

Communication Link

CESA #11 Head Start

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EARLIER IS BETTER

The Home Visitors participated in an excellent training, *Earlier Is Better, Oral Health Program for Early Head Start* that was sponsored by the Children's Health Alliance, Medical College of Wisconsin, Wisconsin Division of Public Health, and the Wisconsin Head Start Association. Each Home Visitor received a Parent Oral Health Tool Kit to use on home visits to support and empower families with knowledge that informs and guides oral health decision making. The primary goal of *Earlier Is Better* is to reduce the dental caries experience in Wisconsin Early Head Start children through evidence-based prevention and educational interventions during Early Head Start programming. The trainer, Diane Flanagan, was knowledgeable about dental health, Early Head Start services and how to empower families in making decisions about their children's health! The feedback from staff was very positive.

Sheri Norgard, Family Services Coordinator



“THE WEEK OF THE YOUNG CHILD”

April 16, 2013, designated as part of *The Week of The Young Child*, the children at the Cornell Head Start Center enjoyed entertaining their grandparents or special friends. Besides joining in regular classroom activities, grandmas, grandpas, and special friends made handprint pictures to take home for keepsakes. They sang several songs together, enjoyed a snack, and got to listen to the Wisconsin Book Worm story “*Rooster’s Off to See the World*” by Eric Carle.

Grandparents also attended the Early Head Start socialization that day.

Melody Peloquin
Center Assistant



April 17, 2013 the Menomonie Head Start celebrated *The Week of The Young Child* by crowning a king and queen for the day. The king of the day was Dentist Dr. Pat, and the queen of the day was Receptionist Vicki, both from the Rural Health Dental Clinic in Menomonie. Dr. Pat and Vicki were chosen for their years of good work assisting children and families with dental needs.

Dr. Pat and Vicki were welcomed by being provided a crown and sash, and were treated to a special lunch with the Head Start children, including sticky rice, stir fry, and strawberry shortcake for dessert.

Both Dr. Pat and Vicki plan on retiring at the end of June this year. They will truly be missed.



Carrie Lecheler, Family Resource Provider



Polk County Early Learning Center celebrated *The Week of The Young Child* with a guest, Seth, from Festival Theater. Seth shared his love for acting with the children. He taught the children that they needed their voice and their body to be ready before acting. We did some fun echo games, soft and loud, and some fun stretching.

After that, we were ready! We went on a dramatic bear hunt and we acted like a variety of different animals.

After Seth was finished, we slowed it down a bit and enjoyed a spring book read by Mr. Grant. We ended the evening with a planting activity!

A great BIG thank you to Seth and Mr. Grant for taking time to spend with our awesome little ones!



Jennifer Ulmaniec, Home Visitor

YOU GOT “CAUGHT”!!




Danette Hackbarth.....Danette always has a very positive and cheerful attitude. She makes the work environment very fun and does an excellent job in her position. Keep up the cheer Danette...it is contagious!!

THANK YOU DANETTE for bringing us your upbeat, positive personality and spreading joy and smiles throughout the center and program!!

Don't forget to tell us “Who Made Your Day” or who “Was There for You”! You could also be the next one to be “caught” and be featured in the next newsletter!!

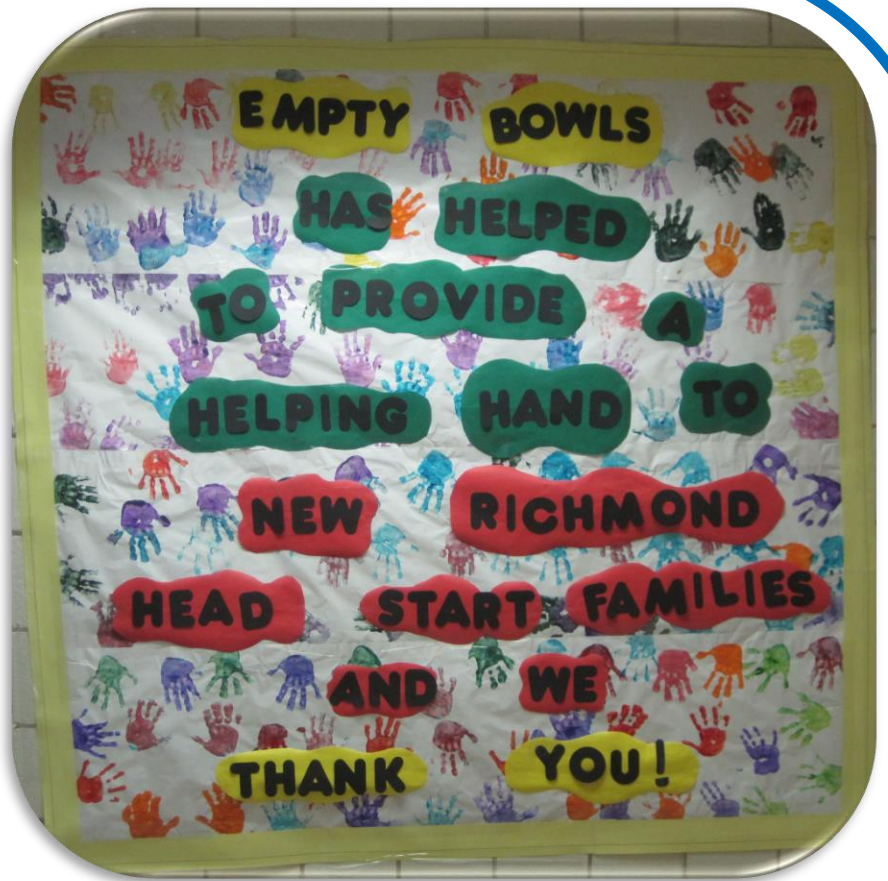
Wendy Engstrand, Human Resource Coordinator



