



Early Childhood Consortium of the Omaha Area

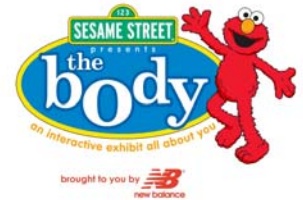
Early Childhood Professional Development Partnership *building connections*
in Cass, Douglas, Sarpy and Washington Counties

June 2009

Volume 10 Issue 6

Sesame Street Presents: The Body at Omaha Children's Museum

Summer is brimming with activity at Omaha Children's Museum! This summer's traveling exhibit is the blockbuster, *Sesame Street Presents: The Body* an amazing educational attraction teaches children how their bodies work and how to keep healthy as hop, jump, run and dance their way through this hands-on Sesame Street adventure!



Some of the wonderful areas in this 10,000 square foot exhibit include:

Your Insides

The body is an amazing, complicated machine and you can't even see most of it... except here! Kids will count organs at the Count's Organ Organ and see what happens to the food you eat at Oscar's Digestion.

Your Outsidies

Kids will learn all about the different body parts they can see, like their hands, feet and head. They'll learn what they do and put them to use to help Elmo ride a bike or see how high you can make Grover jump.

How You Work

They'll learn what makes them tick, and even get the chance to put their bodies to the test at Super Grover's Obstacle Course, Rosita's Locomotion and Grover's Dance party, a groovy disco where they can boogie along with Grover.

Staying Healthy

Staying healthy is one of the body's most important jobs. Learn how eating healthy foods, exercising and resting help keep bodies healthy and strong at Ernie's Rub-A-Dub Tub and Baby Bear's Mini Mart.

Go to www.ocm.org for a calendar of Sesame Street related events and programs including Breakfasts with Elmo, Kids Cooking Club with Hy-Vee Dietitians, Exercise Fun with Prairie Life Fitness, Y is For Yoga from LivYoga and much, much more!



Exhibit Admission:

Member Admission, Free

Non-Member Admission, \$4*

*Regular Museum Admission Also Applies

Museum Summer Hours

Summer Hours* (Memorial Day - Labor Day)

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
1-5	CLOSED	10-5	10-5	10-8	10-5	10-5

Join us!

Early Childhood Educator Day

Saturday, June 13

10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.

Omaha Children's Museum

Join us for a day designed just for you! We will be celebrating with a Super WHY Super Readers Festival. Meet Wyatt from the hit PBS series, see how we relate hands-on projects to the series and find out about all the great programs the museum has to offer. You will also get an opportunity to see our blockbuster summer exhibition *Sesame Street Presents: The Body*. **If you book a field trip for your center that day you will receive 10% off.** All childcare workers, teachers, directors and their families will receive free admission the museum from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. You will need to download a special coupon and register at www.ocm.org. Go to the "Educators" Tab. This coupon is good for free admission for you and your immediate family on June 13, 2009. Don't miss this opportunity to visit the museum!

Jennifer Haggart, Early Childhood Professional Development Coordinator

6949 South 110th Street • Omaha NE 68128

Phone: 402-597-4991 • Fax: 402-597-4811 • Email: jhaggart@esu3.org

INFANT & CHILD CPR/FIRST AID

SPONSORED BY: AMERICAN RED CROSS

Designed for childcare providers, teachers, parents and others who care for children, this course teaches participants how to recognize and care for breathing and cardiac emergencies in infants and children up to 12 years of age and First Aid skills.

All American Red Cross classes are held at American Red Cross Headquarters; 2912 S. 80th Avenue (located off West Center Road, turn south at 80th Avenue, 1/2 block) unless otherwise noted.

When: Saturday, June 6
Time: 8:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.

When: Tuesday, June 16 *CPR Only
Time: 5:30 p.m. to 10:00 p.m.

When: Thursday, June 25
Time: 8:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.

When: Saturday, June 27
Time: 8:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.

Infant & Child CPR - \$40 (4.5 Hours)
Infant & Child CPR + First Aid-\$50 (6.5 Hours)
REGISTRATION: 343-7730

You must register for Red Cross classes at least one week in advance or be subject to a \$10 late fee. Classes are available in English and Spanish.

CERTIFICATE: CPR - 1 yr. F.A. - 3 yrs.

