

Rockland Child Care News

May-August 2018

Congratulations to the 2018 Children's Champions

Over 180 people attended the 26th Annual Children's Champions Awards Celebration, on April 26, 2018, at the Nyack Seaport. As in past years, we had the pleasure of recognizing those people in our community who take a strong stand for children. This year's awardees have dedicated many years to making positive imprints on the young children and families in Rockland County and it was our privilege to honor them.

Warmest thanks to the Selection Committee: Phyllis Morena, Tom Zugibe, Jerry Staller, Ellen Mitchell, and Elaine Trotta. To request a 2019 nomination form, please contact Elaine: 845.425.0009, x421, elainet@rocklandchildcare.org.



Honorees pictured left to right.

NANUET FAMILY RESOURCE
CENTER AND SCHOOL DISTRICT
Dr. Mark McNeil and Rose Ann
Mercado—Dynamic Group Award

SABRINA PERYKASZ
Champion in the Trenches Award

KENNETH ZEBROWSKI
It Takes a Community Award

KATHLEEN CALANDRELLA Rookie of the Year Award

BARBARA GAVIN
The Phyllis Helbraun Award

HAPPY RETIREMENT, KATHLEEN SWEENEY!

I am like the guest who never knows when to leave the party. In 1978, I agreed to be the interim director for Children of Mary Nursery for one year. Who knew we would be celebrating my retirement in 2017?

To say that I loved my job would be an understatement. Being with children helps one to see the world with different eyes. There is interest and excitement about life when you are 3, 4, or 5 years old.

There is always something to do at an early childhood center. The needs of the children are primary. Consideration of the families and staff members, is most important, too. During my long tenure, we grew

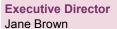


from one to six classes. We added a kindergarten and joined the UPK endeavor. It was with great joy that I watched so many children progress through our program. They left prepared to be successful at the "big school."



Retirement has been an adjustment as is any life changing event. Now I have the time to explore new interests, which is fun. Two of my children live in the south; my other three live within an hour of Rockland. I have family and friends in Puerto Rico, Florida, New England, and South Carolina. Yes, you guessed it; traveling to visit my loved ones has become my favorite retirement activity.

Mention must be made concerning Child Care Resources of Rockland, Inc. Without the help and support of the staff at CCRR, my job would have been much more difficult. Thank you, CCRR, for all that you do to help everyone in the early childhood population.



Board President

Christopher Jensen

Executive Committee

Steve Fromson John Gregory Donna Perreca Phyllis Tucker

Directors

Christine Cahill Vicki Caramante Kathleen Cuneo Vickie Frelow Jan Jason John Lagana Anne Nissen Scott Salotto Nycole Smith Ira Steinberg Ann Taylor

Mission Statement

Our mission is to promote, support and enhance the healthy development of all children by:

Providing resource and referral services for families seeking accessible, affordable, quality early childhood and school age care and education;

Offering training, support and resources to the early care and education workforce as well as public and private schools;

Connecting with business leaders and public officials to emphasize the value of quality child care to the economic vitality of Rockland County;

Advocating for increased investment in quality child care and education;

Collaborating with strategic partners to enhance our collective abilities to address the needs of the community now and in the future.

A Warm Welcome to all New and Renewed Licensed/Registered Child Care Programs

FAMILY CHILD CARE PROGRAMS Charms Day Care Evelyn Ortiz

CHILD CARE CENTERS

Learning Ladder Child Care Center, Inc. Liberty Learning Tree Dignity Services, Inc. Smart N Academy, LLC. Smarty Pants Daycare Tender Loving Kids Club, LLC

GROUP FAMILY CHILD CARE PROGRAMS
Bright Beginnings
Gan Shirly
Rivka Kaufman
Kinderhouse, Inc.
My Tiny World Daycare
Rising Stars of Orangeburg, Inc.
The Playce of Play, Inc.

A fond farewell....

After nine years with CCRR, Fia Hill Murray, Program Standards and Support Coordinator, retired in April. We are grateful for her dedicated service and will miss her dearly.

