



The Bridge

Connecting You with News for the Classroom

Notes from the Director's Desk:

Volume 8, Issue 7
July-August, 2016

Let your kids get dirty!

Dirt: It does a body (and soul) good

Here are just five ways (of many) that dirt can benefit your children.

1. Did you know that studies have shown dirt is good for your brain? There are types of bacteria naturally found in soil that activate the neurons that produce serotonin, a key chemical in many bodily functions, as well as a natural anti-depressant.

In other words, dirt can actually help make you feel happy. (And I'm not just talking about the mud wraps at the day spa.)

2. Dirt is also great for the immune system, especially in children. Research has shown that early exposure to naturally occurring microbes in soil will help build stronger, more disease-resistant kids.

3. If you've read [*The Last Child in the Woods*](#), you're familiar with the term "nature-deficit disorder." In our technologically savvy generation, kids just aren't getting enough time to play outside, and that has now been linked to attention disorders, depression (yes, in children), and obesity.

4. Children who play outside laugh more, which means they're happy! It also means their blood pressure and stress levels are lower.

5. Kids who play outside grow in their character development: they become more adventurous, more self-motivated, and they are better able to understand and assess risk.

Source: The Art of Simple

Meet the Board

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704-487-7397

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Professional Development Bonus Award

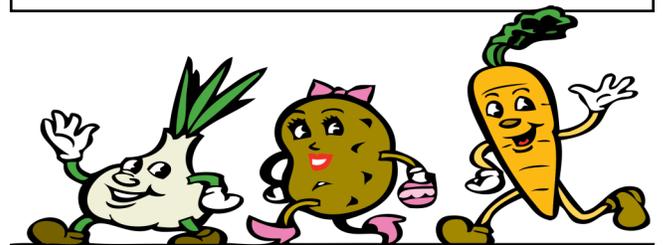
This activity provides a one-time bonus incentive to North Carolina 4 and 5 star licensed early learning programs that implement certain policies and practices related to staff professional development and have staff members who have complete specified professional development activities.

A single payment will be made after satisfactory completion of the Professional Development Bonus Award requirements and will be based on the number of children ages birth to five (pre-kindergarten) enrolled in the program as of the date of application. Professional Development Bonus Award applications can be downloaded at <http://bit.ly/PD-Bonus-Award>.

2016 - 2017 Education Incentive Bonus

The 2016 -2017 Education Incentive Bonus guidelines and application are available (see insert).

Please read the guidelines completely to see if you are eligible and to make sure that your application is complete when submitted. These bonuses are for Fall Semester 2016 and Spring Semester 2017



Professional Development Training Registration

- The form must be filled out completely. Any items left blank will be considered incomplete and you will **not** be signed up for the training.
- Registration and payment must be received together or you will **not** be signed up for the training.
- Please use a separate registration form for each training class.
- **Deliver** completed registration form in person to:
327 Market Street, Suite A
Shelby, NC
- **Mail** completed registration form with payment to:
Child Care Connections of Cleveland County, Inc.
P.O. Box 1739
Shelby, NC 28151

Training Policies

- All trainings are \$10.00 unless otherwise noted on the training calendar. You must pre-register and pre-pay for trainings. **Money will not be taken at trainings.**
- Call and cancel if you cannot make it to the training. If Child Care Connections is not contacted Resource Library Members will be charged a \$5.00 no show fee; Non-members will forfeit the training fee.

Child Care Connections Training Registration

Facility Name: _____

Mailing Address: _____ Phone #: _____

Training Name: _____

Training Date: _____ Training Time: _____

Name:	Membership #:	Amount Paid:
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_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____

Circle One: Cash Check #: _____

Total Enclosed: _____

Signature of Person Completing Registration: _____

Child Care Connections Use Only:

Received On: _____ Recorded By: _____

SALE!

Join the Child Care Connections Library during **July & August** at a reduced cost. **Only \$35 per year for new members.**

Two (2) types of memberships are available

Training Only Membership-allows you to attend unlimited Child Care Connections trainings (some restrictions apply)

Regular Membership-Includes 48 yards of free laminating, die cut & copy services, library checkouts (including text-books) and six (6) free Child Care Connections trainings per year (some restrictions may apply)

Already a member? Renew during this same time for only **\$30** and extend your membership for a year from your expiration date. Price returns to \$40 on September 1.

Questions???

Call Karen Pearson at Child Care Connections (704-487-7397)

Summer Cinema at The Don Gibson

Join us for our next movie!

\$1.00 Admission/Free Popcorn

10:00am or 7:00pm showing

July 7-Homeward Bound

July 21- Inside Out

August 4- Minions

August 18-The Good Dinosaurus

**Don't
Forget!**



Textbooks for most Early Childhood Education courses are available for semester check out to Resource Library members

News for the Classroom



Recalls!

Twin Go Recalls it's Baby Carriers due to a falling hazard to infants.

The waist buckle can break.

Munchkin Recalls it's Latch TM lightweight pacifiers & clips due to choking hazard.

The clip cover can detach from the pacifier.

Bednest Recalls it's bedside infant sleepers due to a fall hazard to infants.

The sleepers fail to meet mandatory federal requirements for these products.

Hobby Lobby Recalls it's infant rattles due to a choking hazard.

The seams of the rattle can separate to expose a small rattler.

From Cleveland Community College

Interested in obtaining a four year degree in Birth - Kindergarten and/or Education? We now have several agreements with colleges and universities in NC where our AAS Early Childhood courses will transfer so you can work toward your four year degree! Some of the colleges/universities offer their entire program online.

The fall semester will be here before we know it! Make sure your FASFA is filled out for financial aid and you have looked at our fall schedule of courses offered. If there is a course you are needing and it is not on the schedule, contact me so I can let you know when it will be offered.

If you are a provider and would like to have a course taught at YOUR FACILITY, please let me know!

Lori Nanney

nanneyl@clevelandcdd.edu

704 669 4131

Lori A. Nanney

Education Instructor and Education Department
Chair

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Our Mission Statement

*Child Care Connections exists to connect re-
sources and services for child care excellence*

**Congratulations to Our
Providers of the Year!**

**Kelli's Little Angels Early Childhood Development Center
Kelli Smith**

**Especially For Kids
Ambra Dobbins**