



Family Pages

Spring 2012

Delaware Opportunities Inc.
Child Care Resource & Referral
35430 State Hwy 10, Hamden, NY 13782

Visit our website at: www.delawareopportunities.org

607-746-1620 or
Toll Free: 877-746-2279
daycare@delawareopportunities.org



early care &
learning COUNCIL

Tiny Feet with Big Dreams Campaign

In his 2012 State of the State Governor Cuomo made a bold promise to act as a lobbyist for students. The Early Care & Learning Council wants the governor to know that our youngest students need him too. Investments in quality early care and learning are good for the child and the taxpayers! Children who participate in quality early care and learning programs are less likely to repeat grades, need special education, more likely to graduate and earn more.

- New York State is currently 38th in the U.S. in terms of graduation rates. Where is the early care and learning as a strategy for the newly announced education reform plan?
- Education can only be reformed by including our youngest learners with tiny feet and big dreams!
- High-quality early learning and development programs make a difference in a child's ability to succeed in school and in life.
- 75% of brain growth and 85% of intellect, personality and social skills develop before age five, the years that lay the foundation for education.
- Does a lobbyist for students include the early learning years?

For more information on how you can participate in the Tiny Feet with Big Dreams Campaign visit www.earlycareandlearning.org



Recognize Everyday. Celebrate May 11, 2012.

Provider Appreciation Day is a special day to recognize child care providers, teachers and other educators of young children everywhere. Started in 1996 by a group of volunteers in New Jersey, Provider Appreciation Day is appropriately celebrated each year on the Friday before Mother's Day.

Ideas for Celebrations:

- Get together with other parents to create a surprise
- Send flowers, cards or a handwritten note of appreciation
- Bring breakfast or lunch for your provider and for the children
- Work with your child to create a special remembrance
- Buy something for your child care provider's play area

For more information on Provider Appreciation Day visit www.providerappreciationday.org

"Children are made readers on the laps of their parents" – Emilie Buchwald

How can you help your child learn to read?
Show your child that reading matters

- ~Help your child find books she likes
- ~Let your child see you read
- ~Go to the library together
- ~Read before bed every night
- ~Write letters to cousins and spell out the words



Parenting Education Opportunities

The Family Service Association

277 Chestnut Street
Oneonta, NY 13820
607-432-2870

-Parent education/support workshops and groups are offered to all area parents and caregivers. Topics include information about parenting skills and child and adult development.

Parents as Leaders (PAL) Family Resource Centers

The PAL center is a free place for parents to play with their young children and learn about great community resources.

-Sidney PAL

21 Liberty Street Room 205
Sidney, NY 13838
607-563-4303

www.mothersandbabies.org

-Walton PAL

First Congregational Church
61 North Street
Walton, NY 13856
607-865-4290

www.mothersandbabies.org

Cornell University Cooperative Extension of Delaware County.

34570 State Hwy. 10 Suite 2
Hamden, NY 13782
607-865-6531

www.ccedelaware.org

-Free home-based Nutrition Education Programs for income eligible families, the Breastfeeding Healthy Babies program and the Nutrition and Parenting Skills Workshop.

Family Resource Network

46 Oneida St.
Oneonta, NY 13820
607-432-0001

www.familyrn.org

Serving individuals with disabilities and their families. Visit their website to find upcoming events, training opportunities, newsletter, support groups and additional resources.

Child Care Aware Parent Network

FREE webinars presented by child care experts giving information about high quality child care and other topics that are of interest to busy parents, grandparents, advocates and professionals. Visit

www.ccaparentnetwork.org

SAVE THE DATE!

You are invited to The Fourth Annual Children's Festival that is scheduled to take place at Delaware Opportunities.

When? June 27th, 2012

Time? 10am-2pm

Where? Hamden, NY

"Exploring Our Natural World"

More Information To Come!

fun family activities

Sing, Sing a Song

Ages birth +

Listen to different kinds of music and dance in different ways to see what your baby likes best. Sing a favorite song that has been passed down through your family.

Don't worry about the sound of your voice—your baby loves to hear you.



Toy Town

Ages 1-4



On a carpeted area or rug, tape down long (5 or 6 feet) strips of masking tape in straight and curved patterns. Make the strips intersect each other to form a system of 'roads' on the floor. Ask your child to help you gather toys and cars from around the house. Together, drive various cars and trucks up and down the roads and use the other toys to create a little city. Have fun making up stories as to where the cars are going and what they are doing.

Sardines

Ages 3-6

Here's a fun variation of hide-and-seek to play with a group, inside or outside. While the group counts to 50, one person goes to hide (find a place that's big enough to fit the whole group). When the group is finished counting, everyone spreads out to look for the hider. When you find the hider, quietly climb into the hiding place, too. Play continues until all the seekers have discovered the hiding place and crammed themselves in. The last person to find the hiding place is now the hider for the next round.