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**Resource Center
Staff**
Carmella McNeill
Merrill School
Wallace Education Center

**Resource Centers and
Lending Libraries**
Merrill School
Wallace Education Center
Dillon 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

Office Phone 815/625-1495
Library Warm Line 815/625-6331

A Whiteside County Regional Office of Education Publication

March 2008

Preschool Screening

All Whiteside County school districts have prekindergarten programs funded by the Illinois State Board of Education. If you would like your child to be considered for placement in a class next fall, he/she must attend the screening offered by your district. Below is a list of screening dates for February and March. This is an opportunity for you to find out how your child is progressing in his/her development.

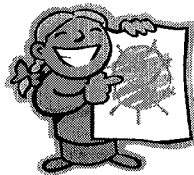
March screening dates:

Prophetstown - March 14

Call Prophetstown Elementary at 815/537-2345 to schedule a screening for your child.

Tampico Elementary - March 14

Call the school at 815/438-2255 to schedule a screening appointment for your child.



April screening dates:

Erie - April 4, 11

Call Erie Elementary at 309/659-2239 to schedule an appointment.

Sterling - April 9, 11

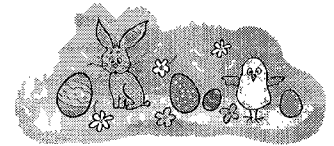
Call Wallace Education Center at 815/625-3000 to schedule an appointment.

Rock Falls - April 28, 29, 30, May 1

Call Dillon Elementary at 815/625-3356 to schedule an appointment.

Severe Weather

This winter we have had an unusual amount of snowy weather. Please remember that when the schools are closed due to bad weather, all Parents As Teachers activities will be cancelled, and the toy lending libraries will be closed. If you have any questions about any of our scheduled activities, please call your parent educator at home or Lois at 815/625-1495.



Simple Ways

You Can Help Your Children Learn

You can help your children learn by playing together at home and by:

- * Reading to them every day, talking about books with them, and reading familiar words to them such as the labels on their favorite foods.
- * Talking with them, answering questions, and playing memory and guessing games like "I Spy..."
- * Helping them to match and sort things (for example, pairing up socks, sorting out big cans and little cans of food, putting packages in order of size).
- * Encouraging them to listen to music, songs, stories, and rhymes.
- * Encouraging them to express their ideas and feelings with crayons, pens, paint, music, and play.
- * Giving them the chance to use their fingers and hands by building with blocks, cutting with scissors, helping with baking, and fastening zippers and buttons.

April 5, 2008

9 a.m.—1 p.m.

★

Child Fair

★ 2008 ★



*Sauk Valley Community College
Dixon, Illinois*

Book Bee Sign in 8:30—9:00 a.m. Location: Room 2K2
Read books, answer questions, win prizes, have a blast! The Book Bee is sponsored by the public libraries in the Sauk Valley. The recommended reading list has been distributed to the schools and libraries.
Pre-Registration for this event is required contact Anita Elgin at the Sterling Public Library at (815) 625-1370.

IL CHIP Program All Day Gymnasium
Sponsored by CGH Medical Center and KSB Hospital, this year we are stepping up our efforts to protect your children by bringing the IL CHIP Program to Child Fair. The IL CHIP Program is a program through the Masons of Illinois that is free of charge and takes your child's Photo, DNA sample, fingerprints, and a recorded interview and puts them on a CD for you to take home. The IL CHIP Program only keeps the parental permission forms on file, you the parent will keep the CD with the data collected. More information on this program can be found at www.ilchip.org

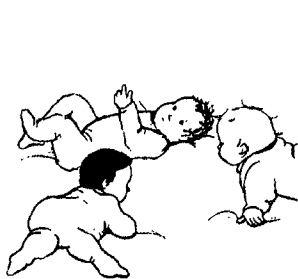
Entertainment All Day Throughout
Along with our vendors and the fun they provide we will again have Area Emergency Personal with their vehicles for your child to explore, bounce houses in the gymnasium to enjoy, and the following entertainment line up in the theater: 9:30 a.m. Magic with Jeremy The Amazer, 10:30 a.m. Dance Performance by !Ay, Jalisco!, 11:30 a.m. Performance by Sauk Valley Community College Actors, and at 12:30 p.m. Music & Movement by Gary Johnson. We hope that you will join us this year for some:

Free Family Fun

Friendship Through the Ages

HANDS
on
HELP
for
Parents

Just as other parts of a child's development show consistent patterns, so does the development of friendships. Developing friendships is like climbing a ladder; it is one step at a time.



