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Asuntos de Importancia

# matters of Importance

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## Challenging Children are a Gift

Having a child with challenging behaviors enrolled in your program can be taxing. If the behaviors are intense or persistent, it may even start to affect your attitude or reaction. If the behaviors of the child cause other parents to complain, it could cause even more stress. Perhaps you feel you have tried everything under the sun only to feel nothing has made a difference. Understandably, it can take a toll on you and everyone who is affected by the situation. When you stop being able to separate the child from the problem, and the child starts to become the problem, the possibility of expulsion looks like it may be the only solution.

However, is it really the answer? If a child has anti-social behaviors such as trouble getting along with others; doesn't know how to appropriately

communicate his needs; or has a difficult time with self-control, how is expelling a child going to help him learn?

Teaching a child how to behave is as much of a necessity as learning colors, shapes and the alphabet. For most preschool-age children, their first experience in a group of their own peers is in your classroom. While most children adapt without too much trouble, there will always be some children that need your assistance adjusting. The effort and time you spend with these children creates a lasting impression and shapes their future success in school.



## Tener Niños con Desafíos puede ser un Regalo

Tener un niño con un comportamiento desafiante en su programa puede ser difícil. Si el comportamiento es intenso o persistente, puede incluso comenzar

a afectar su actitud o reacción. Si el comportamiento del niño hace que otros padres se quejen, esto podría causar aún más tensión. Quizás usted cree que ha intentado hacer todo lo posible pero sin embargo siente que no ha habido ninguna diferencia. Es entendible que algo así le afecta a usted y a cada uno de los que son afectados por la situación. Cuando usted ya no pueda separar al niño del problema, y el niño comienza a ser

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When a child exhibits challenging behaviors, view her as a valuable gift. She/he will provide you with an opportunity to learn a great deal. It is a wonderful chance to evaluate your program to see if it is meeting the needs of all children. Working at learning the cause of the behavior will help you feel positive, empathetic, and loving toward him. Recruit outside resources to help make a proactive difference for the child. Below are a few tips:

- Build relationship rituals – Find helpful jobs for the child
- Use classroom supports -Visual schedules, Personal cue card schedule for the child, Give the child a warning of the upcoming transition
- “TEACH” – tucker turtle technique to help child deal with disappointment ([www.vanderbilt.edu/csefil](http://www.vanderbilt.edu/csefil))
- Find a teacher’s tool kit full of free downloads ([www.challengingbehaviors.org](http://www.challengingbehaviors.org))

Most of all, believe in the child and your own ability to help!

Article provided by Work Family Resource’s Behavioral Specialists.

## Web site Connects Parents with Tips & Local Resources [www.growachild.org](http://www.growachild.org)

**A resource for parents of young children is now just a click away. Partners from 12 organizations covering ten counties launched “Grow A Child” [www.growachild.org](http://www.growachild.org), a Web site designed to help families find local community resources and other simple ideas to turn good parents into extraordinary parents.**

**The Grow a Child site features an interactive section where parents are connected to specific information about their child’s growth and development. Tips are then provided with activities parents can do with each child.**

**Parents can also subscribe to a free newsletter featuring hot topics and more tips. The newsletter is designed the newsletter specifically for parents of young children. Every issue provides parents with tips and information along with simple ideas to help make you an extraordinary parent.**

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el problema, la posibilidad de la expulsión del niño puede ser la única solución.

¿Sin embargo, es esta realmente la solución? Si el niño tiene comportamientos antisociales tales como dificultades para relacionarse con otros; no sabe como comunicar sus necesidades apropiadamente; o tiene dificultades con el autodomínio, cómo es que expulsando a el niño va a ayudarlo a aprender? Enseñarle a un niño a cómo comportarse es tan necesario como es aprender los colores, las formas y el alfabeto. Para la mayoría de los niños de edad preescolar su primera experiencia con un grupo de su propia edad está en su sala de clase. Mientras que la mayoría de los niños se adaptan sin mucho problema, habrá siempre algunos niños que necesitan un poco de ayuda. El esfuerzo y el tiempo

que usted le dedique a estos niños creara una impresión duradera y moldeara su futuro éxito en la escuela.

