



Positive Parenting

By The Guidance Center's Family Resource Center and



Cool Off at the Clifford Carnival!!!



It's time once again for the exciting **Reading**

Is Fundamental Summer Carnival with our special guest, Clifford the Big Red Dog! On **July 17th**, join the Family Resource Center from **4:00 - 7:00 pm** as we host the Carnival in the gym of the Aquinas Building. Shake Clifford's paw and play tons of games and win

prizes! The games will include:

- The Human Bubble
- Fishing Game
- Bowling
- Tricycle Racing
- Dinosaur Toss
- Lollipop Pull
- Treasure Hunt

And many more!!!

Prizes will be given out at each station, and door prizes will also be given.



Even better, every child that attends will go home with a free RIF book!



There will other special guests and surprises! For more information please call (734)785-7331 ext. 7021.



The Guidance Center

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Special points of interest:

- ☺ Reading Is Fundamental Carnival with Clifford
- ☺ Magic Carpet Ride with Clifford
- ☺ Coca-Cola Grant and Literacy bags
- ☺ Comerica Grant and Literacy bags
- ☺ Be Their Hero From Age Zero
- ☺ Preschooler Literacy Tips

Clifford Climbs Aboard the Magic Carpet!



We can't get enough of Clifford! If you can't either, join Americorps at the Magic Carpet Ride to Reading featuring Clifford the Big Red Dog! Here's another chance to see the lovable red dog. There will be stories, pictures with Clifford, crafts, and a raffle!!! The Magic Carpet Ride takes off on **July 19th at 1:00 PM**. It's located in **Southland Mall's West Court** by Olga's Restaurant. The closest entrance is by **Ruby Tuesday's and Borders**. Come have some fun with us!!!



Parent As Teacher and Story Hour Events for July

Parent As Teacher Events

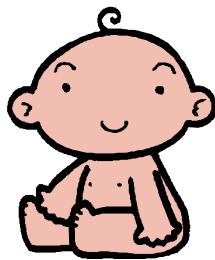
☆ *Infant/Toddler Playgroup (Ages 0-2 years)*
Fridays from 9:30 to 11:00 - Family Resource Center
July 11, 18, 25

☆ *Preschool Playgroup (Ages 30 to 60 months)*
Wednesdays from 9:30 to 11:00 - Family Resource Center
July 9, 23, 30

☆ *PAT Group Meeting*
Tuesday July 29 from 9:30-11:00
Library at Aquinas Building

For more information or to register,
call Wanda at (734)785-7331 ext.
7126

☆ *ABC Playgroup*
Wednesdays from 12:30 to 2:00 - Family Resource Center
For dates or to register, please call Rachel Rosin at
(734)287-1702.



Infant Massage

Do you have a baby who's not crawling yet? Come check out our infant massage classes, held at the Family Resource Center! The sessions are four weeks long, and the class meets once a week. It's free, and all you need to bring is your baby! Class times are Wednesdays from 5:30 to 7:00 PM, and Thursdays from 11:00 to 12:30. **Please register by July 25th for the August session.** Call (734)785-7331 ext. 7021 for registration and more information.

Story Hour

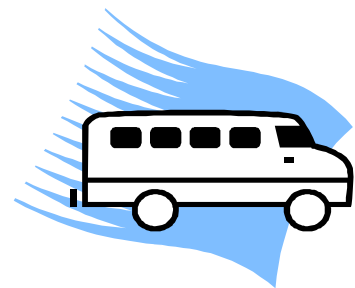
There will be no Story Hour this month. Come to our Reading is Fundamental Carnival on July 17th and have some fun with us!!! Check next month's newsletter for Story Hour times and date.

Exciting Opportunities for the Family Resource Center!!!

The Family Resource Center received a once in a lifetime opportunity to go on the road! Coca-Cola, partnering with Reading is Fundamental, awarded us a grant. This grant allows us to reach out to our community by making 600 literacy bags that will be transported on a Mobile Literacy Van. This Mobile Literacy Van will visit MSRP, Head Start, and other private Down-river childcare centers. The van will carry books, puppets, literacy bags,

and other fun activities. Americorps, in partnership with the Family Resource Center, will be providing Story Hour, RIF distributions, and materials for checkout. We have also received for the second year a generous grant from Comerica. With this grant we will make 200 additional literacy bags that are stored at the Family Resource Center in the Aquinas Building for family checkout. In conjunction with the Coca-Cola grant, we are now

able to offer these bags to families in the community. The Mobile Literacy Van goes on the road in the fall. Look for us at your childcare center!!!!