Step One: Birth to 18 months

Friends at this stage are not "friends" as much as they play side by side. Babies may enjoy looking at one another, smile and coo at one another. They may even imitate each others' sounds and gestures, but real friendship is yet to come. Being around other babies is a good start, but never leave them alone. At this age, a child doesn't know that he may be hurting another baby.



Step Two: 18 months to 3 years

Toddlers are known for "parallel play." This is when toddlers play next to one another, but not with one another. They are beginning to notice another child's needs, choices, and reactions. Some cooperative games can start at this age, like rolling a ball back and forth. This is the beginning of friendship.



Step Three: 3 to 6 years

Kids now are learning which playmates are the most fun. They are aware that they like some kids more than others. By age 5, they understand how another person feels and can understand that their own needs can't always come first. This is an important stage; lifelong social skills are starting to develop.



Step Four: 6 to 9 years

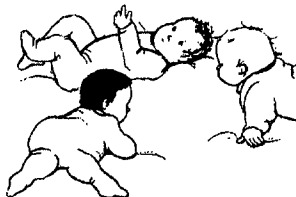
"Real" friendships start to develop as kids realize that friends are about more than just fun. A friend will stick with you through thick and thin, laugh even when your joke is not so funny, not laugh when you're hurt, and share ideas. Kids now seek out friends with common interests.

Parents as Teachers
national center
The home of **Meld**

La Amistad a través de los Años

AYUDA
PRACTICA
para
Padres

Así como otras partes del desarrollo del niño muestran patrones consistentes, así también el desarrollo de la amistad. El desarrollo de la amistad es como subir una escalera, un paso a la vez.



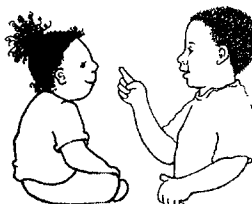
Paso número uno: Del nacimiento a los 18 meses

Los amigos a esta edad no son "amigos" solo otros bebés en el mismo lugar. Los bebés disfrutan al mirarse uno al otro. Sonríen y balbucean entre sí, también se imitan los sonidos y gestos, pero una amistad real todavía falta por venir. El estar alrededor de otros bebés es un buen comienzo, pero nunca los dejes solos. A esta edad, un niño no sabe que está bien el picarle el ojo a un oso de peluche, pero no al ojo de otro bebé.



Paso número dos: De los 18 meses a 3 años

Es cuando los infantes juegan uno cerca a otro, pero no el uno con el otro. Esto se llama "juego paralelo". Empiezan a notar las necesidades, elecciones y reacciones de otros bebés. Algunos juegos cooperativos podrían empezar a esta edad, como pasarse la pelota el uno al otro. Este es el principio de una amistad.



Paso número tres: De tres años a seis años

A esta edad están aprendiendo cuáles compañeros son más divertidos. Ellos empiezan a notar que unos niños les caen mejor que otros. A la edad de 5 años, entienden como se siente otra persona y comienzan a dar y recibir, entienden que sus propias necesidades, no siempre vienen primero. Esta es una etapa importante; los conocimientos sociales para la vida están empezando a desarrollarse.



Paso número Cuatro: De seis a nueve años

Una amistad real empieza a desarrollarse, es cuando el niño se da cuenta que los amigos no son únicamente para divertirse. Un amigo siempre estará contigo, se ríe aunque tu chiste no sea gracioso, no se ríe cuando te lastimas, comparte ideas y más. Los niños ahora buscan amigos con los mismos gustos.

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March Parent and Child Activities

For all Parents As Teachers and Pre-Kindergarten Families

Game Night

Date: Wednesday, March 5
Time: 6:00 - 7:00 p.m.
Place: Tampico Elementary Gym

Come test your level of skill at a variety of indoor games such as ring toss, bean bags, hula-hoops, and more.

Hosted by Laura McCullough and the Tampico Pre-Kindergarten Program.

The Great Vegetable War

Date: Tuesday, March 11
Time: 9:00 - 10:00 a.m.
Place: Wallace School, Adult education classroom, Room 19A (2nd floor), Sterling

Do your children fight you over every bite of fruit and vegetables? Sue Khuntangta and Nancy Vock from WIC will discuss adding fruits and vegetables to your child's diet without the battle.

There will be no child care for this meeting, and the room is small, so please make other arrangements for your children during this hour.

Hosted by Deb Jacobs and the Family Literacy Program.