For more information contact ARC Health and Safety Registration (402) 343-7730



INFANT CPR/ FIRST AID

SPONSORED BY: HEARTLAND FAMILY SERVICES

When: Saturday, June 13
8:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.

Where: 6720 N. 30th St.; Omaha, NE 68112

Cost: \$50 for both (CPR \$40; First Aid \$20)
\$30 Members

Instructor: Tammy J. Green tgreen@heartlandfamilyservice.org
Call (402) 457-7766 to register.

INFANT CHILD CPR/ PEDIATRIC FIRST AID

SPONSORED BY: SALVATION ARMY & PROVIDER'S NETWORK FOOD PROGRAM

When: Saturday, June 6
Where: The Salvation Army; 3612 Cuming Street; Omaha
Cost: CPR 8:30 a.m. to Noon (\$40)
First Aid 1:00 p.m. to 3:30 p.m. (\$30)
Both (\$50)

Instructor: Rhonda Case, call 1-800-764-4335 to register.
Upcoming classes: July 11, August 1

ALL CPR/FIRST AID CLASSES REQUIRE PRE-REGISTRATION

INFANT/CHILD CPR/AED & FIRST AID

SPONSORED BY: NATIONAL SAFETY COUNCIL, GREATER OMAHA CHAPTER

All National Safety Council Classes are held in the Lower Level, 11620 M Circle, Omaha, NE 68137

When: Saturday, June 6
Time: 8:00 a.m. to 2:30 p.m.
(8:00 to 11:00/First Aid; 11:30 to 2:30/CPR AED)

When: Monday, June 8 (First Aid) and
Wednesday, June 10 (CPR AED)
Time: 6:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m.

When: Saturday, June 20
Time: 8:00 a.m. to 2:30 p.m.
(8:00 to 11:00/First Aid; 11:30 to 2:30/CPR AED)

When: Saturday, June 27
Time: 8:00 a.m. to 2:30 p.m.
(8:00 to 11:00/First Aid; 11:30 to 2:30/CPR AED)

Infant/Child First Aid Training: \$40
Infant/Child CPR/AED Training: \$45
Both: \$59

REGISTRATION: (402) 896-0454, Ext. 445 with Mike Novak, National Safety Council, Greater Omaha Chapter First Aid-CPR Program Coordinator or via e-mail at mnovak@safenebraska.org
CERTIFICATE: CPR 2 YEARS, First Aid 3 YEARS

Raising Safe Kids One Stage at a Time

Babies 0-12 Months

This is what you need to know about me...



- I'm new around here, so I don't understand the risks and dangers all around me. But I'm very curious and as I start to grow, you'll notice new and exciting things I can do.
- Since the world around me was made for adults and I can't make choices, I depend on you for my safety.
- I'm likely to be injured because of my small size, lack of physical coordination and cognitive abilities.
- So you need to look around our house with new eyes, and try to see things the way I see them.

Did you know...?

- I have a **slow digestion**, meaning dangerous things in small amounts can be poisonous.
- I breathe faster because **my lungs are small and still developing**. I can inhale dangerous gasses very quickly.
- **If I find it, I will eat it**. I can make 10 hand-to-mouth movements per hour.
- **My skin can burn faster than an adult's** because it's thinner and more sensitive.
- I need to be **supervised** at all times.

Core Competency: Health, Safety and Nutrition - Level 1 and 2

Child Abuse Prevention and Reporting

When: Tuesday, June 16
6:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m.

Where: Heartland Family Service North
6720 N 30th Street

Cost: Resource Center Members—Free
Non-members—\$5

Take this opportunity to review the signs & symptoms of child abuse, related behavioral issues, and your responsibilities as a provider. Remember, you may be a child's only line of defense from abuse!

Facilitator: Michelle Kreikemeier

For more information or to check on membership, contact Michelle Kreikemeier at (402) 457-7769.

Core Competency: Child, Growth and Development

Wiring Infants and Toddlers for Success

When: Thursday, June 25
7:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m.

Where: UNL Douglas/Sarpy Extension Central Office
8015 W Center Road

Cost: \$12

Pre-registration is required. Call Mary at 444-7804.

- As a result of this workshop, participants will:
- Understand how the brain develops and is “wired.”
 - Be able to foster a child’s early competency in ways associated with later academic achievement, work performance and social adaptation.
 - Facilitate activities with children to enhance their brain development.
 - Provide a developmentally appropriate, stimulating environment for children to maximize their brain development.
 - Understand the importance of environmental influences on brain development.