Cuando un niño exhibe comportamiento desafiante, véalo como valioso regalo. El le dará a usted una oportunidad de aprender mucho. Es una ocasión maravillosa para evaluar su programa y para ver si está cubriendo las necesidades de todos los niños. Trabajar para encontrar la causa del comportamiento le ayudará a sentirse positivo, comprensivo, y amoroso hacia el niño. Busque recursos en la comunidad que puedan ayudarlo a hacer una diferencia en la vida del niño. Abajo hay algunas recomendaciones:

- Haga rituales de relación. Busque trabajos interesantes para el niño

- Utilice ayudas de la clase - Horario visual, Tarjeta personal que le señale el horario al niño, Déle al niño una advertencia de lo que va a pasar

- “ENSEÑE” - la técnica de la tortuga del tucker para ayudarlo al niño a manejar una decepción ([www.vanderbilt.edu/csefil](http://www.vanderbilt.edu/csefil))
- Encuentre el kit de herramienta para un profesor que esta lleno de descargas gratuitas ([www.challengingbehaviors.org](http://www.challengingbehaviors.org))

¡Pero sobretodo, crea en el niño y en su capacidad para ayudarlo!

Artículo proporcionado por los especialistas del comportamiento de Work Family Resource.

# Parent/Teacher Partnerships = School Success

Researchers have been studying the effects parent attitudes and actions have on their children's academic success for over 30 years. The results have consistently shown that when parents are involved in their children's education at home, the children do better in school. Anne Henderson and Nancy Berla summarized the research in their book *A New Generation of Evidence: the Family is Critical to Student Achievement*, by writing "When parents are involved in their children's education at home, they do better in school. And when parents are involved in school, children go further in school and the schools are better."

Research shows that when parents are involved in their child's education, the children are more likely to:

- earn better grades.
- score higher on tests.
- pass their classes.
- attend school regularly.
- have better social skills.
- show improved behavior.
- be more positive in their attitude toward school.
- complete homework assignments.
- graduate and continue their education.



Research also shows that the earlier parents get involved in their children's education, the results are more pronounced and long lasting. Given this information, a prime time for parents to become involved is during their children's early years. Parents are children's first teachers and as soon as they begin to send them to early childhood centers and homes, they should simultaneously begin their involvement in their children's early learning experiences at their respective centers and homes.

The benefits of parent involvement are shared by parents, children and schools. Parent benefits include:

Parents feeling more confident at school.

Parents feel more confident in themselves as parents and in their ability to help their children learn.

Parents are held in higher esteem by teachers as their partners in their children's education.

Parents are more likely to enroll in continuing education themselves.

Schools with involved parents enjoy:

- better morale among teachers.
- higher ratings of teachers by parents.
- more support from families.
- a better reputation in the community.

Why should parents get involved? They should get involved because parent involvement can make a positive difference for their children. School administrators should encourage parent involvement because it improves the school atmosphere and the success rate of students. Parent involvement can grow to parent/teacher partnerships that lead to children being ready for school success and becoming lifelong learners!

Information for this article came from Publications by Joyce Epstein; Dr. John H. Wherry of The Parenting Institute; summaries of research prepared by the Michigan Department of Education.

# Smart Start of Forsyth County Trainings

Unless stated otherwise, all classes will be held at the Smart Start of Forsyth County Training Room.

To register, please call the Training Line at 336-714-4368 or email [patm@smartstart-fc.org](mailto:patm@smartstart-fc.org)

*August Trainings (Please call to register for August classes beginning on July 26, 2010)*

## **How the Preschooler's Brain Learns**

Date: August 3, 2010

Time: 6:30 - 8:30 pm

Presenter: Martine Powell

Preschoolers are active learners. Some of the most exciting research over the past decade has been in the area of brain research. So how can we use what we have learned to improve our teaching and preschoolers' learning? Come and join as we investigate this topic.

