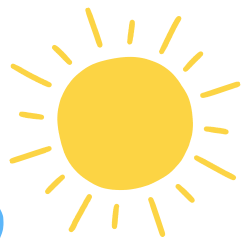




 Child Care Connection



QUALITY NEWSLETTER

Summer 2024

In our newsletters, the Quality Team is pleased to provide activities and ideas in the spirit of celebrating young learners and their families. We hope you will take some time to get to know us and reach out with any questions about the services we provide to Mercer County child care providers and the families they serve.

Staff Spotlight

Hi! My name is Gini Hampton and I'm the infant toddler specialist (ITS) and an early childhood trainer at Child Care Connection.

Through my role as ITS, I support centers and family child care programs that serve infants and toddlers. I provide various services that are individualized to best meet the needs of the program. These include coaching, training, resource identification, and on-site consultation and technical assistance. As a trainer, I also provide professional development opportunities for programs.

If you would like more information about how I can support your program, please feel free to contact me at virginiahampton@ccc-nj.org or (609) 989-7770, x123. I would love the opportunity to work with you!

Days of Celebration

July

4-Independence Day

6-Islamic New Year

August

4-National Friendship Day

30-National Beach Day

September

2-Labor Day

8-International Literacy Day

8-Grandparents Day

Resources

Schools out for summer? Prolong your child's learning at www.education.com. Create a free account to access science experiments, puzzles, games, stories, songs, and more!

Before heading out on that summer road trip, check out the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration website (<https://www.nhtsa.gov/vehicle-safety/car-seats-and-booster-seats>). It includes a guide to find the best car seat for your child, how to install it properly, and other tips to help keep your child safe in a car seat. Wishing you safe travels on your summer adventure!

Discover the World of Reading!

You've probably heard before that it's important to read aloud to your children, but why?

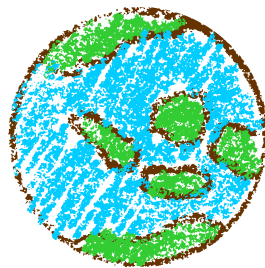
Research shows that reading aloud to children of all ages (and I mean ALL ages) supports cognitive development, improves language skills, prepares for academic success, and especially helps you develop a special bond with your child. It also improves imagination and creativity and increases concentration and discipline. All wonderful things, plus so many more!

If you don't have many books at home, then head to your local library. Not only do libraries house thousands of books, but they also hold programs and events for individuals of all ages – tons of fun for everyone! So beat the heat at your local library, get yourself a library card (or one for each member of your family), and explore the wonderful world of reading!

DIY Sidewalk Chalk Paint

What you need:

- Cornstarch
- Water
- Liquid food coloring



What to do:

- Mix equal parts cornstarch and water, and whisk until smooth
- Divide mixture into cups or a muffin tin
- Use one small drop of food coloring to color the mixture in each container and stir (**CAUTION:** too much food coloring may stain surfaces)
- Use paint brushes, sponges, foam brushes, or anything else to paint onto sidewalks or driveways!

In Our Communities...

Mercer County Library Events

Robbinsville

Happy Trails Petting Zoo

Saturday, July 21st @ 10am

All Ages Welcomed

Ewing

NJ Bubble Man

Friday, July 12th @ 3pm

All Ages Welcomed

Lawrenceville

Arm in Arm

Open Food Pantry

Mondays from 2pm-4pm

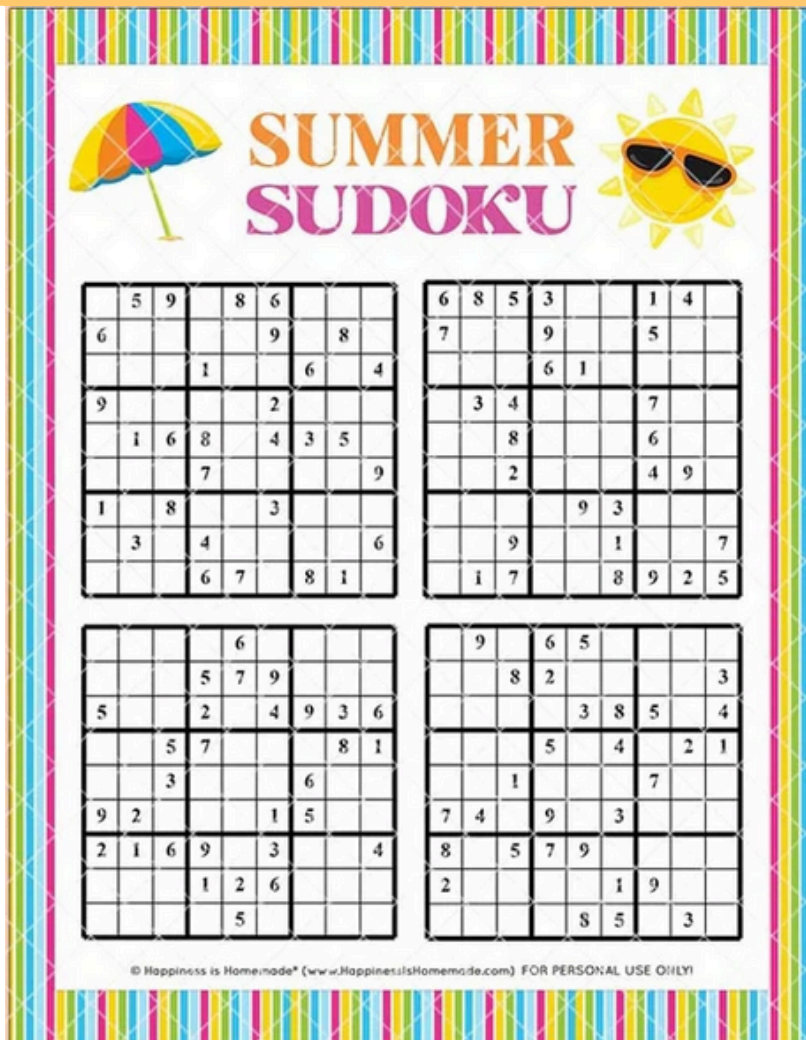
Hightstown

Wildlife Fun

Friday, July 19th @ 10am

For Ages 5 and up

Puzzle Corner



**Questions
or
comments?**

**Contact us at:
609-989-7940**

**or
training@ccc-nj.org**