

Wright County Daycare Newsletter

January 2012



UPCOMING WRIGHT COUNTY TRAINING OPPORTUNITIES:

50 Frequently Asked Questions

Cost is \$18 (non-refundable). Instructors: Wright Co. Licensors. To register, contact Tammy Romer, WCHS, at 763-682-7488 or 1-800-362-3667, ext. 7488 or tamara.romer@co.wright.mn.us

Date: 04/26/2012

Time: 6:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m.

Location: Wright Co. Government Center, 10 2nd Street NW, Buffalo

Room: 120A/B

This training will address the most frequently asked questions from child care providers to licensing staff. Everything from: When do I need to exclude a child due to illness, to how often do we need to view the SBS video? This training is an excellent opportunity for new providers to get their questions answered, & for seasoned providers to clarify licensing rules of which they may be unsure.

Child Passenger Safety Seat Classes

To make sure there is available space in each class, you must pre-register by calling Terri Burkhardt at 763-682-7516 or 1-800-362-3667, ext. 7516, or e-mail Terri.Burkhardt@co.wright.mn.us Class fee is \$15 for Wright Co. Day Care providers & \$20 for providers outside of Wright Co. Class is free for Wright Co. Foster Care providers. Pay fee prior to class by contacting Terri Burkhardt. **Class fees are non-refundable unless you reschedule. A minimum of ten participants need to be registered in order to hold class. Class will be canceled one week prior to class if the minimum is not met. No admittance to class after 6:05 p.m.**

Date	Time	Location	Room
03/22/2012	6 p.m. to 9 p.m.	Wright Co. Human Services Center, 1004 Commercial Dr, Buffalo	127

More child safety seat information is available at:

[Minnesota Office of Traffic Safety.](#) [Available trainings elsewhere in the state.](#)

SBS (Shaken Baby Syndrome) and SIDS (Sudden Infant Death Syndrome) Training

Please register by calling Terri Burkhardt at 763-682-7516 or e-mail Terri.Burkhardt@co.wright.mn.us If you are not familiar with the training location, please ask for directions & plan extra travel time. Training does not have to be taken in the county in which you are licensed. Registration is required one week prior to class in order to make sure that enough materials & space are available. Total cost for both classes is \$15.00. Payment can be taken over the phone. **Class fees are non-refundable unless you reschedule. A minimum of ten participants need to be registered in order to hold class. Class will be canceled one week prior to class if the minimum is not met. It is mandated to view the SBS video during this class. Because of this requirement, there is no admittance to class after 6:05 p.m.** SIDS is the leading cause of death for infants one month of age to one year. During this training, you will learn ways to reduce the risk of SIDS. Shaken Baby Syndrome is a form of physical child abuse. During this training, you will learn SBS injuries that can occur when a child is violently shaken, characteristics of infant crying, & how to cope with crying & difficult stages of development.

Date	Time	Location	Room
03/15/2012	6 p.m. to 8 p.m.	Wright Co. Human Services Center, 1004 Commercial Dr, Buffalo	127

Supervision: Understanding Your Role

Rebecca Domjahn and Kris Carlson, county licensors, are the instructors. The cost of the training is \$18.00. To register, contact Tammy Romer, WCHS, 763-682-7488 or 1-800-362-3667, ext. 7488. This is an opportunity to review the rules re: supervision and to gain a clear understanding how to provide adequate supervision in your environment. Liability issues will be addressed as well as proactive measures to take to ensure proper supervision for all ages of children in your care.

Date	Time	Location	Room
03/08/2012	6:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m.	Wright Co. Government Center, 10 2nd Street NW, Buffalo	120A/B

Information from Hennepin Regional Poison Center

Safety Counts When Using Art Supplies

What child doesn't love to draw, paint and color? What parent doesn't have a refrigerator covered in children's artwork? It's important to keep in mind, however, that art products are a mixture of chemicals that deserve respect and careful handling to avoid poison exposures.

When glues, paints, ink and other art supplies are handled correctly, children can safely enjoy art activities. However, young children often like to taste pretty, colorful art products, and older children may be exposed if some is splashed into eyes or spilled onto skin.

In 2009, the nation's 57 poison control centers received more than 35,000 calls about exposures to art products; of these, more than 26,000 calls concerned children younger than 6. Although most exposures cause only minor effects, and very few require treatment by a doctor, it's still important to handle art supplies with care. The following are some of the art supplies that often cause concern:



Chalk contains calcium, and swallowing some typically does not cause poisoning. More serious problems can occur if the chalk lodges in the throat or is breathed into the windpipe, blocking the airway and causing coughs, difficulty breathing, or wheezing.

