self Learning Module: Talk, Read, Write!

Guide preschoolers along the exciting path from listening and speaking to reading and writing. YMCA Childcare Resource Service (YMCA CRS) has created a self learning module to make this literacy curriculum available to center and home-based child care providers from the comfort of home. Obtain the Sesame Street Beginnings: Talk, Read, Write! kit filled with practical advice for incorporating language and literacy learning into everyday activities. San Diego CARES participants who complete the self-paced learning curriculum and self-assessment will earn 7 Professional Development Training hours.

The Talk, Read, Write! self learning module will be available in English and Spanish at all three YMCA CRS Library locations beginning July 2009. The module can be purchased for \$10.00 and includes a study guide booklet, videotape, early literacy resources, and guidelines for self-assessment. For more information call 1.800.481.2151 or e-mail myresource@ymcacrs.org.

Disaster Preparedness Training

Do you have an emergency plan in place in case of an earthquake? What will you do in the event of a wild fire? Is your child care program prepared to handle these disasters? YMCA Childcare Resource Service offers Disaster Preparedness training to help child care centers and family child care programs prepare for different types of disasters. Training includes learning what types of disasters are most likely to occur locally, developing an emergency plan, making and practicing an evacuation plan and other tasks related to preparing for a disaster.

Disaster Preparedness training for family child care programs will be held on July 29, 2009 and a training for center based programs will be held on August 19, 2009, from 6:30 p.m. to 9:30 p.m. at YMCA CRS, 3333 Camino del Rio South, #400, San Diego, CA 92108. The cost is \$15.00 per person and approved for 3 SD CARES Professional Development Training hours. For registration information contact 1.800.481.2151 or e-mail your request for a registration flyer to mytraining@ymcacrs.org. Get Ready – Stay Ready! It's your professional responsibility.

Planning Council Update

This year's *Barbara Chernofsky Lifetime Achievement Award* will honor Rebeca Valdivia, a passionate advocate of children who had worked with HOPE Infant Project, WestEd and Beginning Together. The award is presented by the San Diego County Child Care and Development Planning Council to individuals who demonstrate exceptional



leadership, passion, and commitment in the field of Child Development in San Diego County.

Rebeca developed the WestEd Family Partnership Initiative Project, which enhanced provider/teacher partnerships with families and highlighted the strength that each member brought. She also helped author the guidebook *Preschool English Learners: Principles and Practices to Promote Language Literacy and Learning*; the DVD *A World of Learners*; and the English Language Learners Language and Literacy in Early Years Training Institutes (ELLEY). Through her work with Beginning Together, Rebecca was the special education liaison for Program for Infant Toddler Care (PITC) model site.

Rebeca Valdivia began with the HOPE Infant Project out of the San Diego County Office of Education. Her home and office were always in San Diego, but she worked throughout the state for young children, their families and their caregivers. She had a vision and a passion for all children but her heart held a special place for infants and toddlers with special needs. She worked throughout her lifetime to advocate, support and make a difference in our world. She passed away last October surrounded by family and friends, after a valiant and seemingly short fight with cancer, but the trainings and her passion continue.

Other nominees for this year's award were Lorraine Handy Boyce, Founder of Escondido Community Child Development Center; Betty Bassoff, Child Advocate; Gloria Lyon and Berta Harris, Child Development Professors at San Diego City Community College.

The award reception will be held on June 25, 2009 at the Riverwalk Golf Club from 4:30 p.m. – 7:30 p.m. For registration information, contact Zaneta Encarnacion at 858.292.3727 or send an e-mail to zencarnacion@sdcoe.net.

Licensing Update

Unusual Incident/Injury Reporting

A Licensee is required to report to Licensing when a child in care has suffered any injury or has been subjected to any act of violence while under the licensee's care. Reports required to be made include, but are not limited to:

- **Death of any child in care from any cause.**
- **Any incident or injury to a child in care that requires professional medical treatment.**
- **Any suspected physical, sexual, or emotional abuse of any child.** As a mandated reporter, you are required to also report this information to local Law Enforcement or the local Child Protective Services agency.
- **Any act of violence occurring while children are in care.** For example, any physical altercation between adults or teenagers must be reported. Altercations between children resulting in an injury must be reported.
- **Any time any child in care is missing for any reason without the knowledge, permission, or supervision of the licensee.** For example: any child in care who wanders away from the facility, is lost during an outing, or does not return from school must be reported.
- **Any unusual incident or injury that threatens the physical or emotional health or safety of any child in care.** For example: explosions, fires, poisonings, epidemics, flooding or car accidents that occur while children are in care must be reported.