Congratulations to...

Priscilla Blanco has stepped into the role of Program Standards and Support Coordinator

A warm welcome....

Haiana Doro recently joined our staff as Standards and Support Specialist. She brings a wealth of experience from the child care field and we are very pleased that she has joined us.

MEMBERSHIP NEWS

THANK YOU TO THE FAMILY AND GROUP FAMILY CHILD CARE PROVIDERS, CENTER-BASED PROGRAMS, SCHOOL AGE CARE PROGRAMS, AND COMMUNITY MEMBERS WHO PAID MEMBERSHIP BETWEEN NOVEMBER 16, 2017 AND APRIL 3, 2018.

Soussan Bassam Mayra Carpio Johely Cruz Rosa Garcia Celeste Hernando John Lagana Geraldine Maguire Yudelka Mejia

Wanda Mitchell

Danielle Montalvo Noella O'Leary Scott Salotto Carol Slattery Ira Steinberg Edith Vasquez Haverstraw Day Care, Inc.
Little Scholars Daycare Provider, Inc.
Kindercare
Peace Through Play Nursery School
Salvation Army
St. Catherine Early Education Program
Teacher Mommy
The Fred Keller School

Tiny Scholars

Yeshiva Ohr Reuven

Child Care Resources of Rockland, Inc. is a contract agency of the County of Rockland, NYS Office of Children and Family Services, NYS Department of Health, the NYS Education Department and the United Way of Rockland County. Additional funding for Special Needs Services is provided by the Office for People With Developmental Disabilities. We are also supported by Rockland Community College and by our members. Child Care Resources of Rockland, Inc. is Best Practices/Quality Assurance Certified by Child Care Aware of America demonstrating the competence in the field of Child Care Resource and Referral in New York State.



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I See in the News...

Labor Laws and Child Care...

Parents and staff are asking if we would be safe if there were to be an active shooter situation in or around our program.

What do I tell them?

We have heard your concerns and understand you wanting to keep the children safe. Please know that we are in the process of researching and putting together training that will address the physical, social and emotional safety of the children, parents and staff. Our hope is to have something available in the spring that will be useful and sensible.

If I employ staff must I pay for their training?

Yes, and in addition you must also compensate them for the time they spend in all training sessions regardless if it is face to face, a conference or online. Training is a requirement of the job and therefore must be paid for by the organization or provider for group family

child care. Training time is considered work time, so be careful staff do not exceed the 40 hour work week or you will need to compensate them for overtime. Finally, remember this expense when you are figuring your cost of care and advocating for child care. The general public needs to know this is a profession and quality child care comes with a cost.

Promoting An Acceptance of Diversity

We are beginning Year 2 of a Rockland County funded project: *Promoting an Acceptance of Diversity*, providing intensive technical assistance, training and materials to participating sites.

Below is a thank you card our trainer David Del Campo received from the children at Playgarden, one of our Year 1 sites. The children enjoyed a lesson about braille and sign language. Look closely and you will see *Thank You David* written in braille next to each letter.

QUOTES FROM PLAYGARTEN STAFF:

Thank you for all the insightful ideas. The class loved it!

What a great time we all had! The children learned so much as a result, as did !!

Emmols. ANALPA JPDI DO LUCIANO (HOE KOD)

ANDREW Jacob KOD)

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OUR THANKS TO ROCKLAND COUNTY FOR SUPPORT OF THIS PROJECT!

January–April 2018 Page 4

Nurse's Notes:

Of Lice and Men – Myths, Tall Tales, and *Most Importantly*: The Facts

You find a child scratching their head throughout the day and you take a look at their head. The yuck factor immediately intensifies when you notice a bug crawling around the scalp. You immediately contact the parents to pick up their child and you also let them know that the child cannot return until a health care provider clears them to return back to care with a note. Is this proper exclusion/inclusion criterion? Let us test your lice IQ!

Answer true or false to the statements below:

1. Lice are dirty and spread disease

FALSE: Lice DO NOT spread disease! However, they are a nuisance!



