



The

Connection

Resources
For Families and
Early Childhood
Professionals

FEBRUARY 2019

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Visit our Resource and Lending Library Monday through Friday from 9:00 am-4:00 pm. You will discover FREE useful resources for teaching, parenting and activities for Quality time with your family!

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Sponsored by ...



Child Connect
for Family Success

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Howell, MI 48843
517-548-9112
www.childconnectmi.org



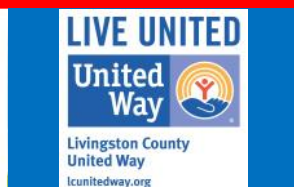
February is Dental Health Month!

Hurry in to Child Connect for Family Success and reserve our mini-dentist office for your make believe center. You can check it out for one week along with our dentist dress-up kit! It is a great way to encourage dental health with your toddlers and preschool children!



**Reserve the dental
suite NOW!!**

It's all about Quality.



2019 Child Connect Platinum Members:

Janet Joseph, Board Member
Marian Krippes, Board Member
Stacy Olesko, Board Member
Holly Carter, Board Member
Joyce Powers, Advisory Board Member

Holly Fowler, Director
[Teddy Bear Playhouse](#)

Lisa Guise, Director
[First Steps Preschool](#)

Julie Aramian, Director
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Tracie Crum, Director
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Chrissa Seigle, Director
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Tamara Jefferson, Director
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Jodie Hutcheson, Director
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Lisa Zehnder, Director
[Little Highlander's Childcare & Preschool Center](#)

Tammy Sexton, Owner/Director
[Make Believe Manor](#)

Katie Sloan, Director
[Little Glad Early Childhood Center](#)

David Simancek, Director
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**Renew your professional membership— call
Child Connect today! 517-548-9112**

Signing Babies are Happy Babies

Do you wish the babies in your care could tell you what they need from you before they are reduced to screaming and crying? Do you love seeing a baby's face light up when she realizes that you understand what she is trying to communicate? If so, you may want to try some simple baby sign language. Teaching babies how to communicate with their hands before they are able to speak clearly can cut down on frustration for everyone. Most babies are physically able to sign their needs before they can verbalize. They just need a caregiver to teach them how. There are many resources for learning baby sign language available on the Internet. You will find some listed below.

All of them agree that it is best to begin with a few simple signs. In quality child care settings, there are consistent routines that babies can count on. These are perfect opportunities to begin introducing some signs.



Resources to explore:

[Baby Sign Language Quick Start](#)

[How Can I Practice Baby Sign Language](#)

[Baby Sign and Learn](#)

[Videos: Patty Shukla Sign Language](#)



The Provider Connection

Professional Development Opportunities ...

Pediatric First Aid, CPR, and AED Training

February 16, 2019 - 8:00 am - 12:30 pm

February 21, 2019 - 6:00 pm - 10:00 pm

\$65.00 per person



Register online at childconnectmi.org
or call 517-548-9112

Register for all classes online at:
childconnectmi.org or by calling
517-548-9112

View the 2019 UPDATED
Professional Development Calendar
HERE! Including 18 FREE Classes!

LET'S CONNECT!

Child Connect for Family Success is
Online:

Our website: www.childconnectmi.org

Like us on **FACEBOOK**
Follow us on **Twitter**



FREE Social & Emotional Training & Support: "Sensory Processing Tools"

February 12, 2019

6:30 - 8:30 pm

Child Connect - 861 E. Sibley-Howell
Holly Carter, LLMSW



2.11.19

Director's Training & Support: Let's Talk!
Courtney Aldrich
MSU-E



1:00 - 3:00 pm at Child Connect for Family Success

Many people have contributed to our knowledge of early childhood education - Come learn with us!



Regie Rainbow Training at
Child Connect
6:30-830 pm
February 19, 2019
Register:
childconnectmi.org



I CAN ONLY IMAGINE ...

USING OPEN-ENDED MATERIALS

February 5 • Child Connect • 6:30-8:30

So many classes to choose from!

Register online at:
childconnectmi.org

Or call us at: 517-548-9112

Resounding Resources



NEW!!! Transportation play kits are available for you to enjoy with your children. Make believe is so much fun!



Big Books are a great resource for shared reading and for meeting a variety of instructional needs. Child Connect has many big books to choose from. Students practice reading fluency, expression and concepts of print through a shared reading. Follow the link below to see a demonstration of shared reading:

[Shared Reading in the Classroom](#)



Valentine Finger Puppets

What you'll need:

Card stock
Hole punch
Scissors
Marker
Glue
Googly eyes

How to make it:

Cut a heart from colored card stock or heavy construction paper (use it as a template to make more). Punch a starter hole for each finger with a hole punch, then use

scissors to enlarge the circle; a child's fingers should fit snugly through the holes. Decorate the heart with a paint pen or marker, adding facial features, and write your message on the back. Glue on googly eyes.

