



**Wallingford's
Greatest Discovery!**

Who is **WE CARE**?

What does **WE CARE** do?

Check out our family program offerings for Spring 2010 .

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Pull out this section and see all that **WE CARE** has to offer

... then save this insert as your reference guide

WE CARE



Who is WE CARE?

WE CARE (Wallingford Early Childhood Alliance, Resources and Education) is a group of parents, teachers, town leaders and other individuals working together to improve the well-being of young children and families in Wallingford.

What does WE CARE do?

WE CARE works to promote educational success for children by advocating for and promoting the development and delivery of quality early childcare programs and parent support programs. WE CARE pursues support for these programs by partnering with town officials, educators and business community leaders. Through these partnerships, we work to increase the understanding of the social and economic benefits to be gained by providing such programs. In turn, we work to educate the community-at-large regarding the value of quality childcare and parent support programs. As a result, we envision increased public policy support for the development of these programs for our community. The programs and workshops listed reflect the success of these partnerships.

Who can you contact for more information?

If you are interested in attending a meeting or want more information regarding WE CARE, call 284-4019 or, send your name, address, phone number and e-mail address to the WE CARE Family Resource Center at Youth & Social Services, 6 Fairfield Boulevard, Wallingford, CT 06492. Meeting dates and future events will be forwarded to you.

In cooperation with: William C. Graustein Memorial Fund, the Quinnipiac Chamber of Commerce and the Town of Wallingford.

3800.200 PLAYFUL CRUISERS I

This playgroup is open to parents or care givers with children ages birth through four years old. The ten (10) week series will begin on Monday, March 8, 2010 and run to Monday, May 17, 2010. The sessions begin at 9:30 am. and run to 11:00 am [Playgroup will not be held on Monday, April 19, 2010]. During the program the participants will join in play time, arts and crafts, story telling, songs and snacks. Adults and children stay together and enjoy the fun. Playful Cruisers I is held at the WE CARE Family Resource Center; 6 Fairfield Blvd. Space is limited to 15 children, sign up is required. There is no fee for this program.

3801.200 PLAYFUL CRUISERS II

Join us in our NEW Early Childhood room on the main floor of the Wallingford Community Daycare and Learning Center for this program. This playgroup is open to parents or care givers with children ages birth through four years old. The ten (10) week series will begin on Tuesday, March 9, 2010 and run to Tuesday, May 18, 2010. The sessions begin at 9:30 a.m. and run to 11:00 a.m. [Playgroup will not be held on Tuesday, April 20, 2010]. During the program the participants will join in play time, arts and crafts, story telling, songs and snacks. Adults and children stay together and enjoy the fun. Playful Cruisers II is held at the Wallingford Community Child Care Center, 80 Wharton Brook Drive. Space is limited to 15 children, sign up is required. There is no fee for this program.

3800.201 PLAYFUL CRUISERS III

This playgroup is open to parents or care givers with children ages birth through four years old. The ten (10) week series will begin on Wednesday, March 10, 2010 and run to Wednesday, May 19, 2010. The sessions begin at 9:30 a.m. and run to 11:00 a.m. [Playgroup will not be held on Wednesday, April 21, 2010] During the program the participants will join in play time, story telling, songs and snacks. Adults and children stay together and enjoy the

fun. Playful Cruisers III is held at the WE CARE Family Resource Center; 6 Fairfield Blvd. Space is limited to 15 children, sign up is required. There is no fee for this program.

3800.202 PLAYFUL CRUISERS IV

This playgroup is open to parents or care givers with children ages birth through four years old. The ten (10) week series will begin on Thursday, March 11, 2010 and run to Thursday, May 20, 2010. The sessions begin at 9:30 a.m. and run to 11:00 a.m. [Playgroup will not be held on Thursday, April 22, 2010.] During the program the participants will join in play time, story telling, songs and snacks. Adults and children stay together and enjoy the fun. Playful Cruisers III is held at the WE CARE Family Resource Center; 6 Fairfield Blvd. Space is limited to 15 children, sign up is required. There is no fee for this program.

3819.200 BEBES ACTIVOS I

This bilingual [Spanish/English] playgroup will be meeting at the Family Resource Center; 6 Fairfield Blvd on alternate Thursdays beginning on January 14, 2010 and run until Thursday, June 17, 2010. [Playgroup will not meet on the following date: Thursday, April 22, 2010.] The playgroup will begin at 12:30 and run until 2:00 pm. During the program the participants will join in play time, arts and crafts, story telling, songs and snacks. Adults and children stay together and enjoy the fun. Space is limited to 15 children, sign up is required. There is no fee for this program.

3819.201 BEBES ACTIVOS II

This bilingual [Spanish/English] playgroup will be meeting at the Wallingford Ulbrich Boys and Girls Club, 72 Grand Street on alternate Thursdays beginning on Thursday, January 21, 2010 and run until Thursday, June 10, 2010. Playgroup will not meet on the following date: Thursday, February, 18, 2010. The playgroup will begin at 12:30 and run until 2:00 pm. During the program the participants will join in play time, arts and crafts, story telling, songs and snacks. Adults and children stay together and enjoy the fun. Space is limited to 20 children, sign up is required. There is no fee for this program.

3808.200 WORKSHOPS FOR PARENTS AND PRE-SCHOOL TEACHERS

Parenting is a full time job that most of us have never trained for during our educational years. So WE CARE offers the opportunity for parents, grandparents and caregivers of young children to come together and learn from specialists in early childhood development. WE CARE also offers topics for area preschool teachers that will provide professional education opportunities and continuing education credits. Parents of preschool children are always welcome at the teacher workshops because we recognize that a parent is every child's first and most important teacher. So join us for the topics that interest you.

