

Our office will be closed on:  
Monday,  
May 31, 2010, in observance of Memorial Day.



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# Early Learning Quad Cities and Partnering with Parents Newsletter

Volume 10 Issue 9

May-June 2010

## Kindergarten Readiness Fair May 3, 2010



Come join us. This Fair will offer a variety of resources from community agencies, school districts and child care centers. Agencies will be available to answer questions and assist your family as your child transitions into Kindergarten.

Where:  
**Moline Viking Club**

When: **May 3, 2010**  
**4:00-6:00 pm**

Who: Families and their children that will be entering Kindergarten throughout Rock Island County during the 2010-11 school year.

Your child must be 5 years of age by Sept. 1st to be eligible for Kindergarten.

- Tour a school bus
  - Door Prizes
  - Free school supplies (while inventory lasts)
  - Age appropriate activities
  - Meet kindergarten teachers
- For further information call Tammy Muerhoff at 309-736-1111.

### Upcoming Screening Dates

May 13, 2010  
2:00-5:30  
Rock Island County Health Department  
2112 25th Street  
Rock Island

Please call 736-1111 to schedule a screening.

June 17, 2010  
9:00-10:30  
Rock Island County Health Department  
2112 25th Street  
Rock Island

Please call 736-1111 to schedule a screening.

July 2010  
There will be no screening in July.

August 2009  
Screening location and time to be announced.

**ALL  
EVENTS  
ARE FREE**

Parent & Child Interaction: An activity or community event designed to encourage discussion, interaction, and quality time for parents and their young children.

### Dates to Look for:

**May 4-National Teachers Day**

**May 5-Cinco de Mao**

**May 9-**

**Mother's Day**

**May 31-**

**Memorial Day**

Family Fun Night: These activities are designed around the busy schedules of parents and children in child-care. The activity is held at local child care centers. A light meal for the first 30 minutes and then an hour of games and activities that are developmentally appropriate for preschool age children.

## Parent and Child Interaction

Families:

We encourage that you call 309-736-1111 and ask for Early Childhood to register for the following events. Walk-ins are welcome. Please call in advance to ensure the activity is going to take place.

**Moline Public Library**  
3210 41st., Moline  
"Little Tykes"  
May 10, 2010  
6:00-7:00

**St. Pius X Church**  
2502 29 Avenue  
Rock Island  
Farrell Hall  
May 20, 2010  
9:00-10:00  
"May Flowers"

## Parent Quotes



I enjoy visits from our Parent Educator. She is so awesome. My hope is that she and

the other Partnering with Parents staff can continue the workshops and activities with our children and us. Rachel inspires me to be a better parent than my parents.

I want the best for Mikayla and Partnering with Parents brings that to the table, whether it's setting goals or learning to do activities with Mikayla.

**Rene Thomas-Guillion**

## Text4baby

Get free messages each week on your cell phone to help you through your pregnancy and your baby's first year. Text4baby is an educational program of the National Healthy Mothers, Healthy Babies Coalition. Registration is easy and can be done online at

[www.text4baby.org](http://www.text4baby.org) or from your cell phone. Simply text the word **BABY** (or **BEBE** for Spanish) to 511411. You will be asked to enter your baby's due date or your baby's birthday and your zip code. Once you are registered you will start receiving free messages. You do not

have to pay for the incoming text messages. You will receive one message per day for the first six days. After that, you will receive three messages a week throughout your pregnancy and up until your child's first birthday. To stop service text **STOP** to 511411.

## Does Your Toddler Bite?

[www.ParentsAsTeachers.org](http://www.ParentsAsTeachers.org)



Biting is a natural behavior for very young children-and a big challenge for parents! If your toddler is biting, don't worry. He is just beginning to learn how to get along with others. You can teach him better ways to act out his feelings and get what he needs.

Reasons why a toddler bites:

- He is exploring things-even people-with his mouth and teeth
- He may be teething, and biting makes his gums feel better
- He doesn't have the words to say what he wants or needs
- He may want extra attention
- He is interested in seeing the effects of his

actions

Ways to prevent biting:

- Provide teething toys
- Watch for signs of rising frustration
- Show him better ways to get attention
- "Catch" your child when he's treating others nicely and tell him how well he's doing
- Give him outlets for his tension

Remember, your child learns self-control and kindness by watching you.

## Celebrating Child Care Providers

[www.childcareaware.org](http://www.childcareaware.org)

Being a childcare provider is not an easy job, but it certainly is one of the most important. It is also one of the lowest paying and least celebrated. There are 2.3 million childcare providers who care for children under age 5 in the United States. pro-

Further, even though child care providers work hard and have a very important job, sometimes the nature of the job means that they don't have access to health care or other important benefits.

Providers support families and make it possible for many parents to work and go to school.

Say "thank you", organize a breakfast or lunch, write a letter to your newspaper, or work with your child to make a special gift.

**National Child Care Provider Appreciation Day**  
**May 11, 2010**

- Send flowers
- Say "Thank You!"
- Buy a personal gift.

## Professional Development

### Day Camp for Early Childhood Educators: Inside Out

The outdoor environment is not just for running and jumping. Did you know that science, math, literacy, and language development can occur outside? The outdoors is a classroom without walls. What is keeping you inside?

Date: June 7, 2010

Time: Registration 9:30 am  
 Workshop 10:00am-2:00pm

Location: Bob Mays Park Shelter  
 North 18th St. and Quintron Way  
 Quincy, IL

Presenters: Various

Audience: Early Childhood teachers, assistants, childcare providers, parent educators, directors

Cost: Free

CPDUs: 3.5

To register:  
[www.starnet.org/training/workshops](http://www.starnet.org/training/workshops)

**Lending Library**  
**Attention Families:**  
**Books, toys and parent resources are available for check out. Please call 309-736-1111 and ask for Early Childhood.**

ROCK ISLAND COUNTY  
REGIONAL OFFICE  
OF EDUCATION



If you would like to be added or removed from our mailing list please call Pam Kissell at 309-736-1111 or e-mail [pam.kissell@riroe.k12.il.us](mailto:pam.kissell@riroe.k12.il.us)

**We're on the Web**  
[www.riroe.com](http://www.riroe.com)

**Parents as Teachers:** *Partnering with Parents and Early Learning Quad Cities* programs are supported by grant funding from the Illinois State Board of Education. These programs offer support and information on child development to the families and educators of Rock Island County.

### Program Eligibility

#### Parent & Child Activities

These programs also coordinate many activities within the community, including early literacy activities, parent and child interaction activities, and parent education meetings.

Activities and events are free to all families in Rock Island County with children from birth to five years old.

#### Staff Development

Through workshops and staff development, childcare providers, teachers, and parent educators learn new methods for teaching young children.



#### Home Visits

Using the *Parents As Teachers* curriculum, our program offers personal visits. Certified parent educators provide child development information, suggest and model age appropriate activities, and address parenting concerns. Interested in home visits? Please call us at (309) 736-1111.

The Partnering with Parents program is provided for families residing in Rock Island County that have a child who is 0-5 years old, and not yet eligible to enter kindergarten.

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