Water-soluble markers usually don't cause harm. Most other felt-tip markers don't cause poisoning if small amounts of the ink are swallowed. A few markers may contain aniline dyestuffs, which, if a large amount is swallowed, can be poisonous.



Erasers are not considered poisonous but could cause blockage or injury if lodged in the throat or breathed into the windpipe.



School-type glues (such as Elmer's®) generally are considered nonpoisonous. "Super glues" do not cause serious poisoning if a mouthful is swallowed; however, they cause mucous membranes and skin surfaces to stick together instantly. If "super glue" gets into the eye, the eyelids can be sealed together, resulting in lid injury and loss of lashes. Worse, "super glue" can cause serious damage to the eye's cornea.



If children swallow small amounts of **water-based paint** – including latex, tempera and poster paint – poisoning is not likely. Some latex paints do contain measurable amounts of glycols, so poisoning could happen if someone swallows a very large amount. Oil-based paints contain solvents that can cause poisoning.



The American Association of Poison Control Centers recommends the following safety tips: Read the label carefully, and follow all instructions for safe use and disposal.



Discard products that have passed their expiration dates.

Don't eat or drink while using art products.

Wash up – skin, equipment and environment – after use.

Never use products to paint skin or decorate food unless the product is specifically labeled for that use.

Store art products in their original containers locked up and out of the reach of children.

When choosing art supplies for use by children, consider the product's certification. Many art supplies are imprinted with the seals of the Arts and Crafts Materials Institute. Products with the AP (Approved Product) seal are certified "to contain no materials in sufficient quantities to be toxic or injurious to humans, including children, or to cause acute or chronic health problems." These products are best for use by young children. Products with the CL (Cautionary Label) Seal are certified "to be properly labeled for any known health risks and with information on the safe and proper use of these materials." CL-certified products are more appropriate for adult use. If a young artist does chew on a crayon, eat some glue, or splash paint into eyes, help is just a phone call away. Call your local poison center at 1-800-222-1222 for advice or information.

**Learn about...
Respiratory
Syncytial
Virus (RSV)**

Many providers/parents have heard or experienced first hand the horrors of a small child with RSV. The following link from the Centers for Disease Control & Prevention has some helpful information to become more knowledgeable about the virus.

<http://www.cdc.gov/Features/RSV/?source=govdelivery>

With the beginning of a new year, this may be a good time to re-look at your ill care policy & make some changes if needed. A specific & clear policy on when you will/will not care for a sick child can

save you from making difficult decisions on the fly.

**Color Me Safe
A Coloring Book from
CDC's Injury Center**

As child care providers, & licensors, we are often worried about the safety of the smallest children in your care. They are the ones that may wander off, get into something that they shouldn't, or try to put everything into their mouths. We also need to remember to teach older kids about safety. The Center's For Disease Control & Prevention have a coloring book geared at children ages 4-7 years old. It covers everything from burn prevention, to fire safety to car seats. It is available to download, or you may request up to 20 copies to be mailed to you.

<http://www.cdc.gov/Features/ColorMeSafe/?source=govdelivery>

**Provider
Tips &
Information**

Amy Van Houten, provider in Otsego shared this short video about the dangers of children swallowing batteries. It is worth the couple of minutes it takes to view.

<http://www.safekids.org/safety-basics/safety-spotlight/battery-safety/>

~Thanks Amy

Donna Strickland, provider in Monticello shared the following information about a personal experience with Facebook:

"I got permission to post this on the site. It has to do with a chat site that my 11 year old daughter and other kids are going on. It is an app located on Facebook lower left side called Tiny Chat. My daughter, her friends, and other kids are going on. There were 3 men at different times exposing themselves and were doing bad stuff while the kids were on chat within an hour and a half period. They would just pop up on the site exposing themselves and then leave the site. Last night there were girls getting naked, my friend said she could not believe it. It is being investigated by a Computer Forensic Investigator and a detective from Wright County. They said I should let parents know about the site. I thought this would be a way to let parents know about what their kids might be going on."

~Thanks Donna

Rule Reminder:

9502.0415 ACTIVITIES AND EQUIPMENT
Subpart 1. General activities.

Day care activities must provide for the physical, intellectual, emotional, and social development of the child. The environment must facilitate the implementation of the activities. Activities must:

- A. be scheduled indoors and outdoors, weather permitting;*
- B. be appropriate to the development stage and age of the child;*
- C. include active and quiet activity; and*
- D. contain provider ~ directed and child ~ initiated activity.*

Now that winter is in full swing, we need to remember the importance of safe outdoor play. It can be difficult to get children bundled up and outside for some fresh air, but it is so very important! Children need to have time to play in the snow and to burn off some of their energy.

