



Youth Enrichment Services
Caring. Preparing. Enriching.



Early Childhood Newsletter

Monthly Highlight from Creative Curriculum

Art is an important part of our curriculum. Every day, children find a variety of art materials available on our shelves. Drawing, painting, pasting, molding and constructing are not only enjoyable but also provide important opportunities for learning. Children express original ideas and feelings, improve their coordination, learn to recognize colors and textures, and develop creativity and pride in their accomplishments by exploring and using art materials.

When children are engaged in art activities, we talk with them about what they are doing and ask questions that encourage them to think about their ideas and express feelings.

We are just as interested in the creative process as we are in what children make. We say

things that will encourage children to be creative and confident, such as:

Tell me about your picture instead of Is that a house you made?

It looks like the playdough is sticking to your fingers. What could we

do to make it less sticky?

What You Can Do at Home

Art is a very easy way to bring your child's school life into your home. Children love to bring home their art products to share with the most important people in their lives. Take time to talk with your child. Here are some things you might say:

Tell me about your picture.

How did you decide which colors to use?

What do you like best about it?

Should we hang it up in a special place so we can all enjoy your work?

You can help your child appreciate art right in your home. When you look at books together, talk about the illustrations with your child. Discuss the art on the walls in your home.

Art is something your child can do at home in almost any room. You might designate a drawer in the kitchen or living room as an art drawer, or use a bookshelf or sturdy cardboard box. In this space include crayons, marking pens, paper, a pair of child-sized, blunt-edged scissors, glue, and a separate box for collage materials. A child's mind is much more creative and artistic than any coloring book allows.

July
2010

Author Studies:



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Picnics, Bugs & the 4th of July

June 28-July 9

Color: Red,

Shape: Star

Number 13

Letter: J, P



Exploring the Parks and Camping

July 12-23

Color: Pink

Shape: Diamond

Number 14

Letters: X, N



The Great YES Duck Race

It's Summer and time for the Great YES Duck Race! Yes friends, Youth Enrichment Services is hosting the **Great YES Duck Race on Saturday, July 31st** at Yankton Trails Park

in conjunction with Family Fest. Prepare yourself for some excitement as the rubber ducks take a trip down the River, all trying to get to the finish line first! Your lucky duck could win you \$1,000 cash, an assortment of gift certificates, food and a chance to win **ONE HUNDRED THOUSAND DOLLARS!** Make sure to check out all of our prizes, all sure to be enjoyed by the whole family! **To purchase your \$5 Duck tickets, please return your completed ticket and payment by Wednesday, July 28th** to Duck Central at your center.



Character Counts



Citizenship is doing your share to make your community a better place for everyone. Good citizens are also good neighbors. They cooperate with others, and obey laws and rules. They respect authority and protect the environment.

What Parents can do to promote citizenship:

- Teaching a child to be a contributing member of the community can start with the family. Being a good citizen means that each child does his or her share and has a voice in certain family decisions.
- Establish certain house rules and impose consequences when they are not obeyed. Insist that children treat you and all adults with respect.
- Though laws are important, be sure to teach that there is a difference between what one has a right to do and what is right to do. Teach that every right has a responsibility attached and that a person of good character often does more than the law requires and less than it allows.
- Be conscientious about setting a good example for your children. Conserve and obey laws (including wearing seat belts or using car seats!).

July Bookmobile Schedule

River Crossing: 9:00—10:00

July 14 and 28th

14th Street: 10:15—10:45

July 7, and 21st

Eastside Learning Center: 11:15 to 12 noon

July 6 and 20th



Remember to send your child's library card. If your child does not have a library card, ask your child's teacher for information. You can fill all the necessary information out at your center to get a library card for your child. What a great opportunity for your child to get new books to bring home to share and read.