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Early Childhood News

From Dubuque County Early Childhood - a nonprofit that builds collaboration around the needs of families with young children.

Shared Vision: "All Children in Dubuque County are Healthy and Successful."

January 2017
www.dcearlychild.org

In This Issue

Upcoming Meetings

Quality Care Newsletter Available

Bridge to Reading: Help Children Select Favorite Book

For More Info

Quick Web Links

[Dubuque County Early Childhood](#)

[First Years First](#)

[Early Childhood Iowa](#)

[Join Our Mailing List!](#)

"Like" Early Childhood and Win

Want to win a bag filled with over 100 new children's books plus some really fun and educational toys? Dubuque County Early Childhood (DCEC) is running a Facebook promotion.



Be a new "like" on DCEC's page to get us to 2000 followers. If we hit that number sometime in January, we'll draw for a winner from everyone who helps. DCEC's page is at <https://www.facebook.com/DubuqueCountyEmpowerment/>.

So like us today and help support early childhood efforts in Dubuque County communities. Must be a resident of the tri-state area to win.



Upcoming Meetings - Dubuque County Early Childhood

Executive/Finance Committee - January 5, 9:30 a.m., Keystone Area Education Agency (AEA)

Early Care and Education Committee - January 9, 1:00 p.m., Keystone AEA

Advocacy/Public Awareness Committee - January 10, 2:00 p.m., Keystone AEA

Long-Range Planning Committee - January 12, 11:00 a.m., Lutheran Services in Iowa

Annual Data/Reporting Meeting for Funded Programs - January 13, 10:00 a.m., Keystone AEA


Dubuque County Early Childhood Board - January 24, 12:00 p.m., Keystone AEA

NOTE: Meetings are subject to change. To obtain meeting agendas, minutes, or location/directions - contact DCEC at (563) 588-1620, sedward24@aol.com. All meetings are open to the public and are held at locations reasonably accessible to the public. Submit questions or requests for special accommodations to (563) 588-1620.

Quality Care Newsletter Available

Here's a great opportunity to receive regular information from local child care nurse consultants on quality care and health matters for young children. Subscribe to the "Quality Care for Kids" e-newsletter. The following is the most recent issue. For more information or to subscribe, e-mail cynthia.klein@unitypoint.org or kimberly.gonzales@unitypoint.org.


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Quality Care For Kids

A newsletter for Dubuque County
Child Care Providers
Heidi Hotvedt, RN BSN Healthy Child Care Iowa
DECEMBER 2014

Handwashing




Call your Child Care Nurse Consultant if you have any questions about child health and safety, or any special training needs.



www.echi.iowa.gov

The Child Care Nurse Consultant Program is funded by:



UnityPoint Health
Finley Hospital

Handwashing is easy to do and it's one of the most effective ways to prevent the spread of many types of infection and illness in all settings—including child care facilities. Clean hands can stop germs from spreading from person to person as well as from person to objects in the environment.

Having a policy on the proper steps of handwashing, when handwashing should occur, and training on handwashing has shown to reduce illness in the child care setting. Research has shown that in child care centers that have implemented hand hygiene training, the incidence of diarrheal illness was decreased by 50%. Several studies demonstrated a reduction in upper respiratory symptoms when frequent and proper hand hygiene practices were incorporated into a child care center's curriculum.

Child Care Nurse Consultants are available for assisting child care programs with handwashing policy and training. To contact your local CCNC go to www.idph.iowa.gov/hcci

Plain Soap and Water

According to the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA), there isn't enough science to show that over-the-counter antibacterial soaps are better at preventing illness than washing with plain soap and water. To date, the benefits of using antibacterial hand soap haven't been proven. In addition, the wide use of these products over a long time has raised the question of potential negative effects on health.

In September, the FDA banned most antibacterial soaps and body washes from being sold in stores. Manufacturers have a year to take triclosan, triclocarban, and 17 other chemicals out of their products. Currently, about 93% of liquid soaps include triclosan which can be found in about 2,000 liquid products labeled "antibacterial" or "antimicrobial."

The use of antimicrobial soap is not recommended in child care settings and it will soon not be available on the market. Plain soap (either liquid or foam is best). For more information go to <http://www.fda.gov/ForConsumers/ConsumerUpdates/ucm378393.htm>

December 4-10 is National Handwashing Awareness Week. The Healthy Child Care Iowa website has free handwashing posters available to download and print.

Go to www.idph.iowa.gov/hcci click on "printed products" tab.

For more information about the National Handwashing Week go to: www.henrythehand.com/

Bridge to Reading: Help Children Select Favorite Book

Local children can help pick Iowa's favorite children's book. Founded by local organizations, the "Bridge to Reading" award is given annually to one outstanding picture book from 10 recently published books.

The purpose of the award is to promote early literacy and reading to children through the introduction of quality picture books. Ten possible winning books are nominated by a committee of local librarians, teachers, and preschool/early literacy leaders.

Families and caregivers read the nominated books to children, and then help children go online to vote for their favorite one. The winning book is announced in the spring of each year. The award process helps engage children developing a lifelong love of books and reading.

Here are the nominated books for 2017. To vote, go to www.bridgetoreading.com. The web site also offers tips for reading to children, activity handouts based on each book, and past winners. Nominated books are available at the Carnegie-Stout Public Library, Dubuque.





BRIDGE TO READING
Picture Book Award

Bridge to Reading Picture Book Nominees 2017

 <p>Bentley, Tedgh <i>Little Penguin Gets the Hiccups</i></p>	 <p>Norman, Kim <i>Still a Gorilla</i></p>
 <p>Cabrera, Jane <i>There Was an Old Woman Who Lived in a Shoe</i></p>	 <p>Teckentrup, Britta <i>Don't Wake up the Tiger</i></p>
 <p>Korda, Lerryn <i>So Cozy</i></p>	 <p>Trimmer, Christian <i>Simon's New Bed</i></p>
 <p>Messer, Claire <i>Grumpy Pants</i></p>	 <p>Wan, Joyce <i>The Whale in My Swimming Pool</i></p>
 <p>Litwin, Eric <i>Groovy Joe Ice Cream and Dinosaurs</i></p>	 <p>Yolen, Jane <i>What to do with a Box</i></p>

For More Info
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