Even if parents don't remember to bring boots, let the children play for awhile on the sidewalk or driveway. It is a good idea to have a few extra sets of hats and mittens on hand for children that don't bring them. Parents not bringing items should not be an excuse for providers to not be following the licensing rule.

With that being said, we of course want everyone to be safe, and using common sense regarding outdoor play. Your Provider Handbooks have a weather guide in section 7 that includes guidelines for outdoor play including temperature and wind chill. This is only a guide, but it may help you decide if it is appropriate to be outside on a given day. If you would like to see a color copy of the weather guide, you can follow the link:

www.idph.state.ia.us/hcci/common/pdf/weatherwatch.pdf

Another common question we hear as licensors is whether or not providers are required to take infants outside. The answer is yes. The licensing rule does not differentiate between ages when specifying that children need to get outside. You can certainly adjust the amount of time spent outdoors when you have little ones in care, but they also need some fresh air throughout the day. If you have a garage that is used for childcare, you may want to keep the infants out of the wind in the garage while the older children play in the yard.

As always, safety first, and enjoy the season!

Rule Reminder:

245A.06 Subd. 8.
Requirement to post correction order.

For licensed family child care providers...the license holder shall post the correction order or order of conditional license in a place that is conspicuous to the people receiving services and all visitors to the facility for two years.

What does conspicuous mean? According to Webster's Dictionary the definition is "easy to notice or obvious". Licensors expect that if you receive a correction order or any negative action, it must be posted in an area of your home that parents access daily and will be easily noticed. This may include the drop-off/pick-up area, near the child's cubbies, on your bulletin board, etc. Areas that would not be conspicuous include but are not limited to, inside a cabinet or closet door, behind your license or other posted material, in a room not accessed by parents, or folded/partially hidden from view. **Please contact your licensor with any questions.**

Super Scoops

This artistic project helps tame clutter instead of adding to it. by DeborahWay

These decoupaged milk jugs are great for transporting toys, dumping them on the ground, & scooping them up again when playtime is done. Make a waterproof version by cutting drainage holes in the bottom & decorating the jug with permanent markers; it's perfect for skimming toys from the bathtub.

Materials: *Craft knife (parents only) or scissors *Gallon jug *Colored tissue paper
*2 1/2-inch-wide can *Pencil *Glue stick *Paintbrush *Mod Podge

Instructions:

1. Cut the gallon jug as shown, leaving the handle section intact.
2. To create multiple tissue-paper circles quickly, stack and fold the paper into several layers. Use the can to trace a circle onto the paper, then cut out the stack of circles.
3. Adhere the tissue-paper circles to the jug with a glue stick.
4. Brush Mod Podge on top of the circles to seal them.

from **FamilyFun Magazine**



Q-Tip Snowflakes

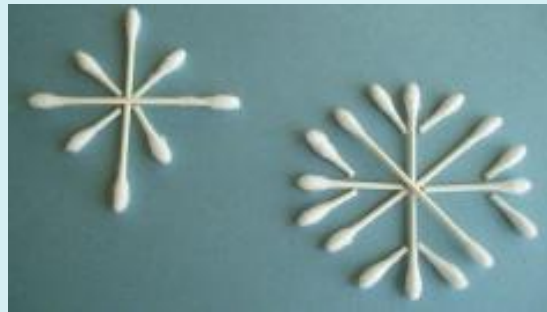
These Q-Tip Snowflakes are an easy & inexpensive winter kid's craft. This would be a great activity for preschoolers (on up) to help celebrate the winter season!

Level of Difficulty ~ Easy

Even older toddlers can glue Q~tips, you don't need to cut the Q~tips to make the snowflakes, but if you want to make different sizes you could always cut them ahead of time.

Put some glue in a shallow dish so your toddler(s) can just dip the swab.

Here's how to make it.. Cut your Q-Tips in various sizes or, just use them whole for younger children. Use them to create beautiful snowflakes on your blue paper. Glue all of your Q-Tips in place and you're finished! Remember, no two snowflakes look alike! Source: www.busybeekidscrafts.com



Here's what you'll need...

- *Blue construction paper or cardstock (or whatever color background you'd like)
- *Q~Tips
- *Glue
- *Scissors (optional)



The Challenge is on!

MN is participating in the national *Let's Move Child Care* challenge! The challenge is encouraging child care programs to join in the fight against childhood obesity. One in five children is overweight or obese by age 6. There are many ways that you can help!