Licensees must also report explosions and fires to the local fire authority and outbreaks of any communicable disease involving two or more children to the local health office. The Licensee must also report an unusual incident or injury to the parent or authorized representative, as soon as possible.

Unusual incident or injury reporting must be made by telephone, fax or e-mail to the local regional licensing office within the next working day during normal business hours (8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.). The licensee must follow-up within seven (7) days with a written report documented on form LIC 624B (Family Child Care Homes) or LIC 624 (Child Care Centers). Forms are available online at www.cclld.ca.gov. Failure to report an incident or injury that occurred at a facility will result in a citation.

For more information contact the local regional office at 619.767.2200.

Call the YMCA CRS Referral Line at 1.800.481.2151 for a copy of the required LIC form.

Help for Speech and Language Disorders

The San Diego Scottish Rite Childhood Language Center, sponsored by the Scottish Rite Bodies of San Diego, offers speech-language evaluations and therapy to children in the community. Children must have a primary referring concern or diagnosis of a speech and/or language disorder to be considered for services. For more information, please visit www.sdscttishritelanguagecenter.org or call 619.291.2506.

Ask the HealthLine...

Q: What advice can I give a parent who has a hard time getting her son to dress in the morning without help? She brought him in his pajamas today so she would not be late to work!

First, it's important to realize what is considered developmentally appropriate. Is the child at the age where dressing himself in a timely manner is possible? If so, there are several things she can do to motivate him to get dressed.

Before bedtime let him help choose two outfits to wear to school. He will be happy to have a choice, and she will be happy not to spend precious time in the morning searching for clothing they can both live with.

It sounds like he may need extra time to wake up, focus, and get on with his day. Putting him to bed earlier and waking him up earlier will allow more time and less stress revolving around the clock.

Wake him up slowly. Sit together on the edge of the bed and

cuddle for five minutes. Sometimes being allowed to arouse from sleep embraced by gentle love can go a long way. Try not to get him involved in activities that may seem helpful in the beginning but can back fire. It's easy to keep him occupied in front of the TV while eating his breakfast, but he may become so involved it makes moving him to the car even more difficult. Set a timer and reward him when he beats the buzzer. Determine together how he will be rewarded. Use a chart and mark each successful morning.



The YMCA Childcare Resource Service HealthLine provides a variety of free health and behavior services for children, parents and child care providers including consultations, workshops and training. Call the HealthLine at 1.800.908.8883 Monday-Friday from 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. for more information.

• IDEAS • ideas • IDEAS • ideas • IDEAS • ideas

**Water play is a great activity for summer.. It also adds imagination and learning to play time!
These water based activities will provide you with refreshing ideas for summer.**

Measuring Water

Materials:

- Different sized measuring cups
- Water table or plastic tubs
- Food coloring

Fill the table/tubs with water and add varying sized measuring cups. Color with a few drops of food coloring. While they play with the cups and water, ask which cups hold more? Which fill faster? Which are heavier?

Rocks and Water

Materials:

- Rocks of various colors and sizes
- Clear bowls or tubs

Give children rocks. Have them notice the feel and color of the rocks. After placing rocks in bowl, have the children fill it with water. Have the rocks texture and colors changed? Does the water sit on top of the rocks or does it surround the rocks?

Exploring with Water

Materials:

- Dishpans
- Dish soap
- Ice cubes
- Water (warm and cold)
- Food coloring

Fill dishpans so each has a different type of water (cold, warm, soapy, ice cubes, colored). Allow the children to play in the different types of water and observe how each feels differently. Encourage children to use words to describe what they feel as they change to each type of water.

Water Song

Sung to: "I'm a Little Teapot"
I'm a drop of water in a pot,
I disappear when I get hot.
When I cool down I come right back,
And jump in the pot just like that!

