



Summer 2011 Child Care Links Resource & Referral Center



Member agency of the Maryland Child Care Resource Network with the funding provided by the Maryland State Department of

Summer is here! We are all looking forward to new opportunities for outdoor fun and games. Even though your child care program is still running full-time, summer just seems like a good time to change your routine.

Harford and Cecil County have plenty to offer children, providers and families during the summer. Children and Teens can participate in the **Harford County Public Library Summer Reading program** called "One World, Many Stories". For more information visit www.hcplonline.org.

Children, Teens and Adults can participate in the **Cecil County Public Library Summer Reading Program**. One World, Many Stories is this year's summer reading theme for kids. **You Are Here** is this year's theme for teens. **Novel Destinations** is this year's theme for Adults who are 18 yrs and older. For more information: <http://www.cecil.ebranch.info/>

In Cecil County you can visit **Plumpton Park Zoo**. They are open weekdays and weekends from 10am-4pm. Pricing for Adults is \$10, Seniors is \$8, Children(4-12) is \$6 and Children (3 and under) are free. For more info visit <http://www.plumptonparkzoo.org/our-animals>.

Harford and Cecil County have many great **parks and playgrounds**. Check out their website, http://www.harfordcountymd.gov/parks_rec/trails.cfm and http://www.ccgov.org/dept_parks/Activities.cfm.

While you are out and about with the children this summer, have a great time, and please remember to follow these summer-related OCC regulations:

Sunscreen

- Be sure to obtain a permission slip for use of sunscreen each year
- Each child must have their own sunscreen, supplied by the parent and labeled with their name.
- Be sure to wash your hands between application of the sunscreen on different children. A child may have a reaction to different brands.

Swimming

- Fill and Dump pools may not be used for child care.
- Use only pools that meet standards approved by the State and Local Health Departments.
- Each child must have written permission to swim for the current swim season.
- There must be 2 approved adults present and supervising whenever children are engaged in swimming activities.
- Be compliant with COMAR 13A.15.08.04 Water Activity Supervision and COMAR 13A.15.10.04 water safety.

Hours of Operation

Monday-Thursday

8:30am-4:30pm

Friday

8:30am-4:00pm

443-512-0461

LOCATE: Child Care

Monday-Friday

8:30am-4:30pm

1-877-261-0060 (for parents)

1-866-752-1614

(24 hour provider message service)

Contact Information

Fax: 443-512-0185

E-Mail: info@hcchildcarelinksinc.org

Address

2105 Laurel Bush Road, Suite 105

Bel Air, MD 21015

Website

Please visit our website at www.hcchildcarelinksinc.org for helpful links to child care resources and useful information. Our training calendar and newsletter are also available online.

MISSION STATEMENT

Child Care Links addresses available, affordable, quality child care issues in Harford and Cecil Counties. Child Care Links is committed to expanding and enhancing the quality of child care in Harford and Cecil Counties by helping parents, child care providers, and the community understand and implement the indicators of quality enabling all children to receive optimum early care and education experiences. Child Care Links is committed to enhancing the quality of the child care delivery system in Harford & Cecil Counties by providing pertinent resources, training, and referrals to families, child care providers, and the community.

CLOSED FOR LUNCH

PLEASE NOTE: CHILD CARE LINKS is closed daily for lunch from 12:00pm to 1:00pm



Technical Assistance News

LOCATE CONTACT INFORMATION

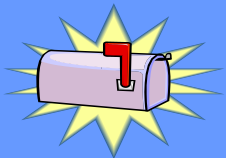
CALL 1-866-752-1614 (24 Hour Hotline)

- * To report changes to fees, telephone number, or e-mail address
- * Report vacancies
- * Request a database questionnaire
- * Leave a question

VISIT www.mdchildcare.org

- * To report vacancies
- * Update fees

MAIL questionnaires back to:
Maryland Family Network,
LOCATE: Child Care
608 Water Street,
Baltimore, MD 21202



QRIS UPDATE



MSDE has decided on the new name to brand the Quality Rating Improvement System (QRIS). Keep your eye out for more information as MSDE unveils MD EXCELS: Excellence in Early Learning and School Age Child Care. A pilot program is beginning this summer.