## **Playground Safety**

Date: August 5, 2010 (Thursday)

Time: 5:00-9:00 pm

Presenter: Karatha Scott

This training will cover all of the state required procedures and regulations to operate a safe and healthy play environment.

## **The Spirited Child**

Date: August 5, 2010

Time: 6:30-8:30 pm

Presenter: Marjorie Burris

Who is a spirited child? What is the difference between a spirited child and a disobedient child? What are the answers for living with and teaching the spirited child? We will discuss the answers to these questions and more during this workshop.

## **Building Positive Relationships: A Strategy for Reducing Challenging Behaviors**

Date: August 10, 2010

Time: 6:30-8:30 pm

Presenter: Lesha Workman

Would you like to be better equipped to meet the needs of children with challenging behaviors? Do you want to spend more time supporting the development of all of the children rather than spending much of the time addressing challenging behaviors of a few children? Come join us as we introduce a positive behavior system that will support children's learning and help improve behavior concerns.

## **Teacher Portfolios: The Tools of Professionals**

Date: August 12, 2010 (Thursday)

Time: 6:30-8:30 pm

Presenter: Stephanie Sanders

A portfolio is an intentional compilation of materials and resources, collected over a period of time that provides evidence for others to review. Teachers often think of portfolios for children to share with parents and administrators. What about a portfolio for the teachers to showcase their skills and knowledge? Come out and receive a start up kit for creating your own teacher portfolio – a tool of the professional. Seating will be limited. Register early.

## **Dental Hygiene for Preschoolers**

Date: August 12, 2010 (Thursday)

Time: 6:30-8:30 pm

Presenter: Mashica Tobias

This is a very informative workshop that all early childhood educators should attend. The instructor will show how dental hygiene can play an active role in a child's daily routine and behavior. The information given can be applied in the centers and even passed along to parents to be used in the homes. Good oral health plays

a major part in a child's health and well being. Come out and see how!

## **From Involvement to Partnerships: Communicating with Parents**

Date: August 14, 2010 (Saturday)

Time: 8:30-12:30 noon

Presenter: Romy Allen

You just don't understand why your parents are not more involved in classroom activities. Sometimes you feel that the parents are the cause of lack of communication between you and them. This seminar will provide answers and strategies for understanding your dilemma and resolving your parent issues to get them in the door. First you must communicate then get them on board.

## **Keeping the Peace: Dealing with Challenging Behaviors**

Date: August 17, 2010

Time: 6:30-8:30 pm

Presenter: Jennifer Byers

Are you dealing with challenging behaviors in your classroom? Do you want to have a peaceful classroom where all learners can learn? Then come out and join me as we learn strategies to help restore peace and discipline in the classroom.

## **ITS SIDS**

Date: August 19, 2010 (Thursday)

Time: 6:30-8:30 pm

Presenter: Rodd Smith

A professional from Baby Love Plus, a program sponsored by the Forsyth County Health Department, will discuss the importance of being prepared for Sudden Infant Death syndrome (SIDS). He will give you some preventive measures that should be taken when caring for young children.

*September Trainings (please call for September trainings beginning on 23, 2010)*

## **Effectively Managing Conflict in the Early Childhood Setting**

Date: September 2, 2010 (Thursday)

Time: 6:30-8:30

Presenter: Lesha Workman

We want children to learn to handle their own problems effectively, but do we really look at how we handle conflict, change and compromise? In this workshop, participants will explore the stages of conflict, strategies to manage conflict and develop a plan to compromise where everyone wins!

## **The Multiple Intelligences: Eight Ways to Be Smart**

Date: September 7, 2010

Time: 6:30-8:30 pm

Presenter: Martine Powell

Children can soar on their own strengths. Do we recognize all of the ways that children are smart? Do we presume that all children are smart just in different ways? In this workshop we will explore 8 ways that children are smart as defined by Howard Gardner in his book on The Multiple Intelligences.

## **Teacheread**

Date: September 9, 16, 2010 (Thursdays)

Time: 6:30-8:30 pm

Presenter: Marjorie Burris

This is a 2-part workshop. This workshop will help you share stories with children with enthusiasm that children "can catch and feel." Reading aloud becomes fun & will become a favorite place for children to return to. The trainer will model effective reading techniques & demonstrate how to encourage children to talk about the

story. Early childhood educators will learn how to use books as a springboard for lesson planning & classroom enhancement.

You must be present for both workshops in order to receive your contact hours.

## **From Involvement to Partnerships: Getting Parents on Board**

Date: September 11, 2010 (Saturday)

Time: 6:30-8:30 pm

Presenter: Romy Allen

Have you ever wished your parents would be more involved with your requests and classroom activities? Have you wondered why your parents don't seem to have time to comply with reminders that you send home? You may be a victim of parent "childcare systemitis." Come to this seminar to find out how to overcome this condition and get your parents more actively engaged in classroom matters. Communication first – now let's reel them in!

## **ITS SIDS**

Date: September 16, 2010 (Thursday)

Time: 6:30-8:30 pm

Presenter: Rodd Smith

A professional from the Baby Love program, which is sponsored by the Forsyth County Health Department, will discuss the importance of preventive measures and being prepared for Sudden Infant Death Syndrome (SIDS). The presenter will give you some preventive measures to be taken when caring for young children.

## **Developing the Whole Child**

Date: September 21, 2010

Time: 6:30- 8:30 pm

Presenter: Stephanie Sanders

This presentation takes a closer look at the essentials children need to become lifelong learners. Participants will gain 1 knowledge for supporting the growth of children cognitively, socially, linguistically and more.

## **How Do You Spell Discipline?**

Date: September 23, 2010 (Thursday)

Time: 6:30-8:30pm

Presenter: Gwen Walter

Do you need some fresh ideas for classroom management? Do you want to keep the children of your class engaged? Come out and join us as we learn new strategies for classroom management and discipline.

*October trainings (Please call to register for October classes beginning on September 27, 2010)*

## **Playground Safety**

Date: October 2, 2010 (Saturday)

Time: 8:30-12:30 noon

This training will cover all of the state required procedures and regulations to operate a safe and healthy play environment.

## **Setting Meaningful Goals and Seeing them Through**

Date: October 5, 2010

Time: 6:30-8:30 pm

Presenter: Lesha Workman

How many times do we just talk about what we want to do and where want to be in the future? We are all guilty of dreaming big but not putting a rock-solid plan on paper. In this workshop, Early Childhood professionals will develop their personal and professional road map for specific goals and begin to explore avenues for achieving goals in a timely manner. Participants will also learn about the barriers to achieving their goals and ways to overcome them.

## **Professionalism in Early Childhood Education**

Time: 8:30-12:30 noon (Saturday)

Date: October 9, 2010

Presenter: Romy Allen  
Do you feel that parents and others dismiss you and your chosen childcare career? Do you think you are an ECE professional and deserve better respect? Do you want to get a wage comparable to what you think you are worth? Attend this seminar to vent your frustrations, find out the direction ECE is heading, and how you can prepare for your future so you don't get left behind—an action plan!

### **Responsive Teaching through Observation**

Date: October 12, 2010  
Time: 6:30-8:30 pm  
Presenter: Martine Powell  
When we know the individual learning styles, temperaments and developmental stage of each child we can be responsive teachers. How do we learn about the individual similarities and differences of children? The answer is through observation. Come join us for this session as we will explore how we become responsive

teachers through our use of observations of the children in our classrooms. It will make a positive difference in how we engage and teach children.