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Four (4) Sensory Snow Activities to Try

- [AMANDA MUNDAY](#)

As providers and caregivers, it's important that we offer opportunities for preschoolers to discover the environment around them. One of the best ways to do this is through sensory activities that combine playful fun and constructive learning. These fun snow projects are sure to get your students excited about winter weather!

1. Practice artistic skills with snow paint:

Use this activity as an opportunity to get the kids outside and into the snow! Fill a few gallon-sized buckets with water and add food dye to make several different colors. Hand out large paintbrushes and have the children paint pictures in the snow using the color buckets. This activity is lots of fun and the snow will work for rinsing off the paintbrushes too!

mixing colors
IN THE SNOW



2. Have the class conduct a sensory science experiment:

Start by showing the class a cube of ice and ask if they think it will get larger, smaller, or stay the same when it melts. Next, give each child a clear plastic cup and let them go outside and fill it to the brim with snow. Return the cups to the classroom and have the students observe what happens when the snow turns to water. No snow outside? This project can easily be modified by first letting the preschoolers touch and examine a bowl of ice cubes instead of showing one to the class. The second half can be demonstrated by the teacher, using shaved ice from a blender.

3. Learn about winter weather through tabletop activities:

A simple search online will result in fake snow recipes that are wet, dry, sticky, and powdery. Try making a batch of each kind and putting the play snow in tabletop bins. Preschoolers can sit together and feel how each type has a different texture and consistency. Use this sensory activity to discuss the different kinds of snowy weather.

4. Make your own snow dough:

Just like modeling clay, snow dough is a fun, hand-on way to bring wintertime into the classroom. Since it's DIY artificial snow, consider adding extras like glitter or food dye to make different colors. Provide snow clay accessories like buttons for snowman eyes or craft sticks for snowflakes!

TIME TO RENEW YOUR PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIP

Membership to Child Connect for Family Success is open to the public: parents, educators, health and human services representatives, businesses, community organizations, early childhood care and education personnel and anyone who cares for and about children and families. Yearly membership begins January 1st and continues to December 31st.

Membership fees support Child Connect services. Child Connect is funded through private and public contracts, foundation grants, corporate and individual donations and membership fees. Child Connect is a private, nonprofit 501(c)(3) tax exempt organization with a mission to support children and families by developing a quality early childhood care and education system.

Child Connect is a partner organization of the Kellogg Family Foundation, Livingston United Way, Community Foundation of Flint, Howell Chamber of Commerce, Livingston Promise, and Great Start Livingston.

Become a member of Child Connect for Family Success to:

1. **Broaden your knowledge:** Staying informed about the trends in early childhood education will only help you in the long run and will put you one step ahead of the competition!
2. **Take charge of your career:** Take advantage of career resources through professional development and free resources.
3. **Build a better resume:** Listing your membership on your resume shows alignment with the National CDA Council recommendation and the Great Start to Quality system AND is impressive to current or future employers, showing that you are dedicated to staying connected in your profession.
4. **Enhance your network:** We all know that networking improves quality. Making connections is critical, and joining Child Connect will give countless opportunities to create professional relationships. Joining a group allows you to have a sense of security and trust. From this, you are able to support and help one another in reaching your professional goals.
5. **Be a Leader:** Professional association with Child Connect will give you an opportunity to develop your skills as a leader, and this is important not only for your personal growth, but for your growth in the field of early childhood education.
6. **Become a mentor:** Giving back can be the greatest reward and benefit.
7. **Stay Inspired and Stay Motivated!**

Join Child Connect and discover something new TODAY!

[Become a Member of Child Connect Here!](#)

Livingston County's 12th Annual
Community Connect



A Free One-Day Event Connecting People to Information and Services

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 2, 2019
PARKER MIDDLE SCHOOL
400 WRIGHT ROAD, HOWELL, MI 48843
9 AM - 2 PM

Community Resources, Clothing, Employment Services,
Free Lunch, Legal Consultations, Haircuts, Health
Screenings, Children's Services, Books, Baby Items,
Fun Activities for the Kids (**No childcare**) & more . . .

SPONSORS:



National Bank
The power of local banking



Save the Date
November 2, 2019

29th Annual CSHC Regional Early
Childhood Conference
6 hours of PD!

Keynote: Jason Kotecki

with new eyes



**Hands on
Science!**

**NEW
Date!**

February 6

Courtney Aldrich - MSU-E

6:30 - 8:30 pm
at Child Connect - FREE!



Important dates to add to your
professional development calendar!
The "Hands on Science" Class was
Rescheduled from January 29th—please
Note the new date of February 7th!



Save the Date!
April 13, 2019

Exploring Montessori Conference

