

WRIGHT COUNTY DAYCARE NEWSLETTER

October 2009



F.Y.I.

Looking for some new ideas or activities?

Try these websites...

www.nifl.gov/nifl/publications.html

www.safe-a-rooni.org

<http://www.usa.safekids.org/>

<http://www.ccaparentnetwork.org/>

Parent Directive of an Alternate Infant Sleep Position

The Department of Human Services has developed a form that is required to be used if you have a parent requesting an alternate sleep position for an infant. This form **does not** authorize an alternate sleep space (carseat, swing, etc). Infants are still required to sleep in an approved sleep space that meets the criteria of the crib inspection form. Please keep signed form in your infant's file if parents are requesting the alternate position. A handwritten note from the parent is no longer an adequate directive. Contact your licenser with any questions.

<http://edocs.dhs.state.mn.us/lfserver/Legacy/DHS-5876-ENG>

Supervision Training

Wright County will again be offering training on supervision. This will be an opportunity to review the rules on supervision and gain a clear understanding how to provide adequate supervision. Liability issues will be addressed as well as proactive measures to promote proper supervision for all ages of children in your care.

Date: Thursday, November 5, 2009 **Time:** 6:30-8:30pm

Location: Wright County Government Center
10 2nd St NW-Buffalo, Room 120 A/B

Cost: \$18 (non-refundable) **Instructors:** Becky Domjahn, LSW and Kris Carlson, LSW, licensers

To Register: Contact Tammy Romer, Wright County Human Services, at 763-682-7488, 1-800-362-3667 ext. 7488 or tamara.romer@co.wright.mn.us

Courage to Care Council

The Courage to Care Council of Wright County works to prevent child abuse in Wright County. They plan and offer training for daycare and foster care providers, as well as the general public. They provide educational information at places like the Wright County fair and the WOW van. They are looking for a family child care provider to join the council. The council would appreciate the input of a professional child care provider who is working in the field day to day and would have some insight as to what kind of resources and training would be appropriate for providers and the community. The council meets 6 times a year, on the first Thursday of even months at 12:00pm at the Human Services Building in Buffalo. If you are interested in joining the council, please contact Becky at either 763-682-7485 or Rebecca.domjahn@co.wright.mn.us.

Cleaning Hands with Alcohol-based Hand Sanitizers

We have received new direction from the Department of Human Services in regards to the use of alcohol based hand sanitizers. In licensed family child care homes, children's and provider's hands must be washed with soap and water as required under MN Rules, part 9502.0435, subpart 15. If providers choose to use alcohol-based hand sanitizers on children's hands in addition to the required hand washings, the following requirements must be met:

- Written parental permission must be obtained from each child and maintained in the child's record. (alcohol-based hand sanitizers can be added to the non-prescription medication form)
- Alcohol-based hand sanitizers must be stored out of reach of children.
- Alcohol-based hand sanitizers must be used by children only under the supervision of the provider.

For more information regarding hand hygiene and the use of alcohol-based hand sanitizers, please see the MN Dept of Health link.

<http://www.health.state.mn.us/handhygiene/index.html>



Rule Reminder and Reading Readiness

We hear a lot about school readiness and trying to get young children excited about reading. One way to do both is to set aside a special time each day (or more than one time a day) to read to the children in your care. Being read to is an activity that can be enjoyed by all ages in your care, and did you know it is required in the licensing rule?

9502.0415 Subp6d Toddler Activities: Develop and stimulate learning by reading stories to the child or looking at picture books together.

9502.0415 Subp8h Preschooler Activities: Read stories, look at books together, and talk about new words and ideas with the child.

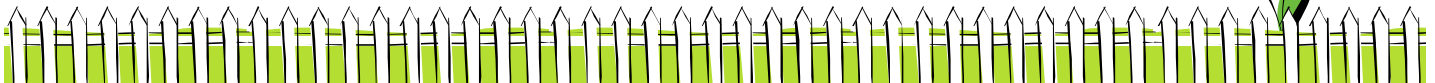
Have children bring in a special book from home to share at story time, or take a field trip to the library. Ask a parent to come in and read to the children, or enlist the help of your own school age children to read to the kids. The more exposure to books children have at a young age the earlier they can experience the wonderful stories and adventures that books have to offer. So pick up a book and go on an adventure with your children! For more information about reading with children, visit the website below:

<http://www.med.umich.edu/yourchild/topics/reading.htm>

Influenza (Flu) Information for Childcare Settings

By now we are well into the cold and flu season. Earlier than we would like! I'm sure all of you are as concerned and confused as we are when trying to stay current with the latest news and recommendations regarding the H1N1 virus. We have attached an information sheet from the MN Department of Health, as well as some links to the MN Department of Health website. We would encourage you to stay current with the newest recommendations. You can also find some great posters for your childcare and helpful information for parents. We will all need to be working together this cold and flu season in order to stay healthy and slow the spread of illness.

www.health.state.mn.us/divs/idepc/diseases/flu/childcare/index.html
www.health.state.mn.us/divs/idepc/diseases/flu/childcare/fluchildcare.pdf
www.cdc.gov/flu/freeresources/2009-10/pdf/pan_flu_flier.pdf



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Child Care Licensing Website: www.co.wright.mn.us/departments/humanservices/daycare.asp