

# Quality Team Newsletter

April & May 2025

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.

## Department Spotlight

In this issue, we're proud to introduce our Referral Department. This team provides families with community resources as requested and works closely with the One-Stop Career Center in Trenton to serve families in the WorkFirst New Jersey program.

They also provide families in our community with options of licensed child care centers, registered family child care providers, school-age programs, nursery schools, and summer camps based on their needs and educate them regarding quality indicators for child care so they can make an informed decision. You might even see members of this team at community events providing a wealth of information about Child Care Connection!

Any questions? Call the Referral Team at 609-989-8101.

## Resources

### *In Need of Assistance?*

Our Family Engagement Specialist is here to help connect you with the resources and support you need.

Whether you have questions or need guidance, she can assist you in finding the right information and services. Scan the QR code, or reach out directly for immediate assistance.



**HOW CAN WE HELP?**  
Find the resources you need quickly and easily.

**SUPPORT IN YOUR COMMUNITY!**  
Scan QR code or connect with our Family Engagement Specialist to access local resources!

**HOUSING**  
**FOOD**  
**EDUCATION**  
**TRANSIT**  
**HEALTH**

**GOODS • MONEY • CARE • WORK • LEGAL**

**Need Rapid Support?**  
Scan QR code to complete our resource request form.

**Let's Connect!**  
Ariel Perez  
arielperez@ccc-nj.org  
609-989-7770 x147

**Parenting Young Kids?**  
Scan QR code to learn about our events and developmental milestones!

To learn more about Child Care Connection, please visit our website at [childcareconnection-nj.org](http://childcareconnection-nj.org)

# Celebrating Children & Appreciating Adults

Every year in April, the National Association for the Education of Young Children (NAEYC) sponsors *The Week of the Young Child®*. This celebration helps bring awareness to the public about how children learn in early childhood and how this learning sets the foundation for later success. It also recognizes the importance of all that families and early childhood professionals do to support children's learning and development.

Each day of the celebration has a different theme, including *Music Monday*, *Tasty Tuesday*, *Work-Together Wednesday*, *Artsy Thursday*, and *Family Friday*. For each theme, there are activity suggestions that can be done at home or at child care programs. For more information, visit <https://www.naeyc.org/events/woyc/plan-your-event>.

With all the different ways that families and early childhood professionals are being recognized and celebrated over the coming months (see our *Holidays/Special Celebrations* section), we want to share our appreciation for all that you do, too!



## Mindfulness Activity

In our last newsletter we noted that mindfulness practices can help reduce stress and with handling challenging situations with children.

One mindfulness activity for adults and children is to have a "calming glitter bottle." After we shake the bottle and take a few moments to watch the glitter fall, we can become calmer.

Here are directions for making the bottle:  
Fill a plastic bottle or jar with  $\frac{1}{8}$  to  $\frac{1}{4}$  of glue (Elmer's school glue or similar).  
Add 1-2 tablespoons of glitter (a funnel helps).  
Fill rest of bottle with very warm water.  
Add food coloring (optional).  
Glue cap on bottle. Make sure it fully hardens (you might want to use hot glue).  
See <https://www.zerotothree.org/resource/calming-glitter-bottle/>

## Holidays/Special Celebrations

### April

April 5-11: Week of the Young Child®

April 12-20: Passover

April 20: Easter

April 22: Earth Day



### May

May 5: Cinco de Mayo

May 5-9: Teacher Appreciation Week

May 9: Provider Appreciation Day

May 11: Mother's Day

May 26: Memorial Day

*\*\*Keep in mind, this list is non-exhaustive and is not intended to purposefully exclude any religious holidays or festivals\*\**

