

Autumn/Winter

Literacy for Preschoolers

The preschool years are an important time to instill in children a lifelong love of books and reading. What better way to encourage young children to read than to show them how much fun books and reading can be! By enhancing prereading skills during a child's early years through activities and story sharing, early childhood educators can take steps to help prevent reading difficulties that may arise later in children's lives. There are many types of reading and language activities that early childhood educators can do in the classroom to help children build skills they will need to become successful readers.

Here are just a few suggestions:

- Make books and magazines readily accessible to children by providing shelving or baskets filled with books and a quiet area for children to enjoy a book by themselves or with a friend.
- Encourage children to write by making pencils, crayons or markers, and paper available. Before children can read the words on the page, they will make up their own story to go along with the illustrations. This is an important step in a child's pre-reading skills.

- Share stories in the classroom in a story time or circle time format. When you do this be sure to choose books with bright, colorful illustrations and stories that are clear and appropriate for preschool children. Choose books with repeating words or phrases that children can say along with the reader. Show enthusiasm when reading a book to a group of children and they will be enthusiastic about the book, as well. Read a book several times before sharing with a group so that it is familiar. Learn to read while holding the book at arms-length and with the illustrations facing the group of children so that the pictures can be seen as the story is read.
- Encourage children to talk about the stories they have recently heard in story time and act them out. Let the children use flannel boards and props to make their stories come to life. Activities that require this kind of creative expression will make the book more relevant for the children by allowing them to connect emotions with the written word.

A helpful on-line resource that will inspire you to share good books with preschool children is the BookHive at www.bookhive.org, a web site designed for children ages birth through twelve, their parents, teachers or anyone interested in reading about children's books. This site contains hundreds of recommended book reviews in a variety of reading levels and interest areas. Users can search for books by author, title, reading level, interest area, number of pages, and even favorite illustrator. BookHive also provides list of recommended books, arranged by age.

(Literacy for Preschoolers continued on page 6)

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Save the Date SCAECE Annual Convention February 6, 2016

Medallion Center
Columbia, SC
- Keynote Speaker -
Andrew H. Agatston,
J.D.



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Welcome the SCAECE Board of Directors

The South Carolina Association of Early Care and Education mission includes creating a team of professionals who join together to promote licensed, privately-owned child care and early education opportunities for the children of our state. Please newly welcome to the team as Board of Direc-

tors: Mara Dunkin of Columbia, Amber Bishop of Greer, Melissa Jordan of Columbia, Cheri Smith of West Columbia and Tammy Compton of Landrum. Welcome back to the board: Shannon Erickson of Beaufort, Marsha Davis of Bluffton, Sheila King of Anderson, Margaret Palmer of

Seneca and Carolyn Watt of Easley. Additionally, please welcome the new officers: President Tami Nix of Sumter, Vice President Tricia Sheldon of North Charleston, Secretary Cindy Walton-McCawley of Columbia, Margaret-Anne Gaffney of Lexington.

The Officers



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Tami Nix
Archway Academy*



*Vice President
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Amber Bishop
Kids R Kids



Melissa Jordan
La Petite Academy

Tammy Compton

Miss Tammy's
Little
Learning
Center



Associate Member
Ed Brashier
FCI Agency

Our Mission Statement

The South Carolina Association of Early Care and Education is a team of professionals who join together to promote licensed, privately-owned child care and early education opportunities for the children of our state. We have members (individuals, large and small centers, and schools) in every county. We represent our membership at all state level legislative functions by employing a professional lobbyist and having a dedicated, hard-working Board of Directors. We have members on many committees in South Carolina which deal with early childhood issues such as the South Carolina Child Care Advisory Board, state & county First Steps Boards, and the First Steps/United Way Quality Task Force.

Legislative Update

Winter 2015-16

By: Jeff Thordahl

The end of 2015 is here and the start of the 2016 Legislative session begins in January. As the year closes out you may find yourselves with an opportunity to see and engage your local legislators at events celebrating the Season and the New Year. Look for those opportunities to engage them and let them know what you do in the community. Your story is powerful yet I fear largely unknown and taken for granted by State leaders.

Tell your story. It is and should be frustrating to you that you responsibly provide child care and education starting with six month old children. This special care comes with a heavy dose of necessary regulation by the State. However, over the last many years, there has been a proliferation of child care by unregulated businesses and groups that do not take infants and have no desire to take infants. They have done this by exploiting the loopholes in state law relating to the 4 hour exception and the summer camp exception. This allows them to avoid many of the cost intensive regulations and the lower staff to child ratios.

The great benefit you provide to the State, to single parents, two working parent households and therefore to the economic success of the state should be recognized and lauded by state leaders. Your business incurs tremendous oversight in return for providing a critical service to the people of the State. Yet your service has become a struggle to compete with the loophole groups who often times have the added advantage of being non-taxpayers as well as having none of the obligations of continued training and oversight of DSS.

As you know H. 3767 has been introduced by Chairman Brian White and referred to the Ways and Means Committee – it seeks to close the loopholes and provide parents with a clear understanding of which child care businesses are regulated. The Ways and Means Committee subcommittee will hopefully focus again on the bill after the first of the year. Representative White does not want the issue to be swept under the rug or be subjected to opponents simply trying to kill the bill.

Keep in mind what happened to this same bill last year! The unregulated groups paint a rosy picture that they have everything under control and there is no need for State oversight. You know that is easy to say but you also know that the oversight by DSS is a necessary part of safe and healthy child care. Somehow their non-profit status gives them an imagined and unsubstantiated level of health and safety. This will happen again if you don't have a meeting with your local legislator to help them understand the tragedy of so many children being in unregulated settings and in many instances where the parents don't even know it.

Take the time to visit with you legislator. The five members below are the five on the subcommittee who are dealing with the legislation right now and need to hear from you.

Michael A. "Mike" Anthony, Union

Michael A. Pitts, 2nd V.C., Laurens

Jackie E. "Coach" Hayes, Dillon

William R. "Bill" Whitmire, Oconee

William G. "Bill" Herbkersman, Beaufort

If you are in the district of one of the members of the Ways and Means committee call them and make an appointment to meet with at your facility or at their office. On page five is a list of all the members with a reference to their County of residence. If they are near you visit www.scstatehouse.gov for their Bio which includes their local address telephone number for you to call. It is fair to say that Chairman Brain White and Representative Shannon Erickson who are on the committee understand the issue and simply need a note saying thank you.

House Ways and Means Committee

W. Brian White, *Chairman*, Anderson
Harry B. "Chip" Limehouse, III, *1st V.C.*, Charleston
Michael A. Pitts, *2nd V.C.*, Laurens
William "Bill" Clyburn, *3rd V.C.*, Aiken
Michael A. "Mike" Anthony, Union
Jimmy C. Bales, Richland
Kenneth A. "Kenny" Bingham, Lexington
Alan D. Clemmons, Horry
Gilda Cobb-Hunter, Orangeburg
J. Derham Cole, Jr., Spartanburg
Shannon S. Erickson, Beaufort
Nelson L. Hardwick, Horry
Jackie E. "Coach" Hayes, Dillon
William G. "Bill" Herbkersman, Beaufort
Lonnie Hosey, Barnwell
Chip Huggins, Lexington
Dwight A. Loftis, Greenville
Phillip D. Lowe, Florence
James H. Merrill, Berkeley
Joseph H. "Joe" Neal, Richland
J. Gary Simrill, York
G. Murrell Smith, Jr., Sumter
Garry R. Smith, Greenville
Leonidas E. "Leon" Stavrinakis, Charleston
William R. "Bill" Whitmire, Oconee

Welcome SCAECE's Newest Members

Chesterbrook Academy

Miss Tammy's Little Learning Center

Meyer Center for Special Children

And now we leave you with a few quotes:

“Our care of the child should be governed, not by the desire to make him learn things, but by the endeavor always to keep burning within him that light which is called intelligence.”

- Maria Montessori

“Ever tried. Ever failed. No matter. Try Again. Fail again. Fail better.”

- Samuel Beckett

- A Mother for Choco by Keiko Kasza
- Brown Bear, Brown Bear by Bill Martin, Jr.
- Caps for Sale by Esphyr Slobodkina
- Five Little Monkeys Jumping on the Bed by Eileen Christenlow
- Going to the Zoo by Tom Paxton
- The Very Busy Spider by Eric Carle
- Who Hops? by Katie Davis
- Mouse’s Birthday by Jane Yolen
- Se venden gorras (Caps For Sale) by Esphyr Slobokina
- Who Is The Beast? by Keith Baker
- One, Two, Three by Pat Mora
- Brown Bear, Brown Bear, What Do You See? by Bill Martin, Jr.
- Good Night, Gorilla - Peggy Rathmann
- Pio Peep! Traditional Spanish Nursery Rhymes by Alma Flor Ada
- A Taste of the Mexican Market by Nancy Maria Grande Tabor
- A Chari for My Mother by Vera B. Williams
- A Pocket for Corduroy by Don Freeman
- Harry the Dirty Dog by Gene Zion
- Is Your Mama a Llama? by Deborah Guarino
- I Went Walking by Sue Williams
- Ten Little Fingers by Jose Luis Orozco • Ten, Nine, Eight by Molly Bang

Remember to share books you love with your children every day and they will love them too!

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