Look for more information in upcoming newsletters. Also visit http://www.marylandpublicschools.org/MSDE/divisions/child_care/announce to view the proposed draft standards.



**LOOKING FOR HELP?
THEN SEARCH NO FURTHER!
THE HELP YOU NEED IS ONLY
A PHONE CALL AWAY!**

IT'S FREE !!

Do you...

- Need help with marketing your program?
- Want some new and exciting ideas for activities?
- Interested in the Credentialing process?
- Need help improving your learning environment?
- Unsure about how to handle behavioral issues?
- Want some help with creating a daily schedules?
- Need assistance meeting licensing standards?

Call 443-512-0461 and ask for Marge!



Marge Kilczewski
Technical Assistance Coordinator
Mkilczewski@hcchildcarelinksinc.org

Technical Assistance = a Helping Hand

MSDE Office of Child Care Regulation Updates

***Window Coverings:** New law enacted October 1, 2010, Maryland's Angel's Law requires new and replacement coverings in family child care homes and centers; they cannot have any exposed cords or unsecured cords, beads, ropes or strings.

For a free repair kit, call the Window Covering Safety Council at 1-800-506-4636 or visit windowcoverings.org

***Attendance:** For each child enrolled in care, maintain a written record of each day's attendance in care that is verified by the child's parent.

***Child's Records:** Emergency forms for each child currently in care need to be readily accessible, including when taking children away from home and updated. Parental permission statements are required for each child for engaging in a swimming or wading activity, being transported in a vehicle while in care, participate in an off-site activity and participate in an activity conducted by an independent contractor.

***Notifications:** When a provider plans a temporary absence of more than 2 hours, notify the parents of the children in care in advance that a substitute will be caring for the children.

***Training Requirements:** Must have a completed approved training on emergency and disaster planning. If you have more than 2 infants under the age of 2 years old, you must have taken a 3 semester hours or 45 clock hours approved training related to infant/toddlers. Family providers might want to start signing up and taking the Medication Administration course because we hear it will become a requirement soon.

***Cribs:** Beginning **December 28, 2012**, any crib provided by child care facilities and family child care homes must meet new and improved federal safety standards. The new standards take effect for manufacturers, retailers, importers and distributors on **June 28, 2011**, addressing deadly hazards previously seen with traditional drop-side rails, requiring more durable hardware and parts and mandating more rigorous testing. Visit www.cpsc.gov for more information!

***For Centers: Effective July 1, 2011:** Whenever children in care are present, there shall be at least one center employee present who has completed medication administration training approved by the OCC .

Everyone loves a party...

Directors/Staff - Would you rather have a training at your facility right after it closes?

Family Providers - Get the interaction of our on-site trainings with the convenience of online classes!
Or are you just too tired after your children leave to drive to our facility.

Consider a Training Party and have our trainers come to your house or center!

A few of our great classes include:

- Effective Discipline Solutions for the Strong Spirited
- Best Practices - Laws for Child Care Providers
- From Chaos to Calm - Planning for Mixed Age Groups

To schedule a training party,
please call
443-512-0462
We can't wait to come to your place!

New! If you sign up for
a Training Party and
invite 5 or more friends,
you attend **FREE!**

Want to view pictures of our events and fantastic resource room items? Need a reminder of when our classes are? Have a question and it's after hours? You can find us 24/7 on Facebook!



Keep up with our latest info, deals, and events not published on our calendar!

“Like” Child Care Links of Harford and Cecil Counties today!



CALLING ALL DIRECTORS!!!!

Did you know that your local Harford/Cecil Chapter of the Maryland State Child Care Association is a busy, active, professional group meeting monthly throughout the school year right at Child Care Links in Bel Air? We have already begun making lots of exciting plans for the 2011/2012 school year and would like to invite all local child care center directors to come and learn what we are all about!

Our first meeting of the school year is scheduled for Friday, September 16th at 1:00. Membership is just \$20 for the entire year! Additional memberships are available after the first meeting at a fee of \$30 per school. As a member, you will receive several free training hours during our scheduled meetings. You will be well-prepared for new regulations as we keep you up to date on the latest changes coming from the Office of Child Care. Your school will be invited to a specially priced multi-cultural event. You will also have the ability to nominate one of your most motivated employees to receive a prize! There are many opportunities to network and share ideas with directors with lots of years of experience!