La Gran Guerra de Vegetales

Fecha: 11 de Marzo, el Martes
Hora: 9:00 - 10:00 por la mañana
Lugar: la escuela Wallace, Sterling, el Segundo piso en el salón de Theresa Hooper

¿Pelean Uds. con los niños de cada bocada de fruta y vegetales? Sue Khuntangta y Nancy Vock del WIC discutirán añadiendo las frutas y los vegetales a la dieta de sus hijos sin la batalla.

Lo siento, si no estás en esta clase de Theresa normalmente en este día y hora, no hay cuidadores para los niños. Por favor, haga otros planes para ellos durante esta hora.

Anfitrionas: Devorah Jacobs y Clase Familiar

Let's Play in the Gym

Date: Tuesday, March 11
Time: 6:00 - 7:00 p.m.
Place: East Coloma School Gymnasium

Come join us for an hour of running and playing in the gym. Dance to music and have an ice cream treat! See you there!

Hosted by Linda Berentes and Sandy Davis.

"Once Upon a Time": A Storytelling Mini-Festival

Date: Tuesday, March 11
Time: 6:00 - 7:00 p.m.
Place: Erie Early Childhood Annex

This will be an exciting evening for listening to storytellers as they bring some of our favorite stories to life!

Hosted by Kathy Wolf and the Erie Prekindergarten Program.

Lapsit: Night

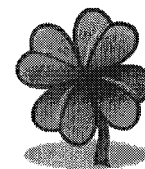
Date: Thursday, March 13
Time: 10:00 - 10:30 a.m.
Place: Rock Falls Public Library
1007 Seventh Avenue

Lapsit is a playtime designed especially for parents and children ages 1 - 3. You and your toddler will enjoy songs, finger plays, a simple activity, and time to share books.

Sponsored by the Rock Falls Public Library.

Leprechaun Day at the Library

Date: Monday, March 17
Time: 9:30 - 10:30 a.m.
Place: Sterling Public Library



A leprechaun visited the library and left behind a trail of goodies. Come collect his treasures and learn about the different parts of the library. A tasty reward goes to all who successfully find the treasures.

Hosted by Sue Austin, Carmella McNeill, and Mary Etnyre.

"M" is for M-M-M- Good!

Date: Wednesday, March 19
Time: 9:00 - 10:00 a.m.
Place: Morrison Northside Pre-Kindergarten Room

It's National Nutrition Month, and we are going to celebrate by trying a variety of snacks using our five senses.

Hosted by Laura McCullough and the Morrison Pre-Kindergarten Program.

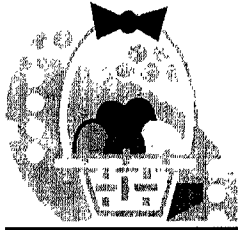
Story Night at the Library

Date: Tuesday, March 25
Time: 6:30 - 7:30 p.m.
Place: Erie Public Library



This story night will include *Who Took the Cookie from the Cookie Jar?* and other mystery stories. Come for some mystery solving, cookie eating, and craft making.

Hosted by Kathy Wolf and the Erie Public Library.





March 2008

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						1
2	3	4 <i>Merrill Library 9:30 - 11:30 Dillon Library (Checkout only) 10:30 - 12:00</i>	5	6	7 <i>Wallace Library 9:30 - 10:30 Wallace Gym 10:30 - 11:30</i>	8
9	10	11 <i>Merrill Library 9:30 - 11:30 Dillon Library (Checkout only) 10:30 - 12:00</i>	12	13	14 <i>Wallace Library 9:30 - 10:30 Wallace Gym 10:30 - 11:30</i>	15
16	17	18 <i>Merrill Library 9:30 - 11:30 Dillon Library (Checkout only) 10:30 - 12:00</i>	19	20	21 <i>Library Closed for Spring Break</i>	22
23 	24	25 <i>Library Closed for Spring Break</i>	26	27	28 <i>Library Closed for Spring Break</i>	29
30	31					

This Is the Way We Wash Our Hands

Children have to be reminded to wash their hands. This is a way to turn the reminder into fun:



1. Have your child trace around his or her hand on a piece of paper or cardboard.
2. Cut a small slice of soap from a large soap bar or use a small or sample sized bar of soap.
3. Glue the soap onto the paper hand.
4. Hang the poster in the bathroom over the sink to remind your child about handwashing.

— *from Helping Your Child Be Healthy and Fit,
the U.S. Department of Education*

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