The book, *Fun to Play, Ready to Learn*, with additional activities will be available for purchase for \$11.77 (tax included) if desired.

Core Competency: Planning Learning Experiences and Curriculum

Social & Emotional Development The Influence of Attachment on Young Children’s Social and Emotional Development

When: Tuesday, June 9
6:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m.

Where: Educare of Omaha
2123 Paul Street

Cost: No cost to attend but pre-registration is required. Contact Martha Nash, martha.nash@nebraska.gov or 557-6892 for registration information.

Nancy Thompson is a therapist and local expert on attachment and bonding. This workshop is intended for early childhood caregivers. It focuses on attachment, including the attachment of children to their caregiver.

Social & Emotional Development Safe & Secure Learners from the Start

When: Wednesdays, June 3, 10, 17, 24, July 8, 15
6:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m.

Where: OPS TAC Building, Room 5072
3215 Cuming Street, Omaha

Cost: No cost to attend but pre-registration is required. Contact Martha Nash, martha.nash@nebraska.gov or 557-6892 for registration information.



- 12 clock hours/1.2 CEUs of training will be provided.
- Modules Include:
- Promoting Social/Emotional Development
 - You Can Make a Difference: Relationships and Mental Health
 - Observing and Understanding Young Children’s Behavior
 - When Children’s Behavior Demands New Approaches
 - Teaming with Parents
 - Impact of Violence on Young Children: How to Support Children in the Child Care Setting
- This training is designed for those who work directly with children (Head Start/Early Head Start, child care staff, and home visitors). Attend all six sessions of the series.

Congratulations ECCOA Week of the Young Child Mini-Grant Recipients!



- Blair Community Schools Early Childhood Programs:** learning stations supplies at celebration picnic
- Educare of Omaha:** materials for memory books activity done by parents and children after visit to the zoo
- Elkhorn Early Education Program:** supplies for activities at community fair
- Lillie’s House Intergenerational CDC:** materials for blanket making project (young children and Hillcrest Health patients)
- Northside Quality Child Care Association:** supplies for exhibits promoting early literacy at festival
- Omaha Public Schools Early Childhood Programs:** play book for families attending Family Fun Day event
- Rosewood Academy:** supplies for scrapbooking activity to create “Rosewood Community” book
- Sarpy County Early Childhood Collaboration:** materials for activity stations at Sarpy County WOYC Kick Off
- Sunset Early Childhood Center:** items needed to plant flowers near school entrance
- Weeping Water Public School:** fees for advertising Week of the Young Child community events

Social & Emotional Development I Want! I Want! I Want!

When: Thursday, June 4 OR Tuesday, June 9
7:00 to 9:00 p.m. 6:15 to 8:15 p.m.

Where: UNL Douglas/Sarpy Extension Central Office
8015 W Center Road

Cost: \$10.00



Pre-registration is required! To register, call Mary at 444-7804.

Extension Educator Mary Nelson will be teaching child care providers:

- ☞ How advertising captures children
- ☞ Look at what advertising doesn't want you to know
- ☞ Learn the effects of marketing on children

Language & Literacy Development Incorporating Flannel Boards, Puppets & Props

When: Tuesday, June 23
6:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m.

Where: Midwest Child Care
7701 Pacific Street #200

Cost: \$5.00

Speakers: Lisa Weinmann, Special Education/
Early Literacy Manager for Sarpy
County Head Start and Jane Bailey,
Midwest Area Representative

In this workshop you will be doing make it and take it activities. We would appreciate it if you could bring a pair of scissors with you.

For more information, contact Midwest Child Care Association at 551-2379.

2009 Second Saturdays Early Learning Guidelines

When: 9:00 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. (Lunch will be provided)
Where: UNL Douglas/Sarpy Extension Central Office
8015 W. Center Road, Omaha
Cost: \$25 per session

Registration must be received by date listed!

ECCOA is sponsoring an Early Learning Guidelines series the second Saturday of the month. Each workshop will be on a different domain of the Early Learning Guidelines. The Early Learning Guidelines were created to provide early childhood caregivers/teachers and other adults with information about supporting the learning and development of young children.



What you will receive: 6 in-service hours or .6 CEUs for each workshop; Door prizes related to the topic will be given away at each workshop; 2 Early Learning Guidelines books (Birth to 3 and 3 to 5).