FALSE: This is NOT a proven technique as many times, nits and bugs are still left behind. This is also a drastic measure when there are many treatment options that are not as drastic.



FALSE: Head lice are ONLY spread by direct head to head contact. Lice DO NOT fly, jump, and/or hop. They crawl!

4. Lice only like hair that is not washed and people who have poor hygiene

FALSE: Lice are an equal opportunity parasite. In order to stay alive, they need a human host as they feed on human blood. This is what they are attracted to and not unwashed hair or dandruff.

5. The only way to successfully treat head lice is by my health care provider

FALSE: Head lice can be treated with over the counter products at home.

6. A child must be excluded immediately from care when lice is suspected

FALSE: The American Academy of Pediatrics as well as OCFS have determined that a child suspected of having lice does NOT need to be excluded from care until the end of day. Once the child has received one head lice treatment, s/he may return back to care.

7. The child can return back to care once there are no nits present in their hair

FALSE: The American Academy of Pediatrics and current research shows that "no-nit" policies do not decrease the number of head lice. What they do increase is the risk of misdiagnosis of head lice, the number of days children miss child care, upset parent(s)/guardian(s), and the negative stigma that is attached to head lice.

If you have any questions/concerns regarding head lice or an outbreak in your child care, please feel free to contact Kristin G. Saunders, RN, BSN at (845) 425-0009 x493 or kristins@rocklandchildcare.org.



Imagination and Collaboration at Work in a Pre-K Class

In my Universal Pre-K class at Preschool Playhouse Funland, my students displayed a great interest in bridges. I read several books on bridges and showed a variety of real life pictures of bridges from different parts of the world. For an activity during center time, I divided the students into four separate groups. Each group took on the task of building a bridge, which a toy car would then drive



over. After all the groups were finished building, each group had the opportunity to show everyone their bridge. Each group demonstrated how their bridge worked. One student from the group was the presenter. The presenter drove the matchbox car over their bridge

giving the students a clearer image of how it worked. All four groups also created a special name for their bridge. This activity encouraged all of the students to work collaboratively, while also inspiring them to use their imaginations and have fun as well.

—Submitted by Ariel Paz



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Community Supported

Literacy! Thank you to all those in our community who donated books to the *B&N Nanuet Holiday Book Drive* in support of Child Care Resources of Rockland's Tales for Tots program.

Six hundred books were delivered to the East Ramapo Early Childhood Center. All the children received one book to bring home and some were saved for future, incoming students.





CONGRATULATIONS!

CCRR'S KAREN ROSS,
RETIRED NAVAL CHIEF PETTY
OFFICER, WAS HONORED FOR
HER SERVICE ON APRIL 11,
DURING A CEREMONY BY
COUNTY EXECUTIVE ED DAY
AND THE COUNTY'S
VETERANS SERVICE
AGENCY ACTING DIRECTOR
SUSAN BRANAM



ROCKLAND FREEDOM AWARD

Congratulations!

Child Care Professionals who recently received their CDA

Ashley Correa
Luann Dinino
Nadine Dominguez
Melissa Gilles
Hanan Ireifej
Marie Jean-Baptiste
Tenea Serrano
Nathalee Williams



LEARN HOW YOU CAN GROW PROFESSIONALLY!

Ellen Mitchell: <u>ellenm@rocklandchildcare.org</u> 845-425-0009, x456



You're invited to Our Annual Meeting

PLEASE JOIN THE DISCUSSION

Friday, June 1, 2018 | 8:30-10:30 am Rockland Community College Ellipse Room, Technology Center

Please join business leaders, educators and our county elected officials in an important, thought-provoking discussion about the needs of children, families, and educators in our community.

RSVP by May 31: info@rocklandchildcare.org 845-425-0009, x0

SPONSORED BY ASSEMBLY MEMBER ELLEN JAFFEE



Meet our Board of Directors. We are grateful to all 16 dedicated Board members; you will be introduced to eight of them in this issue.



KATHLEEN CUNEO, Ph.D.