Officers for the upcoming school year are as follows:
Dodi Manley and Terri Rhodes (Co-Presidents), Secretary (Terri Rhodes), Treasurer (Lora Pangratz), Cultural Coordinators (Michelle Duley, Anjanette Jacobs, and Joan Elloff), Welcoming Committee (Nancy Miller), Marketing (Alison Tsomas and Consequella Frieswyk) and Newsletter Coordinator (Valeree Imperiale).

To join or to receive more information please contact:

- * **Dodi Manley at (410) 893-5252 or foresthill@kiddieacademy.com**
- * **Terri Rhodes at (410) 399-9678 or ertr2@verizon.net**

It's official! We now have

Online Classes

Our online training courses are designed to help early childhood professionals complete annual training requirements and acquire required training hours for those seeking a Child Development Associate (CDA) credential, CDA credential renewal or in-service training. Our courses provide a variety of engaging topics designed specifically for the early childhood professional. Some of our online classes include:

- **CDA Credential Training (available for family providers and also for center staff)**
- **Credential Renewal Training**
- **8 Hour Child Abuse Awareness**
- **Promoting Nutrition and Physical Activity in Child Care**

Keep checking our website!

New classes will be added soon!





Another Downside to Pools - Swimmers Ear

It's often overlooked in comparison with sunburn and drowning, but there is another thing to worry about when it comes to summer fun –swimmer's ear. This condition is different from an ordinary ear infection. When someone tells you they have an ear infection, it is usually an infection of the middle ear, *otitis media*. What is commonly called swimmer's ear is *otitis externa*, an infection of the outer ear. This doesn't mean the part of your ear that you can see is infected. The outer is considered the ear canal, or passageway to the eardrum. Normally, water washes in and out of the ear canal quickly. However, extended time in the water (swimming) means extended time for water to sit in your ear. Pair that with bacteria in the water (chlorine does not kill all kinds!) and it's a great recipe for this kind of ear infection. Swimmer's ear usually starts out with a mild itch, but tell your child not to scratch! This can create small cuts for the bacteria to get into. This itching then leads to ear pain, the easiest symptom to spot. The pain can be so intense that bumping the outside of your ear can cause extreme discomfort.

So what do you do? Taking your child to the doctor is the best way to combat this. Antibiotic ear drops, and sometimes a pain reliever will have them feeling better in a few days. However, it is important that you keep your child out of the pool for a while. A doctor can give you a more exact number, but normally swimmer's ear will keep someone on dry land for 7 to 10 days. If your child is prone to ear infections, consider purchasing over the counter drops that you can put in after swimming; they will dry up the water in their ears. This little preventative measure can keep kids waterlogged all summer long!

WHY DOES MY SKIN GET WRINKLY IN THE POOL?

Even though you can't see it, everyone's skin is covered in a thin layer of oil, called *sebum* that protects us.

That is why water runs off our hands when we wash them, instead of soaking it up like a sponge. When we're in the water long enough, the sebum is washed away and water gets into skin. Why the excess water makes our skin look wrinkly is unknown. Keep swimming though, it's completely harmless!



SONGS AND FINGERPLAYS



SPARKLERS, SPARKLERS

Tune: The' ABC's

Sparklers, sparklers, everyone
Grab your sparklers,
Let's have fun!
First we'll raise them way up high.
So they brighten up the sky.
Then we'll twirl them 'round and
'round
And watch their lights fall to the
ground.