Family Play Day – Saturday, March 13, 2010

Topic: Yoga for Infants and Toddlers – Family Style

Presenter: Sue Schade

Date: Saturday, March 13, 2010

Time: 9:30-10:30 am

Place: Exit 15

Come and join in the fun as parents and children learn techniques to relax and grow with yoga. One of the best ways for children to develop healthy habits is to learn with their parents. Relaxation is an art that will lead to good sleep habits, healthy digestion and body strength. Learning to stretch in a playful routine will aid in motor development. Developing slow and soothing moves will aid in setting up good sleep habits. Yoga will offer a positive way to bond with your child as you play together. No yoga experience is necessary for parents – just come and learn together.

3805.201 BEDTIME RITUALS FOR INFANTS AND TODDLERS

Presenter: Sarah Schmidt LCSW Child Guidance Clinic for Central Connecticut

Date: Monday, March 22, 2010

Time: 10:00 am – 11:00 am

Place: Family Resource Center @ YSS; 6 Fairfield Blvd.

Sarah Schmidt will join the parents during playgroup and discuss various methods that can help parents with bedtime rituals. Children find comfort in routines and creating one around bedtime will lead to peaceful evenings and happy families. Whether it is a bedtime story or a warm bath there is a ritual for every family that will work.

3816.202 UNDERSTANDING AND ENHANCING THE LANGUAGE DEVELOPMENT OF YOUNG CHILDREN

Presenter: Heather Bazinet M. S.; CCC-SLP New Haven Public School System

Date: March 30, 2010

Time: 6:15 pm

Place: Wallingford Public Library – Collins Room

200 North Main Street

****This workshop is co-sponsored by the Wallingford Public Library****

Parents and teachers of young children have an enormous influence on the language development of the children they care for. This workshop will provide information about the typical speech and language development in children age birth through five and how to recognize the signs of speech and language problems. We will also discuss simple ways parents and child providers can enhance the communication skills of young learners.

3820.200 AVOID TODDLER STRESS WITHOUT TIME OUTS

Presenter: Sarah Schmidt LCSW Child Guidance Clinic for Central Connecticut

Date: Wednesday, April 7, 2010

Time: 10:00 am – 11:10 am

Place: Family Resource Center @ YSS; 6 Fairfield Blvd

How can infants and toddlers have stress in their lives? The first 1,000 days of life is a real challenge for them and yes, they do get stressed. Parents can help them through these situations by developing coping strategies that both calm children and offer positive reinforcement. The "Time Out" should be the last resort if it is used at all. Sarah Schmidt will provide guidance on creating techniques that work for you and your child.

3820.202 BEHAVIOR STRATEGIES FOR PRESCHOOL CHILDREN

Presenter: Linda Grimm Director, Benhaven's Learning Network

Date: Thursday, April 29, 2010

Time: 6:15 p.m.

Place: Parks and Recreation Exit 7A Linda Grimm will discuss strategies for dealing with toddlers and pre-school children with behavioral problems. Parents and teachers are important partners in learning with their children. Children with

challenging behaviors need special support to allow them the opportunity to develop educationally and socially. Linda Grimm will also discuss Benhaven's Learning Network role through its new placement option for students with autism spectrum disorders. This workshop is open to parents and teachers.

3832.200 BIRTH TO THREE – WHAT DOES IT OFFER TO YOUR CHILD?

Presenter: Lynn. S. Johnson Associate Director of Birth to Three – CT South Region

Date: Wednesday, May 5, 2010

Time: 6:15 pm

Place: Parks and Recreation Exit 1; 6 Fairfield Blvd

The Birth to Three system in Connecticut offers a wide range of services to families with children requiring help in their early years. Lynn Johnson will speak about the program and how to access it for the benefit of your child. Early intervention offers services that will enable each child to achieve success in the milestones of learning and development.

Parents will learn how to approach the system and work within it during these critical years of growth and development aided by professionals. Teachers of preschool children will see how these early development interventions will prepare children for their early learning settings.

SPRING PICNIC AT DOOLITTLE PARK – A PLAY DATE

Date: June 9, 2010

Time: 10:30 am – noon

Place: Place: Doolittle Park South Elm Street across from the YMCA.

Come join with all of the Playful Cruisers and Bebes Activos for the final playdate of the spring sessions. Doolittle Park offers a great playground and picnic facilities for everyone to come together and PLAY. There will be games and races for all ages. Bring your own snacks or lunch and a free ice cream treat will be provided.

Spring 2010 Directory of Resources for Wallingford Preschool (ages 0-5) Children and Families

We've been working on a list of places and sites that parents can access to help in the challenge of raising preschool children (ages 0-5) in the 21st century. While the list will almost never be complete, here is the information that has been gathered so far.

211 Infoline – www.infoline.com -

For information on openings at Wallingford childcare centers and home-based care and other community services.

Board of Education—142 Hope Hill Road,
www.wallingford.k12.ct.us, 949-6500

Cook Hill Elementary School -

Janet Murphy, Principal
57 Hall Road, 284-5400

Evarts C. Stevens School -

Doreen Duren, Principal
18 Kondracki Lane, 294-3750

Highland School -

Victoria Reed, Principal
200 Highland Avenue, 294-3970

Moses Y. Beach School -

Robert Arciero, Principal
340 North Main Street, 294-3940

Parker Farms School -

Michael O'Neill, Principal
30 Parker Farms Road, 294-6200

Pond Hill School -

Richard Pizzonia, Principal
299 Pond Hill Road, 294-6230

Rock Hill School -

Kