

# Quality Team Newsletter

OCTOBER & NOVEMBER 2026

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

### Quality Improvement Specialist

My name is Jamie Ferguson, and I am the quality Improvement Specialist for Child Care Connection. In this role, I provide staff in early care and education programs (both center-based and family child care) with targeted technical assistance and coaching as part of the GNJK continuous improvement cycle. As one of our early childhood trainers, I provide professional development training to early childhood educators, including First Aid/CPR certifications and CDA training.

## Community Events



# Family Cook Night

This is a fantastic after-school snack that requires no baking. It allows kids to practice their "slicing" skills with a child-safe knife or a mandolin (under strict supervision).

- The STEM Connection: While slicing, you can discuss oxidation. Ask your child why the white part of the apple turns brown when exposed to air. Explain that it is a reaction between oxygen and the enzymes in the fruit.
- The Recipe: Slice three large apples into thin wedges. Arrange them on a large plate. Drizzle with warmed peanut butter (or a nut-free alternative) and a small amount of honey. Top with granola, mini chocolate chips, and a sprinkle of cinnamon.



## Helpful Resources



Sensory-Friendly Trunk-or-Treat in Princeton!

Saturday, October 10, 2026

10:00 am - 12:00 pm

Bierman Autism Centers

746 Alexander Road

Suite 100

Princeton, NJ 08540

# Activity

# Mummy Wrap

Players break into teams of three. Each team designates one player to be the mummy and the other two players to be the wrappers. Give each team a roll of toilet paper. On a go signal, each team of wrappers races to be the first team to wrap their mummy in a roll of toilet paper. You can also play this with teams of 1 wrapper and 1 mummy.

## Holidays/ Special Celebrations

## October:

 Breast Cancer Awareness  
Month

12 Columbus Day/Indigenous  
People Day  
31 Halloween

## November:

# 11 Veterans Day

## 26 Thanksgiving Day



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

# Puzzle Corner



QUESTIONS  
OR  
COMMENTS?

CONTACT US AT:  
609-989-7940

OR

✧ TRAINING@CCC-NJ.ORG ✧