### **Keeping the Peace**

Date: October 14, 2010 (Thursday)  
Time: 6:30- 8:30 pm  
Presenter: Jennifer Byers  
Are you dealing with challenging behaviors in your classroom? Do you want to have a peaceful classroom where all learners can learn? Then come out and join me as we learn strategies to help restore peace and discipline in the classroom

### **“Around the World with W.E.E. Music Time”**

Date: October 16 & 23, 2010 (Saturdays)  
Time: 6:30-8:30 pm  
Presenter: Dr. Donna Wiggins  
Participants will engage in multicultural, hands-on activities for infants, toddlers, and pre-kindergarten learners that encourage literacy through singing, moving, and listening to music inspired by the reading of multicultural children's picture

books. Selected picture books with multicultural themes from diverse cultures will be featured in all music-integrated literacy activities. You must be present for both sessions of this 2-part workshop to receive your contact hours.

### **Reading Comprehension**

Date: October 19, 2010  
Time: 6:30-8:30 pm  
Presenter: Stephanie Sanders  
Participants will gain a better understanding of how to nurture a child's development in reading comprehension. Participants will gain knowledge of reading milestones from infancy to preschool and will find out about expectations once children enter kindergarten.

### **ITS SIDS**

Date: October 21, 2010 (Thursday)  
Time: 6:30-8:30 pm  
Presenter: Rodd Smith  
A professional from Baby Love Plus, a program sponsored by the Forsyth County Health Department, will discuss the importance of being prepared for Sudden Infant Death syndrome (SIDS). He will give you some preventive measures that should be taken when caring for young children.

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## **Work Family Resource Center Trainings**

Unless stated otherwise, all classes will be held at WFRC, 313 Indera Mills Ct.  
To register, please call 336-761-5100 or email [dbell@workfamilyresource.org](mailto:dbell@workfamilyresource.org)

### **Family Child Care Home Pre Licensing Workshop**

Date: 7/13, 9/14, 11/9/10-2/8/11, 4/12, 6/14  
Time: 8:30am-1 pm; Cost \$40.00  
Presenter: Betty Nelums, Provider Specialist  
This one-day workshop is a comprehensive review of the North Carolina Family Child Care Home rules and regulations, and will be helpful to those who are planning to operate a Family Child Care Home. This workshop will focus on family child care home licensing information, region specific zoning and sanitation requirements and give detailed information regarding program start-up and operations as they relate to budgeting for quality family child homes. Fee includes Family Child Care Handbook

### **Infant and Toddler Foundations**

Date: 7/15/10  
Time: 6:30-8:30pm; Cost \$5.00  
Presenter: Vonya Washington, Provider Specialist  
Infant-Toddler Foundations training is based on nine guiding principles for caregivers, teachers and other professionals who work with infants and toddlers. These principles based on the five domains of learning and development which are Emotional and Social Development; Health and Physical Development; Approaches to Learning; Language Development and Communication; & Cognitive Development guide educators as they help nurture and teach infants and toddlers will be shared to promote and support development and learning.

### **Building Parent/Provider Partnerships in Child Care**

Date: 7/20/10  
Time: 6:30- 8:30 pm; Cost \$5.00  
Presenter: Cherie White, Provider Specialist  
Families are the primary influence in the lives of their children. This training will explore ways to create a learning environment that reflects the culture, strengths and desires of families for their children. Participants will also look at various strategies for establishing effective relationships with parents.

### **Child Care Almanac**

Date: 8/19/10  
Time: 6:30-8:30pm; Cost \$5.00

Presenter: Vonya Washington, Provider Specialist  
All children present challenging behaviors at one time or another. This training addresses this issue by teaching providers how to develop a plan to interact with children in a manner that will prevent misbehavior, promote positive relationships and guide children to self-control.

### **Ready, Set Go**

Date: 8/23/10  
Time: 6:30-8:30pm; Cost \$ 5.00  
Presenter: Cherie White, Provider Specialist  
This training will focus on how to plan valuable, developmentally, culturally, individually and age appropriate field trips for children. Participants will learn how to carefully plan and prepare for field trips and transportation of children to ensure safety. Participants will also explore the policies and procedures that should be in place before transporting children.

