West Kootenay Child Care Resource and Referral

Important Dates coming up in the Fall

Level 2 Family Daycare Training
6pm to 9pm
September 10 & 24
October 8 & 22
November 5 & 19 @ CCRR contact number: 352-0407

Science meets our Hearts Conference
September 25—27, 2008 in Nelson, contact number: 352-6786

Caregiver Network Meetings (dates are tentative, to be confirmed)
6pm—9pm
October 16
November 13 @ CCRR contact number: 352-0407

Funded by the Province of British Columbia, a program of Kootenay Kids
Mandatory Booster seats & changes to car seat regulations in BC
Effective July 1’08

Starting July 1 next year, booster seats will be mandatory for all children at least 40 lbs until they are 4’9” tall or age nine. Other changes to Motor Vehicle Act regulations dealing with child restraints include: children over one year old and between 20-40 lbs will need to be secured in a child seat, regardless of who is driving the vehicle; and infant seats must be used until the baby is at least one year of age and 20 lbs. The seat must also be rear facing and not placed in front of an active frontal airbag.

Additional changes to MVA regulations also remove a number of exemp-
tions. All drivers, not just the child’s parents or guardians, will now have to use child restraints, as will drivers of rental vehicles, out-of-province vehicles and passenger vans. Failure to comply with these new regulations will result in a $109 fine.

“Car crashes are the leading cause of injury and death for children in B.C.,” said Solicitor General John Les. “An average of 860 children aged 5-9 are seriously in-
jured every year and five are killed. Yet currently only about 18 per cent of kids in B.C. use booster seats. We’re making changes to enhance booster seat use be-
cause, quite simply, it is the responsible thing to do.”

Exerts were taken from a News Release from MCFD

Quote of the Month
There comes a time when one must take a position that is neither safe, nor politic, nor popular, but he must take it because his conscience tells him it is right....

Martin Luther
Summer Fun in the Heat of the Sun

Art Activity:
Ketchup and Mustard bottle painting: Fill ketchup bottle with thick red tempera paint and mustard bottle with thick yellow tempera paint. Let children create their own designs or drawings on construction paper.

Bulletin Board Idea: Seaweed
Teachers create a sense of seaweed in the classroom with this idea from Lynn P. A wonderful addition to an Ocean or Sea Theme.

Materials: 2 or 3 inch wide green ribbon and a ribbon shredder.

Description: I used this idea in two ways. On my bulletin board I put blue paper. Then I run a strip of the ribbon from the top to the bottom for length. Before I attached it, I shredded sections of it leaving about a three inch gap between each section. Attach it to your bulletin board. As you do your art projects associated with the ocean you can mount them on this bulletin board with part of the fish, lobster, whale etc. nestled amongst the seaweed.

If you make aquariums, or fish pictures, you can cut two or three inch long pieces of the ribbon and shred it. Then divide into one inch sections and provide as a selection for the kids to use on their pictures.
**Sand art**

**Need:** Construction paper, paint, glue, sand  

**Directions:** Cut a fish shape out of construction paper (different shades of green) and the children painted designs on them with white glue. They then poured colored sand on the glue where they wanted a specific color, one color at a time, so I could reuse the excess. I hung them all on the bulletin board (all 57) and it looked like a "school" of fish. I put the sand in paper cups a little at a time to avoid waste and it was easier for the children to handle.

**Sand Castles**

**Need:** Sand Dough, 1 cup cornstarch, 2 cups fine sand, 1 1/2 cups cold water  

**Directions:** Mix in an old pan. Stir 5 - 10 minutes over medium heat until thick. Cool, then store in a plastic bag or container until ready to use. This should yield enough for 4 - 6 children. Make Sand Castles the children can take home with Sand Dough. Give each child a small amount of the sand dough on a paper plate and an assortment of small shells, stones, beads, straws, anything to decorate their castle. These will dry hard is left to set for a few days.

**Seashell Critters**

Save the shells you find on the beach this summer and make these adorable little seashell critters. This activity is a great way to test kids' creativity--have a seashell critter fashion show when you are all done! Be sure to explore all of our fun summer activities including great crafts for kids, summer printables, fabulous recipes, outdoor fun and more!

**What you’ll need:**  
- Seashells in various types and sizes  
- Hot glue gun  
- Wiggle eyes

**How to make it:**  
- Arrange shells together to form different animals and creatures.  
- Have a parent glue them together with hot glue.  
- Add wiggle eyes to your creatures.

**Tips:**  
- It’s best to position the shells first and decide how you want them to go together before gluing.  
- Put cockle shells together to form oyster like creatures.  
- For more colorful projects, paint your shells before gluing together.
Snorkeling

**Need:** Tables; blankets or sheets; pictures of fish, sea turtles, coral, etc.; bendable straws.

**Directions:** Underneath the tables, tape the various pictures of ocean life. Drape blankets or sheets over the table. Children use bendable straws as snorkels and masks and enter the water (crawl under the table) in small groups because you should never snorkel alone. Allow the group one minute in the "water". When they come out, ask questions about what they saw.

Fishing Game

Make some paper fish with numbers, shapes or different colors (depending on your children's abilities). Put a paper clip on each nose of the fish. Get some canes, string and magnets to make up fishing rods. Put the fish in a large colorful box and allow the children use their rods to try and get the fish out. They can record the numbers and add two together. Or another way is to try and get all the same colored fish out, putting back the ones that don’t belong to them.

Under The Sea Idea

Take some original goldfish crackers and some markers. Let the kids paint the fish different colors. Glue each fish on 1/4" wide strips of clear plastic (from packaging of various items) make strips different lengths. Then stick them on a piece of Styrofoam painted like the ocean floor. Cut out some 'Seaweed' from paper and 'plant' in the Styrofoam. Instant no fuss aquarium. I had an old cake cover from a deli which I tinted with glass paint and put on top of it to keep little fingers off but when you gently move the Styrofoam the fish "swim".
**Five Little Sea Creatures**

Five little sea creatures
On the ocean floor;
The lobster walked away
Now there are four.

Four little sea creatures
Living in the sea;
The octopus crept away
Now there are three.

Three little sea creatures
Wondering what to do;
"Good-bye," said the starfish
Now there are two.

Two little sea creatures
Not having much fun;
Off swam the sea horse
Now there is one.

One little hermit crab
Sad and all alone,
Back came the starfish,
Back came the sea horse,
Back came the octopus,
Back came the lobster,
Then all five went home.

**Three Little Fishies**

Down in the meadow in a little bitty pool
Swan two little fishies & a mama fishie too.
"Swim," said the mama fishie, "Swim if you can."
And they swam & they swam all over the dam.

(chorus)

Boop Boop Dittem Dattem What-tem Chu!
Boop Boop Dittem Dattem What-tem Chu!
Boop Boop Dittem Dattem What-tem Chu!
And they swam & they swam all over the dam.

"Stop!" said the mama fishie, "Or you will get lost."
The 3 little fishies didn’t want to be bossed.
The 3 little fishies went off on a spree.
They sway & they swam right out to the sea.

chorus

"Wheel!" yelled the little fishies, "Here’s a lot of fun,
We’ll swim in the sea till the day is done."
They swam & they swam, it was a lark,
Till all of a sudden they saw a shark!

chorus

"Help!" cried the little fishies, "Gee, look at all the whales!"
And quick as they could, they turned on their tails.
And back to the pool in the meadow they swam,
And they swam & they swam back over the dam.

**Fishy Pokey**

Play just like the Hokey Pokey)
Put your left fin in, take your left fin out
You do the fishy pokey and you turn yourself around that’s what its all about
Put your right gill in, take your right gill out (etc.)