June 13	Health and Physical Development	Register by Jun 10
July 11	Creative Arts	Jul 8

For more information, contact Jennifer Haggart, ECCOA Coordinator at 402-597-4991 or jhaggart@esu3.org.

To register for the Second Saturdays Early Learning Guidelines workshops, complete the registration form and send **by the registration due date** with a check or money order payable to ESU #3 to:

ECCOA Second Saturday Series
6949 S 110th Street
Omaha NE 68128

***** Second Saturdays Registration Form *****

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ Zip _____

Phone _____ Cell _____

E-mail _____

Circle the date(s) you are registering for: Jun 13 Jul 11

ECCOA Planning Retreats - YOU Are Invited!

Thu, July 30; 6:30 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. (includes dinner) **OR** Fri, July 31; 8:00 a.m. to 10:30 a.m. (includes breakfast)

Anyone interested in helping set the vision for ECCOA is encouraged to attend one of the Planning Retreats. The retreat will focus on developing our mission and professional development plans for the next grant year. Even if you do not normally attend the ECCOA Partner Meetings, please put one of the Retreat dates on your calendar and plan to attend as we are seeking input from everyone who has an interest in early childhood professional development in the Omaha/ESU #3 area. Both meetings will be held at the UNL Douglas/Sarpy Extension Central Office, 8015 W Center Road, Omaha. To make sure that we have enough food, please RSVP to ECCOA Coordinator, Jennifer Haggart at 402-597-4991 or jhaggart@esu3.org, by Friday, July 24.

Omaha Public Library Corner

Be Creative @ Your Library Summer Reading Program 2009! June 1 – August 1

Do you like to read good books and attend fun events? Then this program is for you! All young people may join age birth – 18. Keep track of the books or hours you read and win fun prizes like a free backpack, a free book, a pass to CoCo Key Water Resort and more. All you need is a current Omaha Public Library card. Logon to omahapubliclibrary.org or come to the library to register.

Willa Cather Branch, 1905 S 44th St, 444-4851

All ages are welcome at all storytimes. Groups of 10 or more, please call ahead.

Storytimes

Wednesdays & Fridays, 10:30 Beginning June 11

Preschool/Toddler Storytime

Stories, flannel board stories, songs and fingerplays and more! Each storytime will feature early literacy tips and a simple craft based on the stories.



Thursdays, 10:30

Baby and Me

Bring your babies and toddlers for a storytime made just for them! Each storytime will feature stories, songs and activities geared toward our youngest library users.

Jeff Quinn's Magic and Fun Tue, June 9 1:30 p.m.
Enjoy the magic of Jeff Quinn. Ages 3 and older.

Denise's Craft Cart Wed, June 10 10:30 a.m.
Come and make a fun craft with professional crafter Denise. Ages 2 – 5. **Registration required.**

Messy Tuesdays. Make a mess at our house! All programs at 1:30
June 16: Play dough Land
June 23: Shaving Cream Slime
All ages welcome. **Registration required.**

Create Your Own Ceramic Tile Tue, June 16 6:30 p.m.
All ages welcome. **Registration required.**

Songbirds Music 'n' Play Wed, June 17 10:30 a.m.
Have fun with songs, games, fingerplays, hula hoops, parachutes and rhythm instruments. Toddler and preschool age. **Registration required.**

Country Barnyard Animals Wed, June 24 1:30 p.m.
Learn all about farm animals and see live animals including sheep, goats and even a pony! All ages welcome.

Lily the Mouse visits Storytime Fri, June 26 10:30 a.m.
Meet the mouse from *Lilly's Purple Plastic Purse* by Kevin Henkes.

Abrahams Branch Library, 5111 N 90th St, 444-6284

Preschool Storytime Tue, June 9, 16, 23, 30 10:30 a.m.

Lilly the Mouse visits Tue, June 23 10:30 a.m.

Songbirds for 3-5 yr. olds Thu, June 11 10:30 a.m.
You must register beforehand for Songbirds.

Florence Branch, 2920 Bondesson, 444-5299

Preschool Storytime 10:30 -11:00 a.m.

Listen to stories, flannel board stories, songs and fingerplays. Each child will receive a storytime sheet listing fingerplays, songs, suggested books, Spanish Word of the Week, Sign Language Word of the Week and an early literacy tip. Each week the stories will center on a letter of the alphabet and an alphabet sheet will be provided to take home. A take-home craft or coloring sheet may be included.