Water Snacks

Use snack time to show how the different phases of water affect food. For example, boil water to make hard-cooked eggs or noodles, freeze water to make ice cubes or frozen juice treats, dry fruits to show evaporation and dilute juice concentrate with water to make fruit juice.

Activities taken from 1 2 3 Science: Science Activities for Working with Young Children by Gayle Bittenger Totline Publications



What's in the CRS Resource Library?

The Resource Library has the following materials related to early childhood science and nature curriculum.

Resource Books

Science Arts: Discovering Science Through Art Experiences by Maryann Kohl offers fun ways for children to learn basic science concepts through easy art activities.

Science In Seconds For Kids by Jean Potter has over 100 experiments to do in ten minutes or less, with themes related to air, colors, energy and the environment.

Worms, Shadows, and Whirlpools: Science in the Early Childhood Classroom by Karen Worth identifies important science inquiry skills and concepts appropriate for the very young.

More Mudpies to Magnets: Science for Young Children by Elizabeth Sherwood features experiments that teach skills in classification, measurement, using space and time relationships and communication.

Videos/ Modules

Family Fun Science: Bill Nye talks with parents, answers questions and offers advice on how to get kids excited about science.

Exploring Science and Nature: Learning about science and nature through exploration is an appropriate way to introduce concepts to young children.

Discovering Nature with Young Children: A video and curriculum guide set with real-life video vignettes of a nature curriculum in action in the classroom.

Toys

Hand Magnifiers: View objects up close with these lightweight, tough framed magnifying glass lenses.

Color Discovery Tubes: Observe how primary colors combine to make secondary colors.

Amazing Water Discoveries Kit: Kit provides step by step water activities for parents and providers to do with children

Toy Library Saturday:

San Diego: July 18 & August 15
National City: July 25 & August 22
Vista: August 1

Contact the Resource Library:

San Diego: 619.521.3055 ext. 2304
National City: 619.474.4707 ext. 1317
Vista: 760.726.9100 ext. 3316

TIPS from Your CRS Child Care Consultants

Summer is a great time to enjoy field trips with children.

These *Tips from Your CRS Child Care Consultants* will make your trip safe and successful!

Plan for Children

Keep in mind the ages of the children. Is the destination and length of field trip appropriate for this age group? Are plans inclusive of all children? What should the children bring? How will you get there? What day will you go? Mid-week field trips are usually best as children have rested from the previous weekend. Ask for adult volunteers early to ensure a low ratio of adults to children.

Plan for Parents

Keep parents informed of all field trips and announce them frequently to each parent. Let them know when you will leave, where you will go, how you will get there, who will be going, and what children need to bring (or not bring). Provide an agenda of what you will do. Provide permission slips for parents to sign. Ask yourself: Do parents have my emergency contact number? Do I have one adult for every two to three children? What should parents do if they arrive late on field trip day?

Plan for Safety

Develop a list of rules to ensure the trip is safe for all involved. Review rules every day of the week prior to the trip. Let the children know what their boundaries are, policies regarding restroom use, rules for crossing the street, staying together, listening, etc. Provide written instructions for each adult volunteer and review them individually. Make sure they know who they are responsible for, to count children frequently and to set up a buddy system. Remind them to limit social conversation and give the children their full attention at all times. Have a charged cell phone and extra vehicle just in case of emergencies. Bring along children's emergency cards and a first aid kit. Plan for children with allergies and other special needs.

Plan for Fun

Keep trips simple and short. Children enjoy simplicity and fun rather than elaborate full day trips. Plan for snacks, drinks and restroom breaks. Take pictures to share later. Make sure all children feel emotionally and physically safe and they know what is expected of them. Be sure to know what they expect of you...FUN! Enjoy your day knowing that it will be a safe and successful learning adventure!

For more information regarding field trips that involve transportation, water activities, and specific requirements for adult-child ratios, please refer to Community Care Licensing regulations at www.cclcd.ca.gov or call 619.767.2200.



COMMUNITY CALENDAR

**Approved for SD CARES professional development training hours.*

For additional trainings go to
www.ymcacr.org/providers to view
the CATS Calendar.