SWIMMING

I can dive
(move hands flattened together)
I can swim
(Swimming motion)
I can float
(arms out to the sides with head
thrown back)
I can fetch
But dog paddle
(paddle like a dog)
Is the stroke
that I do best

ON THE FIRST DAY OF SUMMER

Tune: "The Twelve Days of Christmas"

On the first day of summer
My mother gave to me,
A tent for our trip to the sea

On the second day of summer
My mother gave to me,
Two summer sandals
And a tent for our trip to the sea

On the third day of summer
My mother gave to me,
Three pairs of sunshades
Two summer sandals,
And a tent for our trip to the sea

Additional Verses:

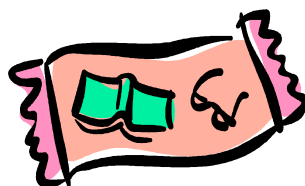
On the fourth day.....four boats for sailing
On the fifth day.....five summer hats
On the sixth day.....six berry bushes
On the seventh day.....seven pails for picking
On the eighth day.....eight cones for licking
On the ninth day.....nine swimming pools
On the tenth day.....ten colored beach balls
On the eleventh day....eleven pretty sea shells
On the twelfth day....twelve cups of lemonade

SHELLS ON THE SEASHORE

Tune: "Down By the Seashore"

Down at the seashore,
Early in the morning.
See the little shells
All along the shore.

See the great big waves
Splashing on the shore.
When they pull back,
They leave some more.



Game - On Target

What You'll Need:

- shopping bags (1 per dart)
- duct tape in 2 colors
- 1/2 cup sand per dart
- cable ties at least 6 inches long (1 per dart)
- scissors
- 2 5 -ft lengths of rope (plastic rope works well)



Instructions:

1. Divide your children into two teams (no more than four per team if possible)
2. Place the rope targets on the ground, approximately 35 feet apart (adjust this according to the age of your children).
3. The two teams each stand next to one target and take turns throwing their darts into the other teams target. (show young children how to throw underhanded)
4. A team get 3 points for each dart inside the target, and 1 point for each dart that is touching the target.
5. The first team to 21 points (or however many points you want) wins!

Parachute Play



A parachute is a great way to play with children in the summer. While there are smaller parachutes that work well if you only have a few children in your care, a larger one can keep as many as 30 children busy at one time. (You also can keep an eye on all of them at the time!) Games are also very easy to play, simply having the kids hold the parachute and make "waves" can keep everybody happy! Children can also take turns sitting in the middle and *gently* be lifted up and down. Here are some games to play with your parachute!

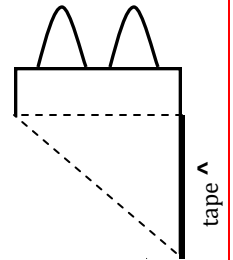
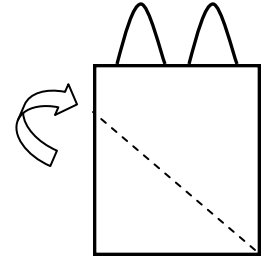
Switch it Up - A few players (or everyone!) runs underneath the parachute and switches places while it is up in the air

You can "pop popcorn" by letting the kids bounce pompoms from the craft store (you can also use crumpled paper) or "make it snow" by letting them bounce cotton balls!

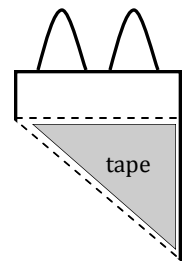
Cat and Mouse - one player (the cat) chases another player (the mouse) underneath the parachute while everybody else makes waves

Sand Bag "Darts":

1. For each dart, lay one shopping bag flat on a table. Fold one bottom corner up to meet one side of the bag and secure it with a strip of duct tape, folding the tape around the seam.

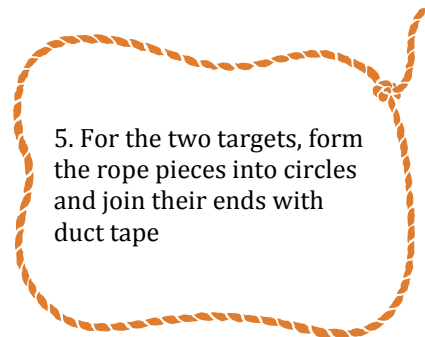


2. Cover the front and back of the triangular section of the bag with additional duct tape



3. Fill the taped section with 1/2 cup of sand. Gather up the bag, twist it, and secure the twist tightly with a cable tie. Trim the tie's end.

4. Trim the bag's top to 4 or 5 inches above the tie. Snip the bag's top into thick fringe, making sure your cuts stop at least a half inch from the tie.



