



in Macomb

November/December 2006

Volume V, Issue 2

### *Early On sheds light on issues of infants and toddlers with special needs*

This publication is for families with infants and toddlers up to 36 months of age who have special needs.

Early Edition is published by Early On families for Early On families and to shine a little light on the many services and resources available in the county.

### **Infant Massage**

Calling all non-walking babies and toddlers, 18 months and younger!!!

Would you like to come to Infant Massage Class? It's very relaxing! Please have your parent call Carmen at (586)228-3526 for more information.

### *Early On Activities*

- **Parents Night Out – Let's Talk About Talking**– Join us to learn more about how we use our mouths to make sounds and produce clearly spoken words. You will have the opportunity to make some useful "talking tools" to share with your child at home, including speech games and a speech phone on November 15<sup>th</sup> from 6:30 – 8:30 p.m. at the MISD Building. Reimbursement up to \$20 for childcare. Call Julie at 228-3524 to RSVP.
- **Family Fun Event – Coney Island Night** – November 6<sup>th</sup> from 5:00 – 7:00 pm. Family keepsake photos will be taken. See flyer for more details. Please RSVP to (586)226-4579.
- **Family Fun Event – Snowy Day Fun** – December 7<sup>th</sup>. Watch your mail for more details.
- **Sterling Heights Parks & Recreation-Parent & Tot Group** – Playgroup starting up soon, look for details in the mail.

For more information about any of these events, call Julie Lagos at (586)228-3524

Visit [www.misd.net](http://www.misd.net) for more information

# Early edition

*A parent-to-parent newsletter*

## Parent to Parent

Last issue, a parent asked: "My son is in Early On. He likes the playgroup once we get there, but he will often give me a hard time when we are leaving the house to go. Any ideas?"

A parent wrote: *Use pictures to reinforce the good times at class. Have the staff help you put together a laminated "story card" with pictures of staff and other classmates. Show it to your child as you are getting ready, saying, "We are going to play with . . . and point to each person. We did this with our son for the Early On program and again after we transitioned to AI – it worked very well!!*

For the next issue, we have a parent who asks: "My daughter is twenty months old and for discipline at home I use time outs. This has been very effective in working with tantrums with her in our home. When we are out shopping and she has a tantrum, without the ability to put her in time out, it is sometimes difficult to calm her down. Any suggestions?"

If you have any suggestions or ideas, please send them to:

Michele Kraski  
35139 Kensington  
Sterling Heights, MI 48312

Or, e-mail your comments to:

[Jwilliams@misd.net](mailto:Jwilliams@misd.net)

*Thank you to all the parents who volunteered their time and knowledge at the Focused Monitoring Parent Forums in September!!!*

## Parent Exchange

The Parent Exchange is a place for parents to share with other parents. If you have or need advice, are looking for play dates, you cleaned out your basement and have some stuff that could benefit someone else, found a great new kid-friendly spot, GIVE US A SHOUT! Pretty much anything goes! Parents are one, if not THE, best resource around, and here is the place to share those resources!

*I have information about special needs soccer teams and a baseball team in and around Macomb County for children with delays. I also have a listing of Catholic churches in the area that offer special needs religious education. Please let me know if you want information on these. Julie Lagos, [jwilliams@mysd.net](mailto:jwilliams@mysd.net) or 228-3524.*

**To submit to the "Parent Exchange" call Julie at (586) 228-3524, e-mail [jwilliams@mysd.net](mailto:jwilliams@mysd.net), or send your request to Early On, Attn: Julie Lagos - Parent Exchange, 44001 Garfield, Clinton Twp, MI 48038.**

## Sand Art Brownies

(great for holiday give-aways)

Place in a jar in number order:

1. 2/3 tsp. salt
2. 1/2 of 1 1/8 cup flour
3. 1/3 cup cocoa
4. other 1/2 of flour
5. 2/3 cup brown sugar
6. 2/3 cup white sugar
7. 1/2 cup chocolate chips
8. 1/2 cup white chocolate chips
9. 1/2 cup chopped walnuts

Pack ingredients down after the sugars.

When ready to use, pour all ingredients into a mixing bowl and add:

- 1 tsp. vanilla
- 2/3 cup oil
- 3 eggs

Bake in greased 9 x 13 pan at 350 degrees for 30 – 35 minutes. Enjoy!

## Make your own Wrapping Paper

First, make your own stamps by hot gluing wooden shapes onto empty film canisters. This makes stampers that are easy for little ones to hold onto. Then, wrap a gift using brown paper bags or brown roll paper used for shipping. Let the children stamp the packages with one color or many using the stamps. Add a pretty ribbon. These are especially appreciated by grandparents and teachers. Have fun!

## The Rainbow Connection

A listing of conferences, workshops, classes and events happening in and around Macomb County along with useful web-sites.

### Conferences/Workshops/Classes:

- **Early Childhood Parenting Classes** – are being offered through CARE and are free of charge. Call CARE for more information at (586)541-0033.

### Information:

- **Toys-R-Us** has copies of their *Differently Abled Kids* toy catalog in stores soon. This catalog indicates what area of development each toy promotes.

### Things to Do:

- **Mt. Clemens Santa Claus Parade** – November 24, 2006
- **Mt. Clemens Fireworks** – December 31, 2006
- **Look for tree lighting ceremonies in your city or township.**

### Websites:

- [www.fathersnetwork.org](http://www.fathersnetwork.org) – Father's network celebrates and supports fathers and families raising children with special health care needs and developmental disabilities.

## To Every Parent

There are little eyes upon you,  
And they are watching night and day;  
There are little ears that quickly take  
In every word you say;  
There are little hands all eager to do  
Everything you do,  
And a little child who's dreaming of  
The day he'll be like you.

You're the little one's idol,  
You're the wisest of the wise,  
In his little mind about you,  
No suspicions ever rise;  
He believes in you devoutly,  
Holds all you say and do;  
He will say and do in your way when  
He's grown up to be like you.

There's a wide eyed little child, who  
Believes you're always right,  
And his ears are always open and he  
Watches day and night;  
You are setting an example  
Everyday in all you do  
For the little child who's watching  
To grow up to be like you.

Author unknown

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