Thu, June 4	Be Creative
Thu, June 11	Welcome, Lilly & Her Purple Plastic Purse
Thu, June 18	Get in the Act
Thu, June 25	Got Art?

P.J. Storytime Tue, June 16 6:30 – 7:00 p.m.

This storytime is offered on the third Tuesday of the month. Wear your p.j.'s and bring a stuffed "friend" to experience a variety of stories, flannel boards, songs and other activities. Enjoy milk and cookies, too!

Be Creative Crafts Wed, June 3, 10, 17, 24 10:30 a.m.
Be Creative Crafts include cookie art, silly concoctions, pet rocks, and more. (Registration required)

Amy Fitl, author of *Trachanoids* Tue, June 9 10:30 a.m.
Explore the world of dinosaurs and how authors develop ideas for their books. All ages.

Songbirds Music 'n Play Tue, June 23 10:30 a.m.
Have fun with games, hula hoops, parachute, and rhythm instruments. For toddlers and preschoolers. (Registration required)

Country Barnyard Animals Wed, June 24 10:30 a.m.
See live animals including a goat, sheep, pony and more. All ages.

Raptor Recovery Nebraska Tue, June 30 10:30 a.m.
View live owls, hawks, and falcons as you learn about these birds of prey. All ages.

W. Dale Clark (Main) Library, 215 S 15th St, 444-4811

Preschool Storytime Tuesdays in June and July 10:30 a.m.
Celebrate stories! Experience the delight of interacting with stories through books, songs, fingerplays and movement. Storytimes are geared toward preschoolers but ALL AGES are welcome!

Songbirds Music 'n Play Wed, June 3 10:30 a.m.
Have fun learning songs, games, fingerplays, hula hoop and parachute fun, and rhythm instruments, too! Toddler and preschool age. Limited to 25. Registration required.

Silly Song Sing-a-long Tue, June 9 10:30a.m.
Storytime today is all about songs! John Rogers and his silly songs will get your toes tapping, your hands clapping and your bellies laughing. All ages welcome.

Lilly Visits Storytime Tue, June 16 10:30 a.m.
Lilly of "Lilly's Purple Plastic Purse" fame will visit. *All ages welcome.*

Folk Traditions Through Music Thu, June 18 4:00 p.m.
Listen to David Seay and his protégés play their harmonicas. Show time includes stories and demos of folk instruments such as the penny whistle, Indian flute, ocarina, yak horn, musical saw, singing bowl, and limber toys. This residency is sponsored by the Nebraska Humanities Council. *All ages welcome. No registration required.*

Create Your Own Tile! Wed, June 24 2:00p.m.
Creatively paint your own tile from "It's Your Pottery". Completed tiles will need to be picked up on a later date. *All ages welcome. Limit 30. Registration Required.*

Cause for Action, Not Alarm

Also Core Competency: Child Growth and Development

This FREE training is for home and center based child care providers and staff and will cover:

- Developmental milestones for children birth to age 5,
- Red flags that may indicate a possible problem or delay,
- How to talk with parents about development concerns,
- What to expect when talking to parents and
- Getting connected with Early Intervention Services.

Participants in the training will receive *Born Learning* resource materials and an inservice certificate for two hours of training on: principles of child growth and development and strategies to establish productive relationships with families.

Providers are encouraged to attend the training at the location and/or on the date that works best for their schedule. In June, training will be offered:

Thu, June 4 6:30 to 8:30 p.m.

Cradles to Crayons
911 N Adams Street, Papillion

Mon, June 8 6:30 to 8:30 p.m.

Morningstar Preschool and Child Care
331 S 85th Avenue, Omaha

Thu, June 11 6:30 to 8:30 p.m.

Hamilton Heights Child Development Center
127th & Dodge Street (behind AGP), Omaha

Tue, June 16 6:30 to 8:30 p.m.

Kids Round Up
NE Crossing Outlet Mall, I-80 exit 432, Gretna

Sat, June 20 9:00 to 11:00 a.m.

Creative Beginnings Children's Academy
6810 S 178th Avenue, Millard

Mon, June 22 6:30 to 8:30 p.m.

Offutt Youth Center (1 block south of CDC)
25th & Hruska, Bellevue

Thu, June 25 6:30 to 8:30 p.m.