5. For the two targets, form the rope pieces into circles and join their ends with duct tape

RESOURCE ROOM

New to the Resource Room for summer is a cute birthday chart! This chart is smaller than our popular Birthday Train so it takes up less wall space. It is laminated so names and birth dates can be written and removed easily to accommodate the comings and goings of your students. We also are available for special orders! Have an idea of a learning activity, file folder game, wall art, or poster you would like to create but you just don't have the time or energy? Let Christy in the Resource Room know and she can (usually!) create your vision in no time at all!



Resource Room Hours: Monday-Thursday -9:30 am-3:30 pm & Friday - 9:30 am-3:00 pm

*Laminating is available for only \$1.00 per foot. We recommend that you call at least 15 minutes in advance, to allow the machine time to warm up.

**If you purchase any 5 of our terrific posters, matching activities, or file folder games, you will get the 6th one (of equal or lesser value) for free!*

Services Include: laminating, art wax machine, book binding, die cuts, and access resource library.



CCL Welcomes New Providers

Membership Bags are Ready!

Are you a new member to the Child Care Links Family? Please call and stop by Child Care Links to pick up your Membership Bag. You may also opt to have your bag mailed for a small fee; simply give us a call to make arrangements.

Cecil County

Penny Barr
Kelly Schaule
Sharon Davidson

Harford County

Debra Miller
Lori Mcknight
Claudia Carrubba
Jennifer Brady



What Does a Child Care Links Membership Entitle You To?

For the low fee of \$30 you receive:

- ◆ a \$5 coupon to apply towards any Resource Room Activities
 - ◆ A CCL bag, lanyard, pen, and magnet
- ◆ \$5 off of any \$25 or \$20 training
- ◆ Great discounts on First Aid and CPR classes
- ◆ A free resource packet on a variety of topics
 - ◆ Access to the Resource Library
 - ◆ Support from the Resource Center

Providers that are participating in the Credentialing program will receive 1 PAU!

For more information about CCL's membership or to join please call us at 443-512-0461 or fill out the information on the registration form and mail it back to us . We can't wait to have you aboard!



Child Care Links is pleased to be offering:

90 Hour Young Child: Growth and Development and Methods and Materials

**Needed to work as a director or senior staff member at a
childcare facility**



This course is designed to provide the student with an in-depth view of the child. Who they are, what their individual needs are, and what their developmental needs are. This class will involve both in-class sessions and field work. The student will learn how to identify a developmentally appropriate curriculum and activities. They will also learn how to develop lesson plans and the daily operations of a Child Care Center

Cost: \$500 (includes a \$125 non refundable deposit)

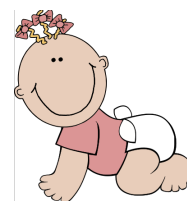
Where: Child Care Links in Bel Air, MD

When: Coming in September

If you're interested, call 443-512-0461



Coming to Child Care Links this fall:



15 Module Infant/ Toddler Series

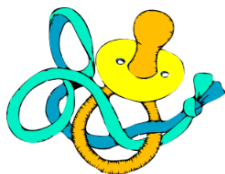
As of Summer 2010, MSDE has approved the Infant/Toddler series, previously offered as single modules. Participants who complete the full series will receive credit for the 45-hour class. Cost of the full 15 module series is \$250 (includes a \$75 non refundable deposit) payable in advance .

You must attend every module during the series in order to receive a 45-hour certificate; Providers can miss no more than 2 sessions in the series, and missed modules must be made-up within three weeks, by way of an alternate training session or completing an assignment based on the module.

For child care center staff, this class serves as half of the 90-clock hour Infant/Toddler Certificate.

For family providers, This class satisfies the 45 clock hours of approved training that must be completed to care for more than 2 infants under 2 years old.

Each evening class meeting is also a single 3-hour module (\$25 per class) in the Infant/Toddler series.



