



With jump ropes, hula-hoops, squirt bottles, sidewalk chalk, nature walks, water-balloons and a little imagination there are SO many opportunities to get outside and enjoy the fresh air and warm weather. Get creative and ask the children what kind of summer activities they want to try. Make a schedule with the kids to plan one fun and different activity each day of the week to give them something to look forward to when they arrive in the morning. Encourage the big kids to read to or help the little ones (with supervision of course) whenever possible to make your load a little lighter.

Recycled Milk Carton Bird Feeder



With all the milk served at day care, milk jugs or cartons are never in short supply. Plan ahead to make bird feeders with the kiddos to hang in the back yard. Watching, logging and learning about the birds that visit will provide an on-going activity for the summer.

A simple bird bath can be made from flower pots (turned upside down) with a shallow tray of water on top. Be sure to change the water regularly to keep it fresh and clean.



Book suggestion: *Are you my Mother* by: P.D. Eastman

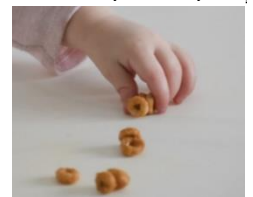


The Truth About Food Pouches

Although food pouches meet a need for convenient, shelf-stable food options, there is growing concern about the long-term impact of serving pureed food past the usual transition to table foods. Food pouches are a recent trend in the marketplace and provide quick, on-the-go food for young children. Children can easily suck the puree from the pouch, using similar mouth and tongue movements as breast or bottle feeding.

Aspects that parents or care givers may not realize is that pouches oversimplify the eating process, limit children exposure to learn developmentally appropriate oral skills, and extend the use of pureed foods well beyond the usual age of baby food. Transitioning to table food is an important developmental milestone for infants and toddlers with a unique window of opportunity between 6-18months of age. Spoon feeding by an adult and self-feeding of finger foods encourage the lips and tongue to develop new and different muscles and movements as well as hand-eye coordination and development of the pincer grasp, (thumb and first finger coming together on an object).

The American Academy of Pediatrics recommends that all babies be on table foods similar to what their family eats by around 12 months. By limiting the exposure of finger foods with a variety of textures and the use of child size utensils, children may be delayed in fine motor development, speech acquisition, experience lower nutritional quality, and have increased picky eating behaviors. The choking factor of food pouches is another concern that parents may not realize. Children should never be given any type of food while strapped in a car seat, which is exactly when busy parents tend to use the handy pouches. Additionally, the covers of the pouches are the perfect size to block the airway and pose an extreme choking hazard for young children.



If you choose to use food pouches, educate yourself about the risks and long-term effects on children. Check the ingredient label for added sugars and provide the appropriate serving size for the age of the child. While there's nothing wrong with using the pouches from time-to-time, pediatricians are concerned that families might become too reliant on them.



CORNER

CLAIMS

We want you to receive the most money possible each month. Claims Corner has useful reminders and hints to help you do just that.

- When providing care on a holiday, when most programs are closed, please add a note to your claim to let Wildwood know you were open.
- Kindergarten forms for the 2021-2022 school year are available to download on Wildwood's website. For any child who is eligible to attend school (5 year or older) Wildwood needs to know what school is attended and whether the child will attend school in-person or virtually (online). If an eligible child will not be attending school, we need that information as well to ensure you can be reimbursed for meals served during the usual school day.

***The last day we can receive original WY & CO May claims for processing is July 23, 2021.**

***The last day we can receive original WY & CO June claims for processing is August 23, 2021.**

Winners of Wildwood's Tablet give-away

Ruth Aragon, Sheryllyn Bidinger, Heather Bruce
Julie Espinosa, Michelle Jaime, Cristol Lovato
Margarita Nava, Lea Opitz, Verna Rosso, Cindy Ververs

Congratulations!

Newsflash from USDA: If a parent does not identify Race and Ethnicity of the child when completing a Child Enrollment Form (CEF), the provider is no longer required to visually identify the child's Race and Ethnicity.

Tier 1 Rate for all Home Providers

All licensed home providers participating in the Child and Adult Care Food Program will receive Tier 1 reimbursement rates for all enrolled children (with the exception of the provider own) beginning July 1, 2021, and through June 30, 2022.

If you know providers who are not on the food program and could use a boost to their income, please encourage them to sign-up.



**Virtual Visits
Are Here**



Google Meet



Due to the extended national health emergency, Wildwood will be introducing Virtual Visits for all providers. The virtual visit allows the monitor to "see" the meal being served, the children present, and to verify that paperwork is up to date. Although there will be a learning curve with this technology, our staff will work with you to determine the best option based on the type of device you have available. In rare instances that technology is not available, Wildwood has the option to do a porch review. Two of the next three reviews for each program will be done using a virtual platform. The USDA has extended the waiver for on-site reviews until 30 days after the end of the national health emergency.

2021 Training deadline has changed

The training deadline has been updated to align Colorado and Wyoming home providers participating in Wildwood's food program. Please complete all required training topics by September. If you prefer to do your training manually and have not received paper copies, please call the office and we'll mail them out right away. 303-730-0460

Topics required annually are Civil Rights, Nutrition, and Program Training. All of these and more are available online at www.wildwoodonline.org under the CACFP heading.

USDA Nondiscrimination Statement

In accordance with Federal civil rights law and U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) civil rights regulations and policies, the USDA, Its Agencies, offices, and employees, and institutions participating in or administering USDA programs are prohibited from discriminating based on race, color, national origin, sex, disability, age, or reprisal or retaliation for prior civil rights activity in any program or activity conducted or funded by USDA. Persons with disabilities who require alternative means of communication for program information (e.g. Braille, large print, audiotope, American Sign Language, etc.), should contact the Agency (State or local) where they applied for benefits. Individuals who are deaf, hard of hearing or have speech disabilities may contact USDA through the Federal Relay Service at (800) 877-8339. Additionally, program information may be made available in languages other than English. To file a program complaint of discrimination, complete the USDA Program Discrimination Complaint Form, (AD-3027) found online at:

http://www.ascr.usda.gov/complaint_filing_cust.html, and at any USDA office, or write a letter addressed to USDA and provide in the letter all of the information requested in the form. To request a copy of the complaint form, call (866) 632-9992. Submit your completed form or letter to USDA by: (1) mail: U.S. Department of Agriculture Office of the Assistant Secretary for Civil Rights 1400 Independence Avenue, SW Washington, D.C. 20250-9410; (2) fax: (202) 690-7442; or (3) email: program.intake@usda.gov. This institution is an equal opportunity provider.