Baright Public Library
5555 S 77th Street, Ralston

Sat, June 27 9:00 to 11:00 a.m.

Educare of Omaha
2123 Paul Street, Omaha

To register for one of these FREE trainings, contact Jennifer Haggart, Early Childhood Professional Development Coordinator, at 402-597-4991 or jhaggart@esu3.org at least one week prior to the training you want to attend.



Early Development Network Contact Numbers

ESU #3 (Arlington, Bennington, Blair, Conestoga, DC West, Elkhorn, Elmwood-Murdock, Fort Calhoun, Gretna, Louisville, Plattsmouth, South Sarpy #46, Weeping Water)	597-4936
Bellevue Public Schools	293-4941
Millard Public Schools	715-8302
Omaha Public Schools	557-2364
Papillion/LaVista Public Schools	537-6222
Ralston Public Schools	597-4936
Westside Community Schools	390-6472

Core Competency Area: Administration, Program Planning and Development

Licensing Information

Revised 2009 Orientation Training for Family Child Care Home I and Home II Programs

- You must attend this one hour training before you will be issued a provisional license. Questions & answers will be accommodated at the end, which you may wish to allow extra time for.
- You must pre-register before attending the training. **Call 595-3343 to pre-register.**
- Three trainings are provided each month. One training class is scheduled on each of the days listed.
- Classes start at the stated time **PROMPTLY.**
- Be at least 5 minutes early. If you are not on time, the training will have already begun and you will be required to reschedule.
- An orientation certificate will be issued at the end of each class. You will need to send a copy of this certificate with your initial licensing paperwork.
- We ask that you please not bring children as the classroom has limited space.

Orientation is held at:

Department of Health and Human Services, Division of Public Health
1801 North 73rd Street (73rd & Blondo)
Omaha, NE 68114

When:

Tues, June 2	10:00 am
Wed, June 10	1:00 pm
Thu, June 18	10:00 am

If you have taken this Orientation class in the past, please contact us at 595-3343. Applicants who have previously completed this requirement may not be required to repeat it.

Core Competency Area: Professionalism and Leadership Provider Support Groups

P. 7

Learning Environments

CHILDCARE SHARE RESOURCE AND SUPPORT GROUP

An Affiliate of www.Omaha-Childcare.com

June 18 (the third Thursday of the month)
from 6:45 - 9:00 p.m.

Where: Atonement Lutheran Church
4530 N 85th Street
Cost: CCS members free, \$10 non-members
(can be applied to your \$25 a year membership)
Membership: Call JoAnn Fryman at 884-0822
or e-mail joann@childcareshare.net

For more information or to register online:
www.childcareshare.net

Topic: **Creating Inspirational Child Care Environments**
Presenter: Patricia Dischler

A child care space needs to do so much - support education, inspire, provide safety, minimize conflicts. Yet it should do even more - reflect the personalities of those who are in it! Learn how to create a space that not only supports the goals for the children - but supports those who teach in it as well! The children deserve a great place to learn - and you deserve a great place to work.

Being the Best You Can Be!

Friday, June 19, 2009

8:45 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.

Westside Community Conference Center
3534 S 108th St (108th & Grover)

A day of training and motivation for child care providers featuring Patricia Dischler, author of From Babysitter to Business Owner. Topics Patricia will cover:

- Turning the Job You Love Into the Career You'll Keep!
- Building Partnerships: Parents & Providers Working Together!
- Teaching the 3 Cs: Creativity, Curiosity & Courtesy
- A Treasure Trove of Tips and Tricks

Cost is \$20 for 5.5 hours of
in-service, lunch and a gift!

For registration information, contact
Jennifer Haggart, ECCOA Coordinator,
402-597-4991 or jhaggart@esu3.org

CONCERNED CHILD CARE PROVIDERS

June 20 (third Saturday of the month)
from 4:00 - 5:00 p.m.

Where: Washington Branch Library
Contact: Mary Lou Agee Bryant at 968-4982

EASTERN CASS COUNTY CHILD CARE ASSOCIATION

June 29 (fourth Monday of the month)
from 7:00 - 8:00 p.m.

