

Wildwood – September 2017

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www.wildwoodonline.org

President's Message

Thanks to Samantha Marshall at www.childcareinfo.com for some excellent information regarding talking to children about racial bias. As Samantha said, "Over the last few days our nation has experienced a roller coaster of big emotions, opinions, and utter disbelief. Disbelief that hate, the rhetoric of hate, and the actions of hate are acceptable. You teach that hate is not acceptable in your programs everyday. Outside of your program, though, children are being exposed to ideas and adjectives that they may not be able to comprehend or are not hearing it in the right context. If you're feeling like you need to address the recent tragic events, you can - you do. Your job is the most important one in our society - you are helping shape our future generations."

One of the resources provided by childcareinfo.com is PBSKids. This site provides great information about how to talk to children with age-by-age insights. Below is an overview followed by information on babies and toddlers: 0-2. At every age and stage, children are affected by what's happening in the news, whether parents share this information or shield them from it — because the news is everywhere.

According to a Kaiser Family Foundation Study, today's families are watching a lot of TV. 65% of today's children live in homes where the TV is on half the time, and in 36% of homes, the TV is on all the time. This study also points to research stating that TV in the background has an impact on children because "the content is not designed for them." How many hours a day children are watching the news has not been definitively researched, but news exposure is clearly having an impact. Even if parents keep the TV news off around young children (as experts recommend) the news can still be seen at the supermarket, in a doctor's waiting room, or at a friend's house. Therefore, it's not surprising that teachers are reporting that children as young as five are talking about the news, and see news events reflected in their play at school.

Because the news has saturated our daily lives, experts recommend you develop age-appropriate ways to talk about it with kids. While these conversations will be somewhat limited with younger children, experts recommend that you discuss the news in a more detailed way with older children. To help out, this article offers age-customized pointers for discussing the news with suggestions on how much (or how little) news they should be watching.

What They Understand about the News

Babies and toddlers should not be exposed to disturbing news. Even though they may not understand the words, they will react to visual and audio stimulation. They will also pick up on your feelings about what you see on the news, and react to your emotional state.

Babies and toddlers may be drawn to the sounds and images on the news even if the TV is on in the background. If toddlers see the news, they may think the events on TV are happening to them.

Signs of Stress

If babies and toddlers sense that you are upset by the news, they may become upset as well. You may notice them get fussier, have lengthy crying bouts, and even resist being comforted. They might have a loss of or big increase in appetite, and regress in their toileting or other developmental milestones.

Media Recommendations

Don't expose children under 2 to TV news. Babies will not understand images on TV but will be aware of your reactions.

Loud noises (such as gun shots on the news, in violent TV dramas, and real life), big flashes, angry voices or angry-looking people on TV may startle or scare toddlers.

"Leave the room with your toddler or turn off the TV if images could be potentially upsetting to either of you," recommends Susanna Neumann, Ph.D.

Calming Strategies

Use soothing tones when you talk, and give more cuddling and hugs — particularly if your baby seems affected by your feelings. Be patient if your child shows changes in patterns of eating, sleeping, or toileting.

This website will provide a great deal of relevant information for you and your parents!

Kati Wagner

The last day that we can
accept original June
claims or upward
revisions is
September 22, 2017

Claims Corner

Very Important – All providers claiming online will be switched to KidKare on October 1, if you haven't already switched! You can switch over any time during the month of September to beat the "rush". Please contact your Field Rep or the office if you have any questions.

Claims are due in the office by the 5th of the month.

Remember that prior notice must be given to your program rep when you are going to be out of your home.

School is starting in August/September so don't forget to document all school closures on your claims.

Please send in your kindergarten forms (for kinders only) and school calendars. Don't forget to document all school closures every month.

If you are still using Cycle Menus please switch over to writing out your menus on the manual menus forms or let us know if you would like to begin claiming online.

If you haven't completed your required training for the year please do so as soon as possible. You are required to do nutrition (healthy & safety) and program (professionalism) training every year.

Please send enrollment form by the 25th of each month.

If you have any children, including your own children, who are homeschooled we need a new schedule for the 2017-18 school year in your file. You can send a note or email.

Fun September Dates:

September 6 – Read a Book Day

September 9 – Teddy Bear Day

September 10 – Grandparents Day

September 13 – Fortune Cookie Day

September 15 – Make a Hat Day

September 16– Collect Rocks Day

September 19 – National Talk Like A Pirate Day

September 22 – Elephant Appreciation Day

September 26 – Johnny Appleseed Day

September 30 – National Mud Pack Day (or make it Mud Pie Day)

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~ Wildwood Resources ~

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Individuals who are deaf, hard of hearing or have speech disabilities may contact USDA through the Federal Relay Service at (800) 877-8339; or (800) 845-6136 (Spanish).

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