July 7 or Aug. 20 6:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m. (Vista)
July 16 6:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m. (Natl. City)
August 22 10:15 a.m. – 12:15 p.m. (Natl. City)

Respectful Accommodations*

This training provides an overview of the philosophy of inclusion and insight into what constitutes a “respectful accommodation”.

Loc: YMCA CRS Info: 1.800.481.2151

July 7 6:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m. (Natl. City)
July 14 or Aug. 11 6:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m. (Vista)
August 22 8:00 a.m. – 10:00 a.m. (Natl. City)

Introduction to Inclusion*

This training will help to define a disability, identify barriers and show the benefits of inclusion.

Loc: YMCA CRS Info: 1.800.481.2151

July 15 6:30 p.m. – 8:30 p.m.

Inclusion Support Group: Legal Considerations and Accommodations for Children with Disabilities*

Become familiar with the ADA law and resources to accommodate children with disabilities in a child care setting.

Loc: YMCA CRS, Mission Valley Info: 1.800.481.2151

August 4 6:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m. (Mission Valley)
August 15 12:00 p.m. – 2:00 p.m. (Vista)

Partnering with Families*

Learn to communicate successfully with parents, how to set up your relationship for success and what to do when challenges arise.

Loc: YMCA CRS Info: 1.800.481.2151

A Place of Our Own

A daily talk show for family child care providers, parents, grandparents and neighbors caring for young children, airs Monday through Friday on KPBS at 5:30 a.m. and SD/TV at 5:30 p.m. Attend these free trainings that include discussion, video viewing and interactive activities. Approved for 3 SD CARES Professional Development training hours.

Supporting Children with Special Needs

Thursday, August 13 6:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m.
YMCA CRS, Mission Valley,

Appreciating Diversity

Wednesday, August 26 6:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m.
YMCA CRS, Mission Valley

Call 1.800.481.2151 for more information

SD CARES Update

Welcome to Year 9 of the San Diego CARES Stipend Program!

Keep an eye out for the Year 9 Application for Continuing Participation! It will be mailed out by July 20, 2009 to all past participants. **To continue your participation in the CARES program, you must complete and submit your application by August 31, 2009.** If you no longer wish to participate in CARES, mark on the application that you are exiting the program and return it promptly. This will allow us to update our records.

Open Enrollment

Don't miss this opportunity to **earn up to \$5500** while you work with young children and complete college coursework toward a degree in Child Development. **To apply, call 1.866.CARES SD (1.866.227.3773) or send an e-mail to caressd@ymcacr.org.** You can also request an appointment for help with completing your application. Students that meet entry requirements and submit applications by **September 30, 2009** will be eligible to participate in Year 9 of CARES and may be eligible to receive a stipend by June 30, 2010 (if all program requirements are completed).

This is the last year of guaranteed funding for San Diego CARES. Participants who miss the application deadline will not be eligible for a stipend payment unless the program is refunded on July 1, 2010.

New in Year 9

CARES is adding an Infant/Toddler Stipend award for participants that complete the requirements for a general stipend and additional college units or approved training hours in Infant/Toddler care and development. Participants can earn between \$250 (for 1 unit or 18 training hours) and \$750 (for 3 units or 54 training hours) for completing the additional units/training hours.

Track 5: Advisor will not require participants to work in a child care program to participate in CARES. The ideal candidate will have a BA/BS in Child Development/Early Childhood Education, a Master Teacher level permit or higher, and experience mentoring or supervising child care staff. For a Track 5 Advisor application and more information contact Sandy Jenkins at 619.521.3055 x2336 or send an e-mail to sjenkins@ymcacr.org.

The Family, Friend, and Neighbor (FFN) track will not be a part of the Year 9 CARES program. Trainings and incentives are still available to License-Exempt Home Based Child Care Providers through the YMCA CRS License Exempt Education Project (LEEP). Interested providers should view the CATS Training Calendar on our web site www.ymcacr.org or call 1.800.481.2151 for available LEEP trainings.

If you have any questions, call us at 1.866.CARES SD (1.866.227.3773). You can also visit CARES Evening Hours, the first Thursday of each month in our Mission Valley office at 3333 Camino del Rio South, 4th floor conference room from 4:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m.

The San Diego CARES stipend program is funded through the San Diego First 5 Commission and the California Department of Education (AB212).