Dr. Cuneo is a psychologist with a private practice in Nanuet. She provides psychological services to children, adolescents, and adults and also offers career counseling services to help young people and adults find meaningful direction for their career paths. Dr. Cuneo has always been interested in helping young children develop to achieve their potential while also helping their parents learn how to raise healthy families. Dr. Cuneo has always believed in CCRR's mission to promote, support, and enhance the healthy development of all children.



STEPHEN M. FROMSON, ESQ.

Steve is a lifelong resident of Rockland County and has been a practicing attorney for more than 40 years where he has represented local school districts. Steve has been involved with Universal Pre-Kindergarten from its inception in 1998 and, working closely with Jane Brown, they created the legal and operational framework for the program here in the county. His awareness of the work done by CCRR is what brought him to the Board of Directors.



JAN JASON

Having worked with many community organizations during her years at the Department of Social Services, Jan knew that when she retired she would want to continue her involvement with professional, productive agencies that provide essential services to Rockland County children and families. She was honored to be elected to CCRR's Board of Directors last May since she was very familiar with its commitment to promote, support and enhance the healthy development of all children. Since joining the Board, Jan has been particularly impressed by the knowledge and dedication of CCRR staff members. She looks forward to sharing her experience and skills, working with Board and CCRR team for the continued advancement of CCRR's mission and toward achieving its goals.

Continued on next page.







ANNE NISSEN

Anne is a freelance copyeditor/proofreader, as well as a proud resident of Sloatsburg and fan of the Ramapo Mountains. She is also a volunteer visitor for the informal Orange County Detention Visitation Network. Anne always wants to know: *Is it good for families and children, and does it leave anyone out?* She thanks the members of the board of Rockland 21st Century Collaborative for Children and Youth, especially members of its Executive Committee (including Jane Brown), for inspiration and support during her decade working there with Family Resource Centers and on early literacy.



DONNA PERRECA

Donna joined the CCRR Board because she wanted to continue their good work. She has been involved with agency for over 30 years. She has watched it grow and struggle and wanted to be a part of the work the agency provides in the field. Donna has been an early childhood professional since 1975 and has worked in several programs in Rockland. With over 40 years of experience in the early childhood education field, Donna has seen much of the good work done by CCRR and wanted to join the Board in order to help support the agency's important programs and ensure its vital services are available to the community.



NYCOLE SMITH

Nycole Smith is an Assistant Principal in the New York City Department of Education where she has educated children and supported teachers for 18 years. In addition to serving on the CCRR Board, Nycole is also a proud member of the Rockland/Orange Chapter of Jack and Jill of America, Inc., where she serves as the Education Chair and Historian. Nycole is a member of Phi Delta Kappa International, and a lifelong learner dedicated to nurturing, educating and empowering children.

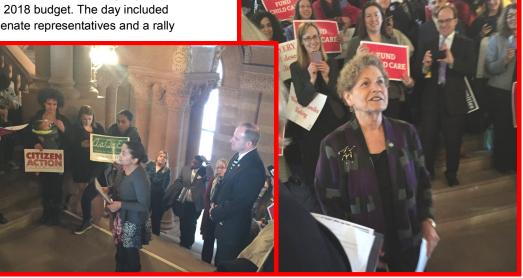
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Advocating for Our Children

On February 6, 2018, Child Care Resources of Rockland joined with over 200 early childhood education advocates in Albany for Early Childhood Advocacy Day. Advocates have been working together to ensure adequate investment in the 2018 budget. The day included meetings with our Assembly and Senate representatives and a rally

to call on the Governor and State Legislature to invest in high quality early care and education.

CCRR Program Standards and Support Coordinator, Priscilla Blanco (left), and Assembly Member Ellen Jaffee (right) at the rally on the State Capitol's Great Western Staircase, also known as the Million Dollar Staircase.



PROTECTIVE FACTORS FOR YOUNG CHILDREN THE ENORMOUS NEED FOR RESOURCES

Highlights of the Rockland Children's Advocacy Network's top six priorities for 2018 were presented by an impressive lineup of experts at the March 2nd Children's Legislative Forum.

