



Positive Parenting

By The Guidance Center's *Family Resource Center* and



Great Parents, Great Start



The Guidance Center's Family Resource Center is launching a new program that promises to be enjoyable and educational for parents and their three year old children. "Great Parents, Great Start" is a program that promotes parent-child interaction and helps parents to support their child's cognitive, emotional, and social

growth and well-being. The program offers literacy based monthly home visits that will focus on the child's language and development through fun and interactive parent-child activities. Each parent and child involved in "Great Parents, Great Start" will receive a free copy of "Building Your Baby's Brain: A Parent's Guide to the First Five Years" and a "Leaps-n-Bounds" activity box that contains educational activities. Also offered are weekly playgroups at the Family Resource Center for an hour and a half. These groups run for twelve week sessions

and provide interaction for parents and children through activities and play. The playgroups are also an opportunity to form relationships with other families. Parents and children will have direct access to the resources at the Resource Center such as our lending library. We offer books for all ages, literacy bags, toys, games, and videos for check out. If you are interested in "Great Parents, Great Start" program, please call the Family Resource Center at (734) 785-7705, ext. 7053 for more information.



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Special Points of Interest:

- ☺ Great Parents, Great Start Programs
- ☺ Asset Seminars at Local Libraries
- ☺ What's in Your Library?
- ☺ Magic Carpet Ride to Reading
- ☺ Homemade Springtime Fun
- ☺ Parents As Teachers activities

Meet Corduroy!



Corduroy the bear is coming to Southland Mall for the Magic Carpet Ride to Reading! Corduroy is a little teddy bear that no one wants to buy because the other bears look newer. Plus, Corduroy has lost his button to his overalls! One little girl wants to take Corduroy home with her, but will her mother let her? Hear about Corduroy's adventures at the mall in the West Court (by Olga's). Corduroy will

arrive on **May 15th at 1:00 PM**. Come join AmeriCorps and Corduroy for stories, pictures, activities, and a raffle! The closest entrance is between Borders and Ruby Tuesday's. See you there!



Parents As Teachers, ABC, and Great Parents, Great Start Playgroups

Parents As Teachers Events

☆ *Infant/Toddler Playgroup* (Ages 0-2 years)

Fridays: 9:30 AM to 11:00 AM - Family Resource Center

May 7, 14, 21, 28

☆ *Preschool Playgroup* (Ages 30 to 60 months)

Wednesdays: 9:30 AM to 11:00 AM - Family Resource Center

May 5, 12, 19, 26

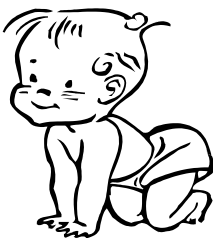
☆ *Preschool Playgroup*

Thursdays: 9:30 AM to 11:00 AM

May 6, 13, 20, 27



For more information or to register, call Wanda at (734)785-7705 ext. 7126



After Baby Comes Events

After Baby Comes is a support program that offers a home visit, weekly playgroup, and infant massage. In order to qualify for this program, you must be a first time parent with a child under the age of one year. Playgroups are offered on Wednesdays from 12:30 PM to 2:00 PM at the Family Resource Center. Playgroup dates for May: 5, 12, 19, 26

For more information or to register, call Rachel Rosin at (734) 785-7705 ext. 7215

Great Parents, Great Start Playgroups

Baby/Toddler Playgroup (for children ages birth to three):

Mondays from 10:30 AM to 12:00 PM - Family Resource Center

May 3, 10, 17, 24, 31

Preschool Playgroup (for children ages three to five):

Tuesdays from 1:00 PM to 2:30 PM - Family Resource Center

New session beginning June 1st – Call now to register! Space is limited!

Thursdays from 1:00 PM to 2:30 PM - Family Resource Center

May 6, 13, 20, 27

Call Andrea at (734) 785-7705 ext. 7159 to register.

Homemade Springtime Fun

Now that the weather is warmer, a world of possibilities opens up for play with your child. Try to spend as much time as you can outside with your child. Make a pair of binoculars by taping two paper towel tubes together and decorating however you please, with glitter, crayons, paper, or whatever else you have around the house. Then take a walk with your child using the binoculars. Ask him what he sees and look at different types of birds, trees, and bugs. Describe what he sees with him to reinforce the experience in his memory. For instance, “Do you see

that bluebird? Oh, I see a blackbird over there – he’s bigger than that bluebird we just saw!” You do not need to know what kind of bird, tree, or bug it is, just describe it. This encourages both language and observation skills.

Another wonderful outdoor activity is bubbles. These can be used with children of any age, even babies. Be careful around your baby’s eyes with bubbles, however. Here is a simple recipe for bubbles that can be used outside or indoors on those rainy days. Keep in mind that inside bubbles can cause slippery surfaces!

Bubble Mix

1 cup water

2 tablespoons Light Karo syrup (in a grocery store) or 2 tablespoons glycerin (usually at pharmacies)

4 tablespoons dishwashing liquid

Mix all the ingredients together and have fun!



Let’s Talk Language



Let’s Talk Language Infant Tip: Tell your baby what you are doing while you are doing it. Talk about what you see as you are driving or shopping. Continuous talking to baby helps him or her learn new words every day. Remember that baby can understand much more than he or she can say! Babies will talk sooner if spoken to often.

40 Asset Seminars at Local Libraries

Great Parents Great Start

Parent Child Interaction Sessions at the Taylor Community Library

This is a six-week session that focuses on the 40 developmental assets established by the Search Institute. These sessions focus on one asset of child development and provide stories, crafts and activities.

For more information check the library website:

www.taylor.lib.mi.us/greatparentsgreatstart.html

Great Parents, Great Start

Asset Program at the Lincoln Park Library

This program is geared for parents and their children ages 0-5. The

program will combine information and fun to introduce these 40 important assets that help render successful and healthy children. There are eight general categories that will be covered in the eight week program. The schedule is as follows:

Wednesday evenings:

May 5, 12, 19, 26

Saturday mornings:

May 1, 8, 15, 22

Sept. 11, 18, 25

Call (313) 381-0374 for more information.

Discover New Trails at Your Library

The 2004 Michigan Summer Reading Program at the Lincoln Park Library

Back by popular demand...the Reading Club Store and the Library Fish Pond!

Scheduled programs include:

Ginger Bell the Clown

Yoga with Jennifer Barrett

The Music Lady

Storytellers Theresa Tizedes & Jennifer Ivinskas

Joel Tacy the Comedian and

Juggler

Be sure to go to the library to pick up a schedule.

Registration begins JUNE 7, 2004



What's in Your Library?



Experts say the time from infancy to age five is crucial to language development. Libraries today provide valuable

language development resources for parents. Some even give free kits to new parents. These might contain tips on how to help your child develop language skills. They suggest books, games, songs and other activities. They may also list good books on parenting. Libraries have an assortment of age-appropriate books. Look for hardbacks and paperbacks, books with cardboard pages, cloth books, picture books and books on tape.

Libraries also have special programs for children. Usually these programs are free. They might include:

- Group activities for preschoolers such as films, arts and crafts, and puppet shows. Special reading programs may give children a certificate for having "read" or listened to a certain number of books.
- Parent-child story hours for infants.
- Read-alouds for toddlers.
- Finger plays, songs, rhymes and other activities. Once you learn these, you can use them at home with your child.
- Magazines. Some are for your

child, others help you with parenting.

- Cassette recordings of stories and songs.
- Educational videotapes and compact discs.
- Puppets and educational toys.

As soon as you can, start taking your child to the library. Weekly trips are recommended – even for toddlers. Help your child pick out her own books. Begin teaching her library etiquette. Preschoolers should know how to treat books. They should be quiet and considerate of others in the library.

Source: Katheryn Perkinson, *Helping Your Child Use the Library*, 1993.

Mission Statements

Everybody Ready

Our Vision: All children will be physically, intellectually, emotionally, socially and spiritually prepared to enter kindergarten “Ready to Learn, Ready to Succeed, Ready for Life” through the love, nurture and support of their families, their caregivers and their communities.

Our Mission: Everybody Ready engages the community to support families and caregivers as they meet the needs of children 0-5.

Please check out our website www.everybodyready.com. On it you will find upcoming events for children 0-5, and information telling you all about Everybody Ready. Look for our open quarterly meetings. We always have a keynote speaker talking about issues of young children.

The July 21st quarterly meeting has been cancelled. Please call 734 282-5497 with any questions.

Family Resource Center

The Guidance Center’s Family Resource Center’s mission is to provide comprehensive, research-based family support services to enhance families’ capacity to support the growth and development of all family members — adults, youth, and children, as well as the community.

Infant Massage

The Family Resource Center is pleased to offer a free infant massage class to parents of babies ages one month to crawling. Learn to nurture your baby with infant massage. The many benefits of infant massage include:

- ◆ Bonding – enhances communication and encourages positive interaction.
- ◆ Relief for baby from discomforts such as teething, colic, congestion, gas, and emotional distress.
- ◆ Relaxation – helps baby sleep deeper and longer.
- ◆ Helps parents feel more competent and confident in their parenting role.

Our qualified instructor will guide you through the infant massage process with demonstrations and handouts for you to keep. For more information, please call the Family Resource Center at (734) 785-7705, ext. 7053.



Family Resource Center
15601 Northline
Southgate, MI 48195
(734)785-7705 ext. 7053

Everybody Ready
One Heritage Place
Suite 230
Southgate, MI 48195
everybodyready@yahoo.com
(734)282-5497

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