

CCC Newsletter

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The mission of Concord Children's Center is to cultivate an intimate, welcoming community where children develop respectful relationships and inquisitive minds, build confidence in their individual gifts, and are engaged, prepared and inspired to learn



October 2014

Calendar

Oct. 8	Board Meeting
Oct. 14	CCC Closed/Holiday
Oct. 17	CCC Fall Social
Nov. 8	Bookshop Fundraiser
Nov. 11& 12	Opt. After School
Nov 12	Dec. Opt. Days request due
	CCC Board meeting
Nov. 15	Open House
Nov. 26	Opt After School Half day
Nov 28 & 28	CCC Closed for Holiday

Auction Update

It's not too soon to start thinking about this year's auction, set for **March 21, 2015**, at Concord Academy. We are starting to put together the committees that make this wonderful evening happen, and we need YOUR help! We have a variety of volunteer opportunities, with different skill requirements and time commitments. There will be people available to answer questions about the auction at the October 17th social, or please contact auction co-chairs Rali Tufts (raligueorgui@yahoo.com) or Jenifer Perry (jeniferlperry@gmail.com)

The Science of Fall



The Sunflower at the top of the page made the journey from a seed planted by toddlers at our Emerson Program to the science table in a Three/Fours classroom at West Concord. Introducing children to science and nature is an important role of the early childhood educator. Children will look closely at the sunflower, removing seeds, watching the petals curl and change, guessing what might happen to the changing sunflower seeds and the pumpkin. This Fall we have watched pumpkins grow from the seeds of last year's classroom pumpkin. The goal of the teacher in the toddler through pre-school and after school classrooms is to encourage the children to wonder, speculate, investigate, experiment, and play with these materials.



Nowhere in this process is a right or wrong answer – it is all about exploration and learning the process of learning. Our goal is to have our children leave

Concord Children's Center curious and eager to learn more about the world we live in.

*Concord Children's Center invites you
to our annual*

Wine and Craft Beer Tasting

7-11 p.m., Friday, October 17
Home of West Concord parents Halley and Bill McElwain
316 Heaths Bridge Road

*Please join us to celebrate
the start of the school
year! Invitation extended
to all CCC families.*

*R.S.V.P. appreciated by October 13:
ccc-development@verizon.net or
(978) 369-6790*



The Growing Playscape at Ripley.

For the past two years we have been watching the development of a nature park and playground at our Ripley Program. This community project has been funded by donations from the town (including the Community

Preservation Committee), individuals, corporations, and foundations. The Friends of the Playscape at Ripley have taken the vision of local early childhood educators and created an amazing place for children and families to play and explore in nature. Please visit this fall and while you are there find the path to Gowing's Swamp for a short hike around an amazing natural treasure. The entrance to the swamp is at the Southwest corner of the Playscape - follow the cart path and you will see the trail head on your right.

For information about the playscape:

www.ripleyplayscape.org

To learn more about Gowing's Swamp:

<http://www.concordma.com/magazine/sep/oct01/gowingsbog.html>



Community Resources:

Concord has a great Affordable Housing program. For more information you can contact:

Lara Kritzer, Senior Planner, Town of

Concord, 141 Keyes Road, (978) 318-3290

lkritzer@concordma.gov.

How to reach your Program Director

Emerson Jennine Lesser 978-369-0492
emerson@concordchildrenscenter.org

Ripley Penni Hensley Wagner 978-369-5983
ripley@concordchildrenscenter.org

WC Anne Doherty 978-369-6790
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For Our Expecting & Very New Parents
(Of Which There Are Many!)

Gentle Sleep Support Workshop with Sarah Kerrigan, M.A. Are you expecting a baby or parenting an infant? Learn about supportive strategies to help your baby sleep. Sarah is a Child Development Specialist and Pediatric Sleep Consultant who will teach you about the foundations of infant sleep. You will leave the program with information to help you understand:

- Why babies and toddlers sleep the way they do
- How biology and psychology affect your child's sleep
- Developmentally appropriate expectations for your baby's sleep
- Gentle techniques to support the sleep learning process
- Tools and strategies you can apply with your own child and family

This workshop does not promote a "right way" to help a child sleep; rather it will provide information and tools that can empower parents to make choices that are right for their own families. In the 2nd hour of the class there will be time for discussion, questions and answers.

Thursday, November 13, 7:00-9:00 p.m.

Sargent Memorial Library, Boxborough

Call to Register: 978-287-0221

Annual Appeal Thank You! Last year's Annual Appeal raised over \$20,000 for CCC and our children, with more than half of our families contributing. Annual Appeal donations support a variety of areas across all three sites and help keep the quality and standards at CCC high. The first mailing for this year's Annual Appeal will go out in early December.

Save the date! CCC Bookshop Fundraiser



November 8th. all day at the Concord Bookshop
Kick off your holiday shopping at The Concord Bookshop and support Concord Children's Center at the same time! The

Bookshop will donate a percentage of all purchases on the day of the fundraiser, including gift cards.



September-December 2014 1-Page Parent Handout Fall Program Information

Registration required for all programs: lmattthews@jri.org or 978-287-0221

**Thursday
October 9
Bedford
7:00 p.m.**

Keeping Kids Safe presented by Marybeth Dwyer from Children's Trust Fund.
This program provides parents with the information and skills they need to face the sensitive issue of child sexual abuse. Included will be how and when to bring up the topic, and what to do if a child discloses something happened to them. For parents of children ages 4-10. Protect your children while preparing them for the real world.

**Thursday
November 13
Boxborough
7:00-9:00 p.m.**

Gentle Sleep Support Workshop presented by Pediatric Sleep Consultant and Child Development Specialist Sarah Kerrigan. Learn about appropriate expectations and supportive strategies to help your baby sleep. Learn why babies and toddlers sleep the way they do, how biology and psychology affect your child's sleep, developmentally appropriate expectations, tools and strategies you can apply.

Post-Adoption Topics held on Wednesdays, 9:30-11:00 in Concord (childcare provided)

October 8

Keeping Our Children Safe

November 12

Holidays and Celebrations in an Adoptive Family's Life

December 10

Handling Transitions and Disappointments

To be added to the monthly reminder email for Adoption Learn & Play: email lmattthews@jri.org

To contact the facilitator, Mary Rowlinson, R.N. – mrowlinson@jri.org or 978-287-0221, ext. 218.

Parent-Child Programs

**Sat., October 25
10:30 or 11:00**

Visit the Butterfly Place in Westford for Ages 3 thru 8. Observe & learn about the life cycle of caterpillars and butterflies in a tropical environment. Includes free book.

**Tuesdays, 2-3:00
Sept. 16 to Nov. 4**

Outdoor Explorations with Ellie at Mt. Misery in Lincoln for Ages 3 thru 6
Observe and explore the changing of seasons with trail hikes, pond discoveries, and sharing what you discover in your own neighborhood between classes (no strollers).

**Wednesdays
1:30-2:30 p.m.
10/15, 11/12, 12/17**

Intergenerational Story and Song Time with Seasonal Craft Project for Ages 2-5 and Grandparents. Bring your grandparents to a fun afternoon co-sponsored by the Carlisle Council on Aging. Ellie will lead the fun – sign up for one or all dates.

All programs are free. We are a MA Dept. of Early Education & Care CFCE Grant Program serving 11 towns.