1. Pre and Perinatal Mood Disorders

Lower Hudson Valley Perinatal Network: 914-922-2240 Nyack Hospital's Prénatal Center: 845-348-2550

2. Early Intervention

Rockland County Department of Health: 845-364-2032

3. Parent-Child Home Program

Rockland 21st Century Collaborative for Children

and Youth: 845-627-5437

4. Child Care and Prekindergarten Child Care Resources of Rockland: 845-425-0009

5. Parent Child Interactive Therapy Rockland County Department of Mental Health: 845-364-2275

6. Partnership for Safe Youth BOCES: 845-405-4180

Thank you Assembly Member Ellen Jaffee for sponsoring this event! Our thanks also extend to The Fleming/Fleur Fund and Rockland Community College.



Andre Eaton, Regional Coordinator, NYS Parent-Child Home Program



CELEBRATING THE BIG WIN!

The 2018-19 NYS budget includes more than \$100 million in new investment in child care, with an additional \$7 million added to state funds, and an estimated \$106 million from new federal Child Care and Development Block Grant (CCDBG) funds. The new federal dollars represent the largest increase in child care funding in history.

Congresswoman Nita Lowey (r) is pictured above with CCRR's Elaine Trotta at a press conference and celebration hosted by the Ossining Children's Center.

Breastfeeding Welcome Here!

Priscilla Blanco, Program Standards and Support Coordinator

In January and February 2018, ten NYS OCFS licensed programs received their Breastfeeding Friendly designation and had each held celebrations. During the first year of the *Creating Breastfeeding Friendly Communities* grant, CACFP participants (providers/directors) located in Ramapo and Clarkstown completed child care pre- and post-assessment tools, developed a breastfeeding policy for staff and families, engaged in several hours of technical assistance to create a breastfeeding space, and received materials to educate, promote and encourage breastfeeding among families and program staff.

Some of the mothers who attended the celebrations joined together to discuss the challenges and triumphs of motherhood, parenting and breastfeeding—and all shared their personal stories with CCRR staff. It was an enjoyable experience for all and every mother left with a tote bag of informational materials on breastfeeding.



Kiddie Kingdom: Aviva Weimer, Kiddie Kingdom child care provider, and staff were thrilled to see the materials provided to the program to encourage mothers to learn about breastfeeding and working, hand expression, and benefits to breastfeeding.



Interaction Child Care LLC: It is wonderful to have a group of mothers and grandmothers join together laughing, and talking about motherhood, breastfeeding, and child care!



Kidsnett Child Care Program: This project has intentionally provided the freedom for mothers in child care settings to have a designated space to breastfeed, bottle feed, hand express breast milk, and/or use a pump. We appreciate Kidsnett Director, Darnett, and her staff for their efforts in becoming designated as a Breastfeeding Friendly child care site!

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Nutrition Corner: CACFP- Let it Rain Whole Grain



Group Family Child Care Providers Shaindy Rosenman and Rochel Kurtz of *Bubby's Playgroup* have gone from white grains to 100% whole grain foods and they love it. They were concerned at first wondering what they would do if the children wouldn't try the new foods or didn't like the change. What they found surprised them both. **Children don't like whole grain foods, they**

love them! In addition, they noticed a change in the children's behavior for the better. Rochel told us that she had observed right away that when children eat healthy whole grains they feel full for longer periods of time, are happier and, therefore, play longer because they have more energy. The program's motto is *whole foods equal whole, happy people not hungry, angry people.*

Earlier this year Rochel and Shaindy asked the children what their favorite food is and the reply was sprouts! We commend Rochel and Shaindy for giving these children a healthy and happy start in life and for sharing this story.

