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Prophetstown-Lyndon-
Tampico Dist.#3
Morrison Dist. #6

Kathy Wolf
Erie Dist.#1

Resource Center Coor.
Debbie Klein

**Resource Centers and
Lending Libraries**
Erie Elementary
Prophetstown Elementary
Tampico Elementary
Wallace Education Center
Southside School
Merrill School

Administered By
Whiteside County Regional
Superintendent's Office

Funded By
State Board of Education
Erie Dist. #1
Prophetstown Dist.#3
Sterling Dist.#5
Morrison Dist.#6
East Coloma Dist.#12
Rock Falls Dist.#13
Riverdale Dist.#14
Montmorency Dist.#145

Whiteside County PARENTS AS TEACHERS

1001 West 23rd Street
Sterling, IL 61081

A Whiteside County Regional Office of Education Publication September 2000

Office Phone 625-1495

Library Warm Line 625-6331

Parents As Teachers Lending Library Update

**We have moved our PAT Lending
Library at Wallace Education Center.**

Our new room is located on the second floor in room 18. It is a larger room with big windows and space for parent/child activities.

If the stairs will be a problem for you, please remember that the PAT Library at Merrill School in Rock Falls is on the main floor. You are welcome to visit either library no matter where you live. Check the calendar page for days and times each library will be open in September.

Open-house dates for Wallace are listed on the activity page of this newsletter. Hope to see you all there.

**The PAT Lending Library at Merrill
School to have evening hours this year.**

Several of you asked for evening lending library hours at Merrill School. We will schedule one Thursday evening per month to begin the program year and more later if needed.

Please check the activity page of this newsletter for the open-house dates at Merrill. See you there.

Do you have a neighbor, friend or relative who would like to be a part of Parents As Teachers?

If so, this is the time of year to tell them about PAT. Each fall we have families leave our program because their youngest child is entering kindergarten. This enables the parent educators to enroll new families into the program.

This month you will find a program information page in the back of this newsletter. Please give it to a family you think might like to be enrolled.

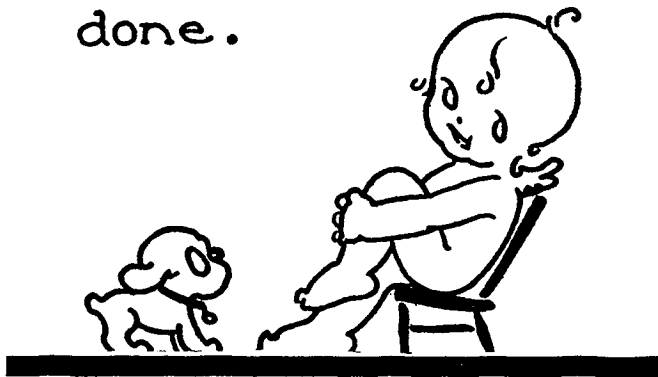
The only requirements for enrollment are that the family lives in Whiteside County and has a child Birth to age 5. We also will enroll a family who is expecting a child within 3 months.

You may refer a family through your parent educator or call Pat at 815/625-1495.



! REGRET !

Through fear of taking
risks in life
I've missed a lot of
Fun —
The only things that
I regret
Are those I haven't
done.



For Parents of Kindergartners

“Remind yourself (and your child when it's time) that you are good at change. You can do this. You've both made big changes since Day One when you started out together. It hasn't always been easy, but in the end you both learned what you had to learn and survived.

“And remember: Your child doesn't have to be 'all done' in September. Kindergarten teachers expect to work for a living.”

Nothing but the Best, Making Day Care Work
for You and Your Child

Diane Lusk and Bruce McPherson
Publisher: Wm. Morrow

Free and Inexpensive Resources for Parents

Building Your Baby's Brain

Are you expecting a child? Are you the parent of an infant, toddler, or preschooler? Do you want to learn what the latest brain research means for your child?

If your answer is “yes,” order this new publication from the U.S. Department of Education. *Building Your Baby's Brain: A Parent's Guide to the First Five Years* is a 43-page booklet for parents filled with hands-on, practical activities to help children learn. New parents will appreciate the tips, games and research background on why these activities are so important.

The book recommends giving your baby the best start in life and a healthy brain, keeping ideas such as these in mind:

- Help your child feel safe and secure by responding to her needs, staying calm, and reassuring him when he is frightened.
- Talk, sing, play music, read and tell stories, and play with your child every day.

The book is derived from the Department of Education's Even Start effort on early brain development entitled *Critical Thinking About Critical Periods*. For a free copy of *Building Your Baby's Brain* in English or Spanish, call 1-877-4-ED-PUBS.

Resale Shop Safety Checklist

When you purchase a crib, high chair, car seat or other baby equipment from a thrift shop, take along this handy safety checklist developed by the U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission.

It's difficult for resale shops to keep up with product recalls or safety standards on all products, and having the checklist can protect you and your family.

For a free copy of the checklist, call the CPSC at 800/638-2772. You can also request a copy by sending a postcard to CPSC, Washington, DC 20207.

What You Can Do to Reduce Violence in Your Community

A booklet on stopping violence in children's lives is available free of charge from the Children's Defense Fund. Highlights include:

- Ten Steps to Stop Violence in America.
- Myths and Realities about Guns.
- Resources for After-School Programming, Conflict Resolution, Violence Prevention, School Safety, Gun and Media Violence.

To receive the free booklets, call 1-800-CDF-1200 and leave your name, address, and phone number in Message Box 4. Brochures are available on a first come-first served basis.

September Parent/Child Activities

Join us for the re-opening of these
lending libraries and resource centers

PAT Library Open House

Date: Tuesday, September 12

Time: 7 - 8 p.m.

