



April 2009
Volume 3

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

Serving and Acting on Behalf of Young Children

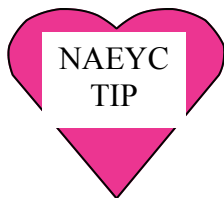
A Message from our Chapter President Jennifer Reynolds

Dear Friends of the Des Moines Chapter,
Thank you for all you do to help make a difference in children's lives. The work completed each day for children is often a thankless job, and it is this time of year that we remember the importance of what more we can do for young children.

The renewal of spring brings to mind the education of young children, more importantly it is those that support the learning and skills offered to children. Please take time to invest in yourself; we all know that it is only when we take care of ourselves that we are better able to care for others.

I am looking forward to sending out more information this summer about the new strategic goals of the association and the new opportunities next school year for Professional Development. We can look forward to working harder to provide the framework of integrating the new DAP guidance with the importance of play. It is up to our ECE field to give voice to what defines us, focus on our purpose and take responsibility of those decisions. We need you at the table to help promote our field within the 21st century education.

If you have any questions or ideas to share with the Des Moines Chapter, please send those to my attention at



Join a *QIAM*
meeting to better
understand the
Accreditation
Process
(more info see page 2)

Jenniferr@sciowa.org, or mail them to the Iowa
AEYC Office

Best,
Jennifer K. Reynolds
DMC President

Celebrate the

Week of the Young Child

April 19-25, 2009

Go to page three for some great ideas
to help you Celebrate!

Des Moines Chapter Leadership 2008-2009

President: Jennifer Reynolds,
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Program Planner: Melissa Leyen
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MOYC: Amy Musselman
amusselman@easterseals.org

Upcoming Trainings:

April 23-Week of the Young Child Science Center Event
9:00 a.m.-11:00 a.m.

April 24- “Love ’Em or Lose ‘Em”
Staff retention training for Directors & Leadership Staff at DMAACC
5:30 p.m.-8:30 p.m.

April 25- Child Care Council Spring Conference at DMAACC,
7:45 a.m. 4:15 p.m.

April 28- Dreams and Realities 2009
Partnerships for Quality. Child Care Administrators, owner, directors, assistant directors, coordinators, onsite supervisors, education coordinators should join us for a day of learning, sharing and discovery! 8am to 4pm in Ames at Mary Greeley Medical Center. Six (6) hours of NAC approved training pending.

Online **Mandatory Child Abuse Training** is now available through the Department of Public Health, Dept. of Human Services To sign up for the training go to:
www.idph.state.ia.us/hcci/events.asp

Hands, Heart, & Mind- The Iowa Play Symposium will be in the Kelly Conference room at Hospital at Iowa Methodist from 9:00a.m. to 4:00p.m. on Saturday, May 16. This is an annual leadership event. Participants will experience fun and enjoyable play while developing their knowledge and motivation to support play-based learning. Walter Drew, Ed.D., from the Institute for Self Active Education, Florida and Baji Rankin, Ed.D., the Executive Director of the New Mexico Association for the Education of Young Children will share their expertise with us. Registration Fee: Iowa AEYC members: \$70 and non members \$85. For more information please contact Rhonda at rhonda@iowaaeyc.org or 515-331-8000 ext.12. NAC approved!

What is NAEYC’s QIMA and how can it help me?

QIMA stands for *Quality Improvement Meetings for Administrators*. What is it?

- A facilitated discussion of best practices
- A model to take back to your program & encourage shared understanding
- A network of administrators, teaching staff and other early childhood professionals
- Innovative strategies to put criteria in policy and practice
- A discussion place for deciding on the right evidence in your portfolios
- Workshops are free and offer professional development credit
- Meetings are held at the Iowa AEYC office from 10:00a.m.-12:00p.m.
- Facilitator Leann Andre and host Jennifer Reynolds

For information on QIMA, go to the Iowa AEYC website at www.iowaaeyc.org or contact Jennifer Reynolds at 515-274-6868 ext.203 or jenniferr@sciowa.org.

GO GREEN

Do you need new carpets at your school?



Use Recycled Carpets.

GO to www.carpetsforkids.com and see what you can do for the environment!

BE GREEN– EARN GREEN

Capri Sun is partnering with TerraCycle to collect used drink pouches and turn them into cool gear. For each used drink pouch collected, TerraCycle donates 2 cents to your school. Earn money for your school while helping the environment. To learn more, visit: www.Caprisun.com/terracycle

RECYCLE YOUR CROCS

Did you know you can recycle your Crocs? Soles United grinds up worn-out Crocs and turns them into new shoes which are donated to people in need.

Share this with the parents in your school and they can recycle their children's Crocs too!

Visit: www.solesunited.com

The Curious Garden

The Curious Garden by Peter Brown
Your children will enjoy this magical picture book that shows how even the youngest people can change the world. One boy's quest for a greener world.

Laptop Lunch Systems

Did you know you can get your children reusable, recyclable, lead-free, lunch boxes?

Check out this website:
www.laptoplunches.com

Top 10 Ways to support the Week of the Young Child in your school...