Supporting Young Children's Social and Emotional Needs ... One Water Bottle at a Time

Campus Fun and Learn Child Development Center has been selected as one of the NYS Pyramid Model coaching sites and is already on the right track to supporting the social and emotional needs of all the children in their program. Just take a look at teacher Justyna Zakrewska's igloo project below! Justyna spent two years collecting one gallon plastic water bottles and assembling this massive and impressive igloo in her classroom. Children are able to self-regulate their emotions by taking the time to explore the igloo, rest, read, and relax. Thank you Justyna for making social and emotional needs a priority in your classroom!

If you've created spaces like this in your program and would like to share, send photos to lisak@rocklandchildcare.org





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Comings and Goings

Save the Date

June 1: Annual Meeting

Nov. 3: Annual Conference

Office Closings

May 28: Memorial Day July 4: Independence Day July 18: Office Cleaning Day Aug. 3: Agency Picnic (12:00 closing)

Sept. 3: Labor Day

STAFF RAINBOW LUNCH



CCRR is proud to be one of the County's Healthy Worksites. We enjoyed a potluck salad bar as part of our worksite wellness plan.

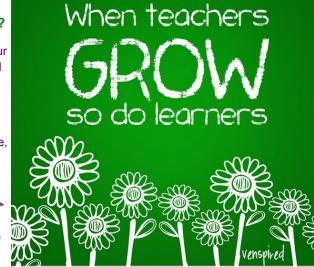
2018 PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

How will YOU GROW?

Check out our offerings and contact us today!

Sign up by phone, online, or in person.





Executive Director

Jane Brown x417

Director of Family, Community, and **Operations Services**

Karen Ross x630

Resource and Referral Coordinator

Christina Espindola x610 **Marketing and Public Relations Coordinator** Lisa Kreisel x616 **PreK Coordinator**

Jenine Valentino x460

Director of Professional Development and Quality Enhancement Services

Debbie Silver x459

CDA Coordinator and Special Needs Coordinator

Ellen Mitchell x456 **Quality Enhancement Specialists**

Rachel Ambroziak x620 David Del Campo x451 Ellen Mitchell x456 Bonnie Parsekian x613 Maria Rivas x455

Director of Program Standards and Support

Services

Staff Directory

Elaine Trotta x421

Legally Exempt

Enrollment Coordinator Ines Ortiz x411

Program Standards and Support Services

Coordinator

Priscilla Blanco x458

CACFP Coordinator

Teresa Ortega x633

Standards and

Support Specialists, and

Registrars James Callahan x221

Haiana Doro x487 Edna Saravia x475

Registered Nurse

Kristin Saunders x493

Director of Finance and Human Resource Services

Gerd Schubert x615

Finance Coordinator

Kathleen Siuro x662

Contact us:

Child Care Resources of Rockland 235 N. Main Street, Suite 11 Spring Valley, NY 10977

Hours: M-F 8:30 am-5:00 pm

845-425-0009 | 877-425-0009 Fax: 845-425-5312

info@rocklandchildcare.org www.childcarerockland.org

INFANTS • TODDLERS • PRESCHOOLERS • SCHOOL AGERS

Fun & Educational Activities

Child Care Resources of Rockland, Inc.

Supplement to Rockland Child Care News
May-August 2018

Infants Tummy Time!

Tummy Time is essential for infants' core, motor, and sensory development and achievement of milestones, and should begin as soon as your baby comes home from the hospital. Tummy Time helps improve neck and head control, and strengthens back, shoulder muscles, and core. It also prevents flat spots on baby's head and promotes motor and sensory development. www.pathways.org

Activity: Make Tummy Time Fun Time!

Try these suggestions and learn more at www.pathways.org:

- * Sing songs to baby to calm and soothe Play peek-a-boo using a blanket or your hands
- * Use a mirror—babies love faces
- * Use rattles or other toys that make noise to encourage visual tracking
- * Practice Tummy Time at baby's happiest times

Toddlers Recognizing Peers as Separate and Unique

Finger Play: Here is a Bunny

Here is a bunny, (hold up index and middle fingers)

With ears so funny, (Wiggle Fingers)

Here is the hole in the ground (Make hole with fist of the other hand)
At the slightest noise he hears; he picks up his ears, (Wiggle Fingers)
He hops to his hole in the ground! (Pretend to hop bunny ears into the hole)

Activity: Sponge Painting

Sponge painting is a wonderful way for young children to explore paint. They do not need to have superior fine motor skills to succeed at making some fun marks on the paper. It's the perfect toddler art activity.