REGISTRATION FORM

Phone-In Registration to 443-512-0462 (Requires a Visa or Master Card payment) Mon. thru Fri. 8:30am to 3:30pm

OR

Mail registration form to: Child Care Links,
2105 Laurel Bush Road, Suite 105, Bel Air MD 21015

Name: _____

Last Name First

Address: _____

City/St./Zip: _____

Email Address: _____

Please circle one:

Family Provider, Child Care Center Director, Child Care Center Staff,
Prospective Provider, Parent, or Other

Work Phone: _____

Home Phone: _____

Center Name: _____

WORKSHOP TITLE:	DATE	COST
1. _____	_____/_____/_____	\$ _____
2. _____	_____/_____/_____	\$ _____
3. _____	_____/_____/_____	\$ _____

TOTAL _____

**Yes, I would like to sign up for membership to Child Care Links
(Please circle if you wish to become a member)**

Your Yearly Membership fee of \$30.00 Provides:

- Support to the Resource Center
- \$5 off any \$20 or \$25 training for 1 year from date of membership
- Discount on First Aid and CPR
- One \$5 coupon for resource room materials
- Child Care Links Bag, Lanyard, Magnet and Pen
- Access to our Resource Library

Free resource packet on a variety of topics

**Payments Accepted are: Visa/Master Card/
Money Order/Center Check /Cash**

NO PERSONAL CHECKS PLEASE

Signature: _____

Account #: _____

Expiration Date: _____

Registration & Participation Policies

PRE-REGISTRATION occurs when we receive your payment and registration form in advance. This means no later than the close of business, two days prior to the workshop.

PLEASE CALL IF YOU NEED DIRECTIONS to

Child Care Links of Harford & Cecil Counties, or any offsite training locations

Or visit our website @ www.hcchildcarelinksinc.org

THOSE ARRIVING TO WORKSHOPS LATE WILL NOT BE ADMITTED. Workshops begin at stated time, so plan to arrive 15 minutes early to sign-in. The **FRONT DOOR** of the Resource Center is **LOCKED** 15 minutes from the start of the workshop session for security of our staff and participants.

CHILD CARE WILL NOT BE PROVIDED DURING THE TRAINING. Children under 12 years will not be permitted to any workshop.

FEES PAID ARE NON-REFUNDABLE. If you **MISS A WORKSHOP WITHOUT CANCELING 24 HOURS IN ADVANCE**, you will not be transferred to another workshop. Workshops may be canceled due to low enrollment; participants may transfer to another workshop. Participants will be contacted by the resource center.

CERTIFICATES for workshops will be issued at the completion of the workshop for all participants pre-registered prior to the workshop. All inquires about certificates should be made to the Training & Registration Office @ 443-512-0462

INCLEMENT WEATHER – The Resource Center follows **Harford and/or Cecil CO. PUBLIC SCHOOLS** inclement weather policy. For workshops held in Harford County, if the public schools are closed, our workshop will be cancelled. For workshops held in Cecil County, if the public schools are closed our workshop will be cancelled. Attempts will be made to reschedule any canceled workshops.



Member agency of the Maryland Child Care
Resource Network with the funding provided by the Maryland State Department of Education



Newsletter Survey:

Please fill out and return to Child Care Links and you could win a FREE \$25 CLASS!

Are you a (circle one please):

Family Child Care Provider

Center Child Care Staff Member:

Owner/Operator

Director

Senior Staff Member

Group leader

Aide

Other:

Parent

Informal Child Care Provider

Community Member

Government

How do you rate your overall experience with the Child Care Links Resource and Referral Center's Newsletter? (circle one)

1	2	3	4	5
Poor	Fair	Good	Very Helpful	Excellent

How long have you received the newsletter? (circle one)

1. Less than one year
2. One to two years
3. Three or more years

4. What features of the newsletter are helpful to you?	1. Strongly disagree	2.	3.	4.	5. Strongly agree
Training calendar					
"Advice" columns/articles					
Technical Assistance Articles					
Other events/announcements					
Special announcements on events in the region (e.g. conferences, etc)					
"News" articles on events, (licensing and other) policies, etc.					

How can we make our Newsletter better ? (please explain)

After completion please fold and stamp and return to Child Care Links or fill it out online at www.hcchildcarelinksinc.org and e-mail it to us at info@hcchildcarelinksinc.org. Thank you for your feedback we appreciate it!