Pictured is a mural that was created by the New Richmond Head Start's 4K classes.

They also decorated a window at the local library in honor of *The Week of The Young Child* with "old and new" traditions for children, and placed a similar mural at the local grocery store.

Jill MacRae, Home Visitor



Let's Get Physical

National Physical Fitness and Sports Month (*May*) is a great time to spread the word about the benefits of getting active. Getting regular physical activity can benefit everyone – children, adolescents, and adults alike.

Here are just some of the benefits of physical activity:

- **Children and adolescents** – Physical activity can improve muscular fitness and bone and heart health.
- **Adults** – Physical activity can lower risk for heart disease, type 2 diabetes, and some types of cancer.
- **Older adults** – Physical activity can lower the risk of falls and improve cognitive functioning (like judgment and learning).

From the following Web site: <http://healthfinder.gov>

DURAND HOME VISIT PROGRAM HEADS TO EAU CLAIRE SPORTS CENTER



The Eau Claire Sports Center is one of our favorite places for socializations during the winter months.

Parents find it a great way to relieve “cabin fever” for the whole family while sending a positive message to their children about exercising for good health.

Kate Manning, Home Visitor



Dad needed “help” out of his costume!

May 7th National Teacher Day!

"Teachers teach because they care.
Teaching young people is what
they do best. It requires long
hours, patience, and care."

-Horace Mann (courtesy of ThinkExist.com)



SCHOOL YEAR WINDING DOWN!

The final parent meeting of the 2012-2013 school year was held at the Chippewa Falls center on April 17. The parents wrapped-up business for the year and then went to the classrooms to join their children for a fun and educational activity.

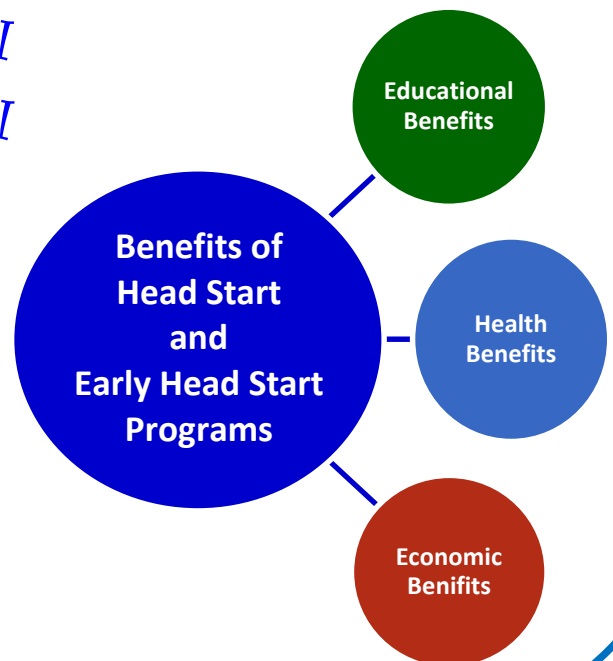
Cathy Cohoon, Ms. Brenda's afternoon TA/BD, demonstrated various container garden ideas and offered community resources for available garden plots in the area, free gardening supplies, and guides on how to use various herbs in cooking. The families then planted their own container gardens of tomatoes, peppers, and herbs to take home, grow, and harvest when the sun finally arrives! Our little farmers/gardeners did an amazing job; it was so much fun!



Cindy Cross, Center Director



*Look at me . . .
Not only can I
touch my toes, I
can touch the
floor!!*



Visit our Web site at:

<http://headstart.cesa11.k12.wi.us>