Materials: One regular kitchen sponge, some paint, a paper plate for the paint, paper and scissors. **What to do:** Cut the sponge into hand-sized shapes for your child. You can cut out bunny shapes, if you want to repeat the finger play! Spread paint on plate and dip in sponge. Mix colors as the child paints, as well as ask about the shape or picture s/he is making.





Looking for Child Care?

For information about child care, child care subsidy, or special needs services, contact CCRR at (845) 425-0009 x0 and ask to speak with the Resource and Referral Coordinator.

Newsletter Subscription

Subscribe to Rockland Child Care News via email, and enjoy our children's activities insert, too!

Receive information about our events, parent and grandparent seminars, advocacy and action updates, professional development opportunities, and more.

Sign Up Today

Send an email request to info@rocklandchildcare.org

Contact us:

Child Care Resources of Rockland, Inc. (CCRR) 235 N. Main Street, Suite 11 Spring Valley, NY 10977

845-425-0009 | 877-425-0009 Fax: 845-425-5312

Hours: M-F 8:30 am-5:00 pm



DEDICATED TO MAKING CHILD CARE WORK IN ROCKLAND COUNTY

info@rocklandchildcare.org www.childcarerockland.org

INFANTS • TODDLERS • PRESCHOOLERS • SCHOOL AGERS Fun & Educational Activities

Preschoolers

Developing Social Play and Self-Regulation

Spring is a perfect time of year to explore birds and their habitats with your early learner. This bird nest activity provides an opportunity to talk about where birds live, what they eat, and how they build their homes. Building a bird nest is a sensory and fine motor activity for children.

Fingerplay:

Here is a nest for a robin (cup hands together in a bowl shape) Here is a hive for a bee (touch wrists and fingertips together, palms facing each other)

Here is a cave for a bear (crouch and cover head with arms)

And here is a house for me. (arms overhead in a "V" with fingertips touching)

Activity: Bird's Nest

Materials:

Sticks, Grass, Leaves, Pine Needles, Newspaper Paper, Pencil

What to do:

 Ask what she thinks goes into making a bird's nest. Write the items down on a piece of paper. Encourage her to think outside the box. If she suggests gum wrappers, for example, go with it.



- Go outside start scavenging for these items. Think about what in nature is pliable, what is sturdy, and what a bird has access to out in the wild.
- Bring the items inside and place them on a newspaper. Manipulate the grass and twigs and other items into a bird's nest shape.
- Weave items together, like the pine needles and grass. See if you can use two fingers, mimicking a bird's beak, to get items to stick together.
- 5. Display nest outside in a tree. You never know, you might make a family of birds very happy to visit!

https://www.education.com/activity/article/like_birds_and_make_nest/

School Agers Exploration, Discovery and Movement through Play

Activity: Milk Jug Toss

Materials: Gallon Milk Jug, Yarn, Yarn Pom-Pom, or Wiffle Ball;

Scissors, Colorful Duct Tape (optional)

What to do: Cut the bottom off of the jug (you can cover the edge with tape (optional)

Make a yarn pom-pom (about 3 foot piece of yarn)

Run yarn or string through the top to the bottom and tie, leaving a length of yarn to create *the toss*.

You swing the pom pom up and catch it in the milk jug.

You can develop a game with two or more children and count how many times the ball goes into the jug.



http://www.creativeconnectionsforkids.com/?s=milk+jug+toss

Child Care Resources of Rockland, Inc. is a contract agency of the County of Rockland, the NYS Office of Children and Family Services, NYS Department of Health, the NYS Education Department and the United Way of Rockland County. Additional funding for Special Needs Services is provided by the Office for People With Developmental Disabilities. We are also supported by Rockland Community College and by our members.