Where: Head Start Building, Plattsmouth
Contact: Lori Post at 298-8894

GRETNA AREA PROFESSIONAL PROVIDERS

Tuesday, June 16 from 7:00 - 9:00 p.m.
(third Tuesday of the month)

Where: Staci McMahon's home
Contact: Staci McMahon 332-3747
Kathy Carraher 332-3695
gapp.org@gmail.com
Topic: Lisa Munoz, Midwest Childcare Association
"Feeding Your Daycare on a Budget"

MILLARD AREA PROVIDERS

No June Meeting (usually meets first Monday of each month)
6:30- 8:30 p.m. (speaker)

Where: St. Thomas Lutheran Church
17007 Q Street
Contact: Susan Turner at 492-9546; sturner2283@cox.net

MORMAN TRAIL CHILD CARE SUPPORT GROUP

Meeting varies each month, call for more information.

Where: Florence Elementary School
36th & King St.
Contact: Barb Spiker at 451-3037

NORTH SIDE QUALITY CHILD CARE ASSOCIATION

June 18 (third Thursday of the month)
1:00 - 2:30 p.m. Meeting

Where: Dunn Deal Café
2310 N 16th Street
Contact: Deb Nared at 455-2442

OMAHA AREA CHILD CARE PROVIDERS

No June Meeting (usually meets second Monday of the month)
6:30 p.m.

Where: Ralston Baright Library
5555 S. 77th Street
Cost: \$3 for non-members
Contact: Deb Johnson at 392-1877

THE CHILD CARE CONNECTION

No June Meeting (usually meets last Thursday of the month)
from 7:00 - 9:00 p.m.

Where: Benson Baptist Church
6319 Maple Street (park in the back)
Membership info: Lori Clapp at 561-9338
Contact: Michele at 572-1958

WASHINGTON COUNTY DAY CARE PROVIDERS

No Meeting - See you in September!

(meets last Tuesday of the month, Sept.-Nov. & Jan.-Apr.)

Contact: Sarah Anderson at 426-4023



Early Childhood Consortium of the Omaha Area

Douglas/Sarpy County Extension Service
8015 West Center Road
Omaha, NE 68124

In-Service and Professional Development Opportunities

Nonprofit
Organization
U.S. Postage
PAID
Omaha, NE 68124
Permit #1357

RETURN
SERVICE
REQUESTED

KEEP YOUR ADDRESS CURRENT

For changes or deletions, please contact::

Jennifer Haggart, ECCOA Coordinator

jhaggart@esu3.org

402-597-4991

Nature Enhances the Early Learning Guidelines - Mary Beth Pistillo

Core Competency: Planning Learning Experiences and Curriculum



Nebraska is one of the leading states in taking the initiative to bring awareness about the importance of nature into the lives of young children, because we know being in a natural setting is a way to balance out the over stimulating daily routine that children adhere to everyday. So a natural connection in getting this important message out to those that work with young children was through the Early Learning Guidelines. A supplement was then created to go along with the current document- "Nebraska Early Learning Guidelines-Connecting Children to Nature".

The Early Learning Guidelines incorporates 7 domains within the Birth to Three, and Three to Five documents. The Nature Education Supplement includes those same domains, and incorporates ideas that can be used outdoors in the natural setting, or brought indoors into the classroom for children birth through five.

Many times when we think about young children's learning, we envision it in a classroom with specific materials and in a certain setting. But we also know that young children's learning doesn't stop when they move to a different location! Allowing the outdoor setting to be part of the classroom can greatly enhance young children's learning in each one of the domains. For example:

- **Math**-Creating three-dimensional structures out of sticks, rocks, blocks, etc.
- **Science**-Having children observe and compare the evaporation of water on cement in both the sun and shade.
- **Language/Literacy**-Have the children plant a bean seed after reading "Jack and the Beanstalk", and have them draw pictures or journal as the plant grows.
- **Creative Arts**- Using contact paper, have children create an outdoor collage.
- **Health/Physical Development**-Allowing children to explore open spaces and imitate the animals they see.
- **Social/Emotional**- Bringing plants into the classroom and have the children care for them.
- **Approaches to Learning**- Having the children use their senses to learn about the world and describe how bark feels and what can they compare that texture to, how heavy different rocks are and allowing them to weigh them on a scale, etc.

And remember.... You can always bring your classroom materials outdoors to create new learning opportunities for the children..... paper and crayons for texture rubbings or drawing, books to use as resources in looking for insects or flowers, blocks to build with, art materials to create pictures and sculptures with!

These and many other ideas are included within the Nature Education Supplement which can be found on the Early Childhood Training Center website <http://ectc.nde.ne.gov>.