What is *Let's Move* About? ***Increasing Physical Activity:** Provide 1-2 hrs of physical activity throughout the day, including outside play when possible. ***Reducing Screen Time:** None under age 2. For 2 and up, work to limit to 30 minutes/week during child care. Work w/ parents on limiting to 1-2 hrs/day of quality screen time at home. ***Improving Food Choices:** Serve more fruits and vegetables and avoid serving fried foods. ***Providing Healthy Beverages:** Serve 1% or skim milk to ages 2 & up. Limit 100% juices to 4-6 oz per day. Offer water at all meals and all day. ***Supporting Infant Feeding:** Support parents' decisions with infant feeding and welcome mothers to nurse during child care.

Why Should I Participate? *Because you can make a difference by being a champion for healthier choices; by being a good role model; and by partnering with parents.



How Do I Participate?

- *Step 1: Sign up and receive a certificate for participation at www.HealthyKidsHealthyFuture.org
- *Step 2: Take the *Let's Move! Child Care Checklist Quiz*.
- *Step 3: Build your customized action plan.
- *Step 4: Access the online ideas and resources.



Updated Form

Attached please find an updated version of the Reporting Policy for Family Child Care Providers. Please replace any old forms that you have with the new version. The Reporting Policy is required to be given to parents at time of enrollment, and available upon request. The form can also be found on the Wright County website under Provider Forms.

REPORTING POLICY FOR

(name)

LICENSED FAMILY CHILD CARE PROGRAM

Who Should Report Child Abuse and Neglect

- Any person may voluntarily report abuse or neglect.
- If you work with children in a licensed facility, you are legally required or mandated to report and cannot shift the responsibility of reporting to anyone else. If you know or have reason to believe a child is being or has been neglected or physically or sexually abused within the preceding three years you must immediately (within 24 hours) make a report to an outside agency.

Where to Report

- If you know or suspect that a child is in immediate danger, call 9-1-1.
- Reports regarding incidents of suspected abuse or neglect of children occurring at a family child care program, within a family or in the community should be made to the local county social services agency at 763-682-7449 or you may contact your local law enforcement at _____.
- If your report does not involve possible abuse or neglect, but does involve possible violations of Minnesota Statutes or Rules that govern the facility, you should call your local county social service agency at 763-682-7481.

What to Report

- Definitions of maltreatment are contained in the Reporting of Maltreatment of Minors Act, Minnesota Statutes, section 626.556 (see attached.)
- A report to any of the above agencies should contain enough information to identify the child involved, any persons responsible for the abuse or neglect (if known), and the nature and extent of the maltreatment and/or possible licensing violations. For reports concerning suspected abuse or neglect occurring within a licensed facility, the report should include any actions taken by the facility in response to the incident.
- An oral report of suspected abuse or neglect made to one of the above agencies by a mandated reporter must be followed by a written report to the same agency within 72 hours, exclusive of weekends and holidays.

Retaliation Prohibited

Minnesota Statutes, section 626.556, subd. 4a. states that an employer of any mandated reporter shall not retaliate against the mandated reporter for reports made in good faith or against a child with respect to whom the report is made. The Reporting of Maltreatment of Minors Act contains specific provisions regarding civil actions that can be initiated by mandated reporters who believe that retaliation has occurred.

Failure to Report

Pursuant to Minnesota Statutes, section 626.556, subd. 6, a mandated reporter who knows or has reason to believe a child is or has been neglected or physically or sexually abused and fails to report is guilty of a misdemeanor. In addition, a mandated reporter who fails to report maltreatment that is found to be serious or recurring maltreatment may be disqualified from employment in positions allowing direct contact with persons receiving services from programs licensed by the Department of Human Services and by the Minnesota Department of Health, and unlicensed Personal Care Provider Organizations.

THIS REPORTING POLICY MUST BE PROVIDED TO THE PARENTS OF ALL CHILDREN AT THE TIME OF ENROLLMENT IN THE CHILD CARE PROGRAM AND MUST BE MADE AVAILABLE UPON REQUEST.

Minnesota Statutes, section 626.556, subd. 2. **Definitions.** As used in this section, the following terms have the meanings given them unless the specific content indicates otherwise:

(a) "Sexual abuse" means the subjection of a child by a person responsible for the child's care, by a person who has a significant relationship to the child, as defined in section 609.341, or by a person in a position of authority, as defined in section 609.341, subdivision 10, to any act which constitutes a violation of section 609.342 (criminal sexual conduct in the first degree), 609.343 (criminal sexual conduct in the second degree), 609.344 (criminal sexual conduct in the third degree), 609.345 (criminal sexual conduct in the fourth degree), or 609.3451 (criminal sexual conduct in the fifth degree). Sexual abuse also includes any act which involves a minor which constitutes a violation of prostitution offenses under sections 609.321 to 609.324 or 617.246. Sexual abuse includes threatened sexual abuse.

