



Des Moines Chapter of the Iowa Association for the Education of Young Children

Serving and Acting on Behalf of Young Children

February 2009
Volume 2

Dear DM Chapter Friends,

As seasons change and the children grow, we are forever reminded that to stay present we must renew ourselves. As our state takes a look at our budgets and local economy if affected by the financial crisis, we have many feelings that bring uncertainty and uneasiness. The strength I find during this time is the forever need of quality education. The incredible work the Iowa A.E.Y.C. office and state board, DM Chapter Board and individuals all who respond with their best effort to the demands for consistent program quality and accountability. It is up to us as members to move forward and answer the call for more involvement. The recovery of the educational systems is necessary for growth and prosperity in the country.

The new Developmentally Appropriate Practice book out by NAEYC, edited by Sue Bredekamp and Carol Copple, is another new incredible resource! For example, until the this edition, previous practice told us that formalized testing your young children was not DAP. There are now statements where in certain situations formalized testing is appropriate. I found it to be very informative and helpful to understand the new contrasting perspectives on DAP. I would encourage all of us to check it out. As a Chapter we are starting specific information sharing on the new DAP in early childhood programs. We invite you to be apart of the first forums held nationally on DAP and begin renewing your future with young children.

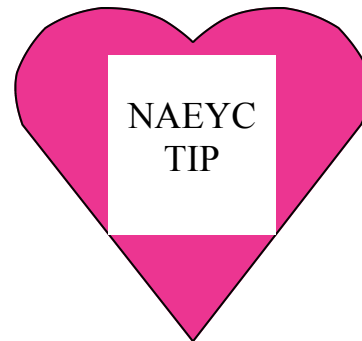
Respectfully,

Jennifer Reynolds,



www.naeyc.org/torch

Use the TORCH, NAEYC's Accreditation's online resource to answers questions, search for criteria and additional resources for early childhood centers.



Des Moines Chapter Leadership 2008-2009

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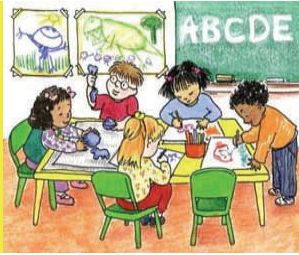
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AN INTRO TO
INCLUSIVE
CHILD CARE
BY
AMY
STEVENS



In keeping with the focus of the Des Moines Iowa AEYC Chapter on staff training, the January 19 meeting was held at the Bob and Billie Ray Child Development Center. to hear Amy Stevens speak. Amy spoke gave an introduction to inclusive child care. If you have any questions regarding inclusion contact Amy at: astevens@eastersealsia.org.

Gabby Says:

Gabby received an interesting question– “Is it OK to use old cell phones in our dramatic play areas for children?” Gabby says, “ No, you should not allow old cell phones in your centers. This is according to the California Cell Phone Recycling Act of 2004. Used cell phones contain arsenic, antimony, beryllium, cadmium, copper, mercury, zinc, lead and nickel and are referred to as electronic hazardous waste (E-Waste). Check with your local nurse consultant for more information on this topic.



Upcoming Training:

March 12– DAP video training at the United Center in Ankeny from 6:30-8:30

April 24– “Love them or lose them”-staff retention training at DMACC 6:00PM-8:00PM

Save the Date

April 25– DMACC Conference

April 21-25-Week of the Young Child Science Center Event

May 16– Hands, Heart, & Mind– The Iowa Play Symposium, Iowa AEYC Event



Valentine Ideas

Heart Patterns - Use tiny candy hearts to teach preschoolers about patterns. Make pattern cards by cutting a piece of paper in half lengthwise & drawing colored hearts in a simple pattern such as pink, white, pink, white. Have preschoolers place the corresponding colored candy heart on top of the hearts you have drawn and continue the pattern.

Love Potion - Make red and blue ice cubes by filling an ice cube tray with water and adding a few drops of food coloring to each ice cube. When the ice cubes are frozen invite each preschooler to put one red ice cube and one blue ice cube into a glass of water. Ask the preschoolers to guess what will happen to the water as the ice cubes melt. Let the water sit for a while. As the ice cubes melt, the water will turn into a purple love potion. Preschoolers may drink the water if they wish

Shake It Up Toddlers—Make a fun shaker toy for your toddler. In fact, let them help you make their shaker using an empty soda bottle with a lid. Get some rice and fill the bottle 3/4 full and add some sparkling valentine confetti and then hot glue the lid on very tight. Your toddler will love shaking the bottle and watching the rice and valentines dance around. You can also fill the bottle with hair gel.

School age Fun– Have children make up sentences around the messages on candy hearts. For example: “I do” want you to be my Valentine. They can glue on the hearts to make the messages.



The Des Moines Chapter of Iowa AEYC offered Professional

Development ECE staff training on: Cultural Diversity with Rebecca Ramirez, Director of Xochipilli Bilingual Education Center. It was held on Thursday, November 20, 2009 from 6:30-8:30PM. The Hispanic Educational Resources Center is located at 828 SE Scott, Des Moines, Iowa. Thanks Rebecca!

Nurse Consultant Corner

by Karen Doughan

By now, you have probably heard about the recalls related to peanut butter products. Please note that these recalls **DO NOT** involve commodity peanut butter provided by USDA to State agencies/ITOs for distribution through the various food assistance programs. However, schools and other organizations who purchase peanut butter or products containing peanut butter commercially for use in meal service should be aware of the various recalls in effect. A link to FDA news releases can be found at, www.fda.gov/oc/opacom/hottopics/salmonellatyph.html#update and when you

get to that website you can scroll down to “What Products Have Been Recalled?” and click on that heading to get more information.

If we receive additional information we will pass it along. We encourage you to monitor the enclosed website for the latest information.

“Going Green” in early childhood centers? What are we doing?

We heard from center’s that it is really common sense ideas that help them “go green”. The ideas include:

- Saving scrap paper for art projects
- Use both sides of the paper
- Make sure faucets are shut off
- Recycle cans, paper, plastic, baby food jars & newspaper
- Turn off lights when you leave the room
- Use natural light when you can, don’t always have to have lights on
- Keep doors closed to monitor temperature in the room
- Use biodegradable cleaning products



If you have any other great ideas, please email me at pmahoney@knoxvillesteppingstones.com.

Our children are the ones who will be left taking care of our planet, but we are the ones that must teach them how to do it at an early age.



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For the Education of
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SAVE THE DATE

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