### **How Did The Memory Get There?**

Date: 8/24/10  
Time: 6pm - 9pm; Cost \$5.00  
Presenter: Judy Hoskins, Healthy Social Behavioral Spec.  
This session will investigate the art of learning, and how the young brain sorts and organizes information for the future. We now know stress and emotions greatly influence memory and the ability to learn in young children. Research scientist recently identified one brain chemical that seems crucial for storing memories. Information in this session will focus on the best way to use what we know about the young child's brain to teach new coping skills and create positive experience.

### **The Period of the Purple Crying**

Date: 9/9/10  
Time: 9am- 2pm; Cost \$10.00  
Presenter: Connie Smith, RN, This training is especially for child care providers working with infants. We will discuss the normal development of crying for babies and what actions adults, parents, child care workers, and others should take when a BABY CRIES AND CRIES AND CRIES.

### **Food, Fitness and Fabulous Fun (Only for Family Child Care)**

Date: 9/20/10  
Time: 6:30-8:30 pm; Cost \$5.00

Presenter: Cherie White, Provider Specialist

Healthy food equals healthy children. During this workshop we will explore topics such as: diet, nutrition, exercise and ways that you can set a positive example through the food that you serve and physical activities that you offer to the children. This workshop will count as your required CACFP Food Program Training.

### **CPR; Cost \$ 35.00**

#### **First Aid; Cost \$30.00**

Dates: 8/21/10 & 10/2/10

Time: 8am-1 pm

Presenter: Dan Ozmak

Cardiopulmonary Resuscitation (CPR) Certification and First Aid Certification are required certifications for every family child care provider and recommended for most child care center staff. After completing this session, participants should be able to conduct both CPR and First Aid techniques on infants, children and adults  
Location: Northwest Child Development

### **BSAC**

Date: 7/21/10

Time: 9am-2:30; Cost \$35.00

Presenter: Tarsha Banister, School Age Quality Improvement Specialist

Basic School Age Care Training is for individuals who work with school-age children. (BSAC ) consists of seven topics: the elements of quality care, child development, positive guidance, appropriate activities, environmental design, health/safety/nutrition and NC Child Care Regulations. It is a basic, entry-level training covering seven hours of instruction and is required for staffs who work with school age children.

Location: Glade Street YWCA

### **IT'S SIDS**

Date: 7/13/10

Time: 6:30pm-8:30pm; Cost \$5.00

Presenter: Melinda McCullen, Infant Toddler Specialist  
This informative and engaging presentation will provide as overview of Sudden Infant Death Syndrome (SIDS). The presentation will also list features of the NC SIDS Law for Childcare, identify safe sleep standards and best practices, and provide information concerning SIDS

resources and how to access them.

# Smart Start's Community Partners

Smart Start of Forsyth County supports programs for parents, child care facilities, and educators by directly administering services in house, and by providing financial support to local human service agencies to administer services within their organization.

Catholic Social Services  
Creative Learning Center for Very Young Children  
Downtown Health Plaza  
Exchange/SCAN  
Forsyth County Department of Public Health  
Forsyth Technical Community College  
Goodwill Industries of NWNC  
Imprints  
North Carolina Cooperative Extension  
The Children's Center for the Physically Disabled  
Winston-Salem/Forsyth County Schools  
Work Family Resource Center

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& *D is for Dancing Dragon: A China Alphabet*
- **Major Brian Dennis**, *Nubs: The True Story of a Mutz, a Marine & a Miracle*
- **Irania Patterson**, *Small Shells of the Sea / Chipi Chipis, Caracolitos del Mar* - A program in English & Spanish
- **Aviva Goldfarb**, *SOS! The Six O'Clock Scramble to the Rescue: Earth-Friendly, Kid-Pleasing Dinners for Busy Families* (in our culinary venue)



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