(b) "Person responsible for the child's care" means (1) an individual functioning within the family unit and having responsibilities for the care of the child such as a parent, guardian, or other person having similar care responsibilities, or (2) an individual functioning outside the family unit and having responsibilities for the care of the child such as a teacher, school administrator, other school employees or agents, or other lawful custodian of a child having either full-time or short-term care responsibilities including, but not limited to, day care, babysitting whether paid or unpaid, counseling, teaching, and coaching.

(c) "Neglect" means:

- (1) failure by a person responsible for a child's care to supply a child with necessary food, clothing, shelter, health, medical, or other care required for the child's physical or mental health when reasonably able to do so;
- (2) failure to protect a child from conditions or actions that seriously endanger the child's physical or mental health when reasonably able to do so;
- (3) failure to provide for necessary supervision or child care arrangements appropriate for a child after considering factors as the child's age, mental ability, physical condition, length of absence, or environment, when the child is unable to care for the child's own basic needs or safety, or the basic needs or safety of another child in their care;
- (4) failure to ensure that the child is educated as defined in sections 120A.22 and 260C.163, subdivision 11, which does not include a parent's refusal to provide the parent's child with sympathomimetic medications, consistent with section 125A.09, subdivision 3;
- (5) nothing in this section shall be construed to mean that a child is neglected solely because the child's parent, guardian, or other person responsible for the child's care in good faith selects and depends upon spiritual means or prayer for treatment or care of disease or remedial care of the child in lieu of medical care; except that a parent, guardian, or caretaker, or a person mandated to report pursuant to subdivision 3, has a duty to report if a lack of medical care may cause serious danger to the child's health. This section does not impose upon persons, not otherwise legally responsible for providing a child with necessary food, clothing, shelter, education, or medical care, a duty to provide that care;
- (6) prenatal exposure to a controlled substance, as defined in section 253B.02, subdivision 2, used by the mother for a nonmedical purpose, as evidenced by withdrawal symptoms in the child at birth, results of a toxicology test performed on the mother at delivery or the child at birth, or medical effects or developmental delays during the child's first year of life that medically indicate prenatal exposure to a controlled substance;
- (7) "medical neglect" as defined in section 260C.007, subdivision 6, clause (5);

(8) chronic and severe use of alcohol or a controlled substance by a parent or person responsible for the care of the child that adversely affects the child's basic needs and safety; or

(9) emotional harm from a pattern of behavior which contributes to impaired emotional functioning of the child which may be demonstrated by a substantial and observable effect in the child's behavior, emotional response, or cognition that is not within the normal range for the child's age and stage of development, with due regard to the child's culture.

(d) "Physical abuse" means any physical injury, mental injury, or threatened injury, inflicted by a person responsible for the child's care on a child other than by accidental means, or any physical or mental injury that cannot reasonably be explained by the child's history of injuries, or any aversive or deprivation procedures, or regulated interventions, that have not been authorized under section 121A.67 or 245.825. Abuse does not include reasonable and moderate physical discipline of a child administered by a parent or legal guardian which does not result in an injury. Abuse does not include the use of reasonable force by a teacher, principal, or school employee as allowed by section 121A.582. Actions which are not reasonable and moderate include, but are not limited to, any of the following that are done in anger or without regard to the safety of the child:

(1) throwing, kicking, burning, biting, or cutting a child;

(2) striking a child with a closed fist;

(3) shaking a child under age three;

(4) striking or other actions which result in any nonaccidental injury to a child under 18 months of age;

(5) unreasonable interference with a child's breathing;

(6) threatening a child with a weapon, as defined in section 609.02, subdivision 6;

(7) striking a child under age one on the face or head;

(8) purposely giving a child poison, alcohol, or dangerous, harmful, or controlled substances which were not prescribed for the child by a practitioner, in order to control or punish the child; or other substances that substantially affect the child's behavior, motor coordination, or judgment or that results in sickness or internal injury, or subjects the child to medical procedures that would be unnecessary if the child were not exposed to the substances;

(9) unreasonable physical confinement or restraint not permitted under section 609.379, including but not limited to tying, caging, or chaining; or

(10) in a school facility or school zone, an act by a person responsible for the child's care that is a violation under section 121A.58.