Place: PAT Lending Library
Room 1

Merrill School, **Rock Falls**

The PAT Lending Library will be open at this time in conjunction with the Merrill School Open House for students and parents.

Browse through the room, try one of the parent/child activities and enjoy a snack.

Hosted by Dawn and Sandy

PAT Library Open House

Date: Wednesday, September 20

Time: 10 a.m. - noon

Place: PAT Lending Library
Room 1

Merrill School, **Rock Falls**

Join us for the re-opening of our lending library.

Explore the room and check out a toy and book to take home and enjoy with your child. Enjoy the parent/child activities we have planned and have a snack.

Hosted by Debbie

Hands-on Decorating

Date: Monday, September 18

Time: 10 a.m. - noon

Place: PAT Lending Library
Room 18 - Second Floor

Wallace Ed. Cntr, **Sterling**

We have moved our toy lending library at Wallace to a bigger and brighter room.

Enjoy the parent/child activities we have planned including a chance to help us decorate the room using your child's handprint.

You may also check out a toy and book to take home and enjoy with your children.

Hosted by Debbie and Sue

An Apple Fest

Date: Wednesday, September 20

Time: 3:30 - 5:30 p.m.

Place: PAT Lending Library
Room 18 - Second Floor

Wallace Ed. Cntr, **Sterling**

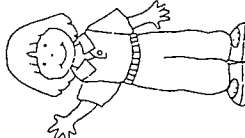
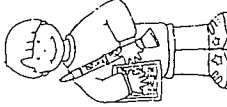
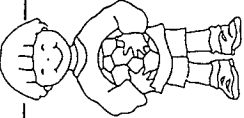
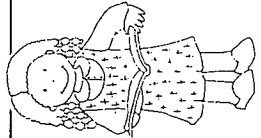
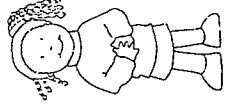
We have moved our toy lending library at Wallace to a bigger and brighter room.

Enjoy the parent/child activities we have planned including making a bookworm buddy, and painting with apples.

You may also check out a toy and book to take home and enjoy with your children.

Hosted by Janie and Mary

September Lending Library Hours

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<p><u>Erie</u> The toy lending library is located in the learning center. Please ask Kathy about the re-opening date and hours of operation.</p>	<p><u>Morrison</u> A toy lending library is available in Morrison. Please ask Laura about its location and when you may use it.</p>	<p><u>Prophetstown</u> The toy lending library is located in the Pre-school Room. You may use it any school day before or after classes or when you attend an activity.</p>	<p><u>Tampico</u> The toy lending library is located in the Pre-school Room. You may use it any school day before or after classes or when you attend an activity.</p>			
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
	LABOR DAY					
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
						
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
	Wallace library/center 10 a.m. - noon/Debbie	Merrill library/center 10 a.m. - noon/Linda	Merrill library/center 10 a.m. - noon/Debbie Wallace library/center 3:30-5:30 p.m./Janie	Wallace library/center 10 a.m. - noon/Sue		
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
	Wallace library/center 10 a.m. - noon/Debbie	Merrill library/center 10 a.m. - noon/Sandy	Merrill library/center 10 a.m. - noon/Debbie	Wallace library/center 10 a.m. - noon/Mary Merrill library/center 4-6 p.m./Dawn		

WHITESIDE COUNTY PARENTS AS TEACHERS

A Parent Education and Support Program for Families with Children Birth through Age 5

Parents As Teachers: Starting Early at Home Enhances Future Learning

Parents are their children's first and most influential teachers. This is the essence of Parents As Teachers (PAT), a voluntary program created to support and assist parents in this very important role at a crucial stage of their child's development, prenatal to age 5. Though children are born to learn, they don't come with a set of directions. Parents As Teachers provides research-based information on how children grow and develop and how parents can foster learning and nurture development.

Babies are Born to Learn

In their earliest years, children learn more and at a faster pace than at any other time in their lives. And from the beginning, all parents are teachers. Learn how to make the most of these crucial early learning years, giving your child the best possible start in life.

Why the Whiteside County Regional Superintendent of Schools offers this program.

Because the way a child grows and learns, beginning at birth, has an enormous impact on later success in school and life.

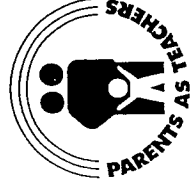
Parents who feel confident as their child's first and most important teacher will be giving their children the security and encouragement they need to become curious, eager learners and independent, capable persons.

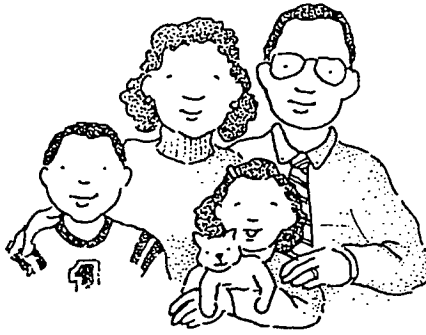
Parents As Teachers is a voluntary program available without charge to all Whiteside County families with children birth through age 5.

For more information about Parents As Teachers, contact Pat Rhodes at 815/625-1495.

Services Available Without Charge to Whiteside County Families.

- Personalized home visits by a certified parent educator specially trained in child development.
- Group meetings and parent/child activities where you can share parenting experiences, gain new insights, and talk about topics that interest you.
- Information and guidance, beginning even before your baby is born, on preparing for your baby, home safety, what to look for as your child develops, effective discipline, and more.
- Lending libraries where you may borrow toys and books for use at home with your children.
- Periodic screening of children to follow growth and development.
- A monthly newsletter.





Children benefit from a parent/child relationship
that is verbally rich and emotionally supportive.

Gary J. Steinert
Regional Supt. of Schools
1001 West 23rd Street
Sterling, IL 61081

Nonprofit Organization
U.S. Postage
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