# Community Events

CITY OF TRENTON  
W. REED GUSCORA, MAYOR

DEPARTMENT OF RECREATION  
NATURAL RESOURCES & CULTURE  
PAUL HARRIS, INTERIM DIRECTOR

Kiwanis CLUB OF TRENTON

SATURDAY  
APR 19  
2025  
11am - 2pm

## GREAT EGG HUNT

MEET THE EASTER BUNNY  
• HUNT FOR EGGS  
• WIN PRIZES  
• BEST DRESSED CONTEST

BOUNCE HOUSE • PETTING ZOO • FACE PAINTING  
MUSIC • GAMES & MORE

FOR MORE INFORMATION,  
PLEASE CALL  
(609) 989-3860

@CADWALADER PARK  
TRENTON NJ  
(PARKSIDE AVE ENTRANCE) BLACKTOP AREA NEAR ELLARSLIE MUSEUM



May 17, 2025  
10:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.  
Main Street, Pennington, NJ

FOOD - SHOPPING - ENTERTAINMENT



## STEEL MILL STREET FAIR



@ ROEBLING MUSEUM - 46<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL MAY STREET FAIR  
MAY 17, 2025 10 AM - 5 PM (RAIN DATE 5/18)

## HEALTHY KIDS DAY APRIL 26, 2025



At the Capital Area YMCA  
FIND YOUR JOY, FIND YOUR Y!

SAVE THE DATE

FREE EVENT  
11am-2pm

Healthy Kids Day provides all the ingredients for developing healthy, resilient kids. Join the Y for a day full of fun activities that celebrate kids being kids!



Food, Music, Entertainment, Face Painting, Balloon Sculptor, Health Screenings, Rock Wall, Bounce House and More!

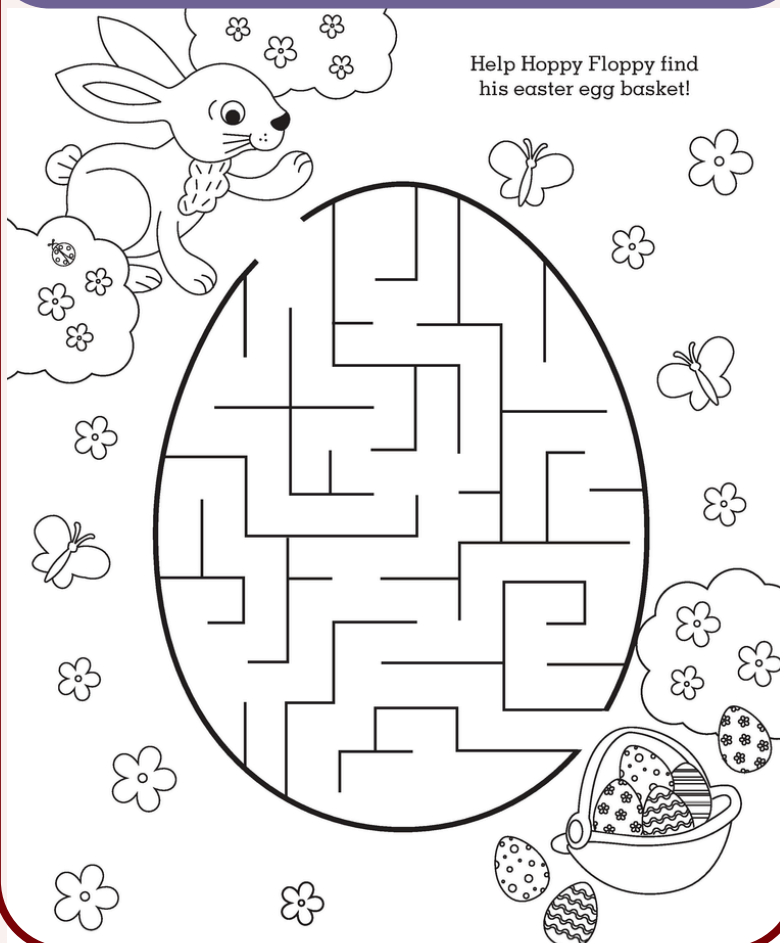


Aetna Better Health® of New Jersey

Capital Area YMCA  
431 Pennington Ave., Trenton, NJ

For more info visit [www.capitalymca.org/HKD](http://www.capitalymca.org/HKD)  
or call 609-599-9622

## Puzzle Corner



Questions  
or  
comments?

Contact us at:  
609-989-7940  
or  
[training@ccc-nj.org](mailto:training@ccc-nj.org)