10. Host a "Read With Me" event at your school. Invite parents and community members to come and read to your children.
9. Encourage your families to participate in a "Turn off the TV Week". Send home a list of activities such as board games, story nights or craft nights.
8. Create a theme of the week and encourage each classroom to "Scream the Theme"- Dr. Seuss, dinosaurs, or jungle.
7. Have a "Hands in Motion" gallery. Take a picture of each child's hand in play and make a collage. Put a number in bottom corner of each Picture and have parents guess to see if they can find their child's hand. Pick a winner each day and give a prize.
6. Make a "Take and GO" snack for the families. Set it up so they can grab a snack on the way to work, Include info about the Week of the Young Child or a family activity.
5. Create Week of the Young Child Badges for parents to wear- could include their child's picture, school's name etc.
4. Hold a book drive to support a community cause or a book fair to bolster your own book collection
3. Create a "Parents on Tape" pack. Set up a few take home boxes with a tape player and tape to record on. Have parents select a book to read aloud on tape and then give it to the child's classroom.
2. Create a Learning Display Board. Take pictures of the children while they are creating their art project and then laminate the picture of the child and hang up for the parents to enjoy.
1. Send home trees with the families to plan in honor of Week of the Young Child and Earth Day. Check out the Arbor Day Foundation at www.arborday.org and search for gift trees.



By Karen Doughan
Nurturing vs Neglect: “The Power of Early Childhood”

Bruce D. Perry, MD, PHD is a neuroscientist and the Senior Fellow of the Child Trauma Academy (www.ChildTrauma.org; Houston, TX) Dr. Perry promotes services, research and education on child maltreatment and childhood trauma through his work and this agency. He describes our current society as one on a collision course with biology and nature. “You can fight Mother Nature,” he warned, but ultimately, your going to lose.

What sets us on this collision course? First, Dr. Perry described the remarkable malleability of the human brain, based on its ability to modify itself based on repetition and use. During any type of repetitious learning the brain’s neurons are constantly firing, connecting, and weaving themselves together to form new functional connections. This process happens over and over, billions of times every day. An active brain makes more of these connections and strengthens them, while in an inactive brain the connections slowly fade away because of lack of use.

Quotes from Dr. Perry:

The brain is the organ of humanity. The more we understand about how the brain develops, works and changes, the better off we’ll be when we design programs, policies, and practices.”
“You don’t become human just because you’re born into the species, but because someone was kind with you, helped you and shared.”

As children suffer from forms of neglect, Dr. Perry has discovered that they “lack a pattern of development experience” required to express a fundamental potential.

“We have created an environment where kids are growing up wanting more shiny things and starving for the fundamental core human relational aspects of touch, smile and a moment spent sitting with someone.” When we encourage this superficial environment, Dr. Perry states, we are doing nothing less than undermining the fundamental nature of our species.

Learn more about Dr. Perry’s research and the impact of neglect and trauma on children’s early brain development at: www.ChildTrauma.org

Source: Kansas Health Foundation 2005 Leadership Institute

The Des Moines Iowa AEYC chapter hosted a community forum on the revised Developmentally Appropriate Practice guidelines from NAEYC at the United Way Nevelyn Center in Ankeny on March 12 from 6:30 p.m.-8:30 p.m.. Participants viewed the video: *DAP Practice: Continuity and Change*. Over 90 people attended. Visit: www.naeyc.org for more information on DAP guidelines.

Dear Gabby,

Do you have any ideas where to receive Teacher Discounts?

Sincerely,
Thrifty Teacher



Gabby
Says:

Dear Thrifty Teacher,

Please see the following ideas:

Apparel - Ann Taylor offers exclusive deals and discounts just for teachers. Sign up to receive 20% off right now! <http://teachers.anntaylorloft.com/>

Books - Barnes and Noble offers a regular 20% discount off the list price of hardbacks and 15% off soft cover books with their Educator Discount Card. For more information, click the following: http://img.sparknotes.com/content/educators/pdf/community_partnerships.pdf

Computers and Software - Most computer manufacturers offer educator discounts. Before purchasing a personal computer, contact the major manufacturers to ask about their discounts. Click on the appropriate company to view their discounts:

Apple - <http://www.apple.com/education/>

Dell - <http://www.dell.com/content/default.aspx?c=us&cs=2236&l=en&s=eep>

HP - <http://gem.compaq.com/gemstore/home.asp?oi=E9CED>

PC People, Inc. - Offers a discounted price list for educators that offers more than 10,000 software and hardware items. You need to show a valid faculty badge or pay stub to be eligible. http://pcpeople.com/pricelist/Pricelist-Acad_Retail.htm

Software Express- Offers discounts of up to 75% from a variety of publishers. Their online catalog lists products by category, publisher and title. They require a Staff ID or letter from the Principal on school letterhead along with a driver's license to take advantage of these discounts. <http://www.swexpress.com/home.nsf/pages/eligibility>

Supplies - JoAnn Fabric and Craft Stores - Offers a Teacher Discount Card good for 10% off each total purchase all year long.

http://www.joann.com/joann/about_joann/about_frame.jsp?url=about-joann-stores.joann.com/education/teachers.php

Office Depot Star Teacher Program - Teachers who participate in Office Depot's Star Teacher Program receive everyday discounts on qualifying in-store purchases and are included in a variety of special events and promotions during the year. Sign up for the Star Teacher Program by visiting your local Office Depot store. <http://www.officedepot.com/storelocator/input.do>



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For the Education of
Young Children
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SAVE THE DATE

Saturday, May 16, 2009

Hands, Heart & Mind—The Iowa Play Symposium

Iowa AEYC's Annual Spring Leadership

Training Event

9a.m.—4:00p.m.

Kelly Conference Room, Iowa Methodist Hospital,

Des Moines