Fight Off Summer Boredom!

July is National Anti-Boredom month!! Here are a few activities you can do with your children to keep them busy and very entertained!

✦ **Bubble Art.** Fill 3 or 4 cups 3/4 full with water. Add quite a bit of dish soap (Dawn works best). Add a few drops of food coloring to each one. Have children take a straw and blow into the bubble mixture until bubbles are coming up over the top of the cup. Ask them to lay a piece

of paper over the top of the cup. The bubbles will pop, leaving a beautiful design!

✦ **Make ice cream sandwiches.** You can use any flavor graham crackers and any flavor ice cream. Let the ice cream get to a soft stage and then spread 1/2 cup onto half of a graham cracker. Put another graham cracker on top and wrap with plastic wrap. Freeze for about 3 hours, and enjoy!

✦ **Outdoor Bug Hunt.** Give your child

a magnifying glass and go on an outdoor bug hunt together. Encourage your child to look at the bugs closely and tell you what he or she sees.

✦ **Observation Walk.** Take a walk with your child. During your walk, suggest that the two of you find and name things that grow. Examples: trees, flowers, cats, people, dogs, etc. Ask, "Do rocks, streets, or cars grow?"

Have fun and avoid summer boredom!!!

Be Their Hero From Age Zero

Many states now have an early childhood initiative. Recent research has expanded our understanding of how the human brain develops both before and after birth. The number of connections between neurons rises dramatically after birth, reaching a peak between one and four years old for different regions of the brain. It remains at this peak level for several years, and then gradually declines to adult levels. It is this over production which enables young children to be such spectacular learners, soaking up knowledge from their surroundings.

There are windows of development that take place. Did you know that the best time to learn a second language is in the first 1000 days of life? That is why high school Spanish will always sound like High School Spanish-language

development is being wired starting at birth and grows wildly during the first few years. The windows of time for the very best learning are:

- ✗ Emotional control-in the child's first 700 days.
- ✗ Social Attachment-in the first 700 days.
- ✗ Vocabulary development- in the first 1000 days.
- ✗ Math and logic development- in the first 1500 days.
- ✗ Motor development- in the first 1900 days.

It doesn't mean that children can't learn after this time frame. It simply means this is the best and easiest time to learn, which is why we need better and more affordable early child care and education.

Different states are doing early childhood initiatives to assure that every child enters

kindergarten "ready to learn, ready to succeed and ready for life." The state of Michigan with the logo "Be Their Hero from Age Zero" is called Ready to Succeed. Partnering with them is the organization Everybody Ready, which services the 21 downriver communities. To get more information on the state initiative and to learn what Governor Granholm is doing to promote early childhood go to www.readytosucceed.org, and be sure to visit www.everybodyready.com to learn about the downriver initiative. If you would like to become involved with Everybody Ready please contact us, we welcome your support!



Tips For Literacy in Preschoolers

You can build literacy and language skills in your child by using these tips!

- * **Read to your child everyday.** Make this a warm and loving time when the two of you can cuddle close.
- * **Give everything a name.** Build comprehension skills by playing games that involve naming objects. Say things like "Where's your nose?" Or, touch your child's nose and say,

"What's this?"

- * **Say how much you enjoy reading.** Tell your child how much you enjoy reading with him. Talk about "story time" as the favorite part of your day.
- * **Read with fun in your voice.** Read to your child with humor and expression. Use different voices. Ham it up!
- * **Know when to stop.** Put the book

away for awhile if your child loses interest or is having trouble paying attention.

Reading skills last a lifetime. Books open doors!!!



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 on issues of young children. Our next meeting will be July 16, 9:30 am, at the Downriver Community Conference Building, Room 177, 15100 Northline, Southgate. Call 734-282-5497 for more information.

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.

Websites

<http://www.everybodyready.com>

<http://www.guidance-center.org>

<http://www.crayola.com>

<http://www.preschoolrainbow.org>

<http://www.childfun.com>

<http://www.dltk-kids.com/>

<http://www.parenthub.com>

<http://familyfun.go.com/>

<http://www.babycenter.com/>

<http://www.enchantedlearning.com/Home.html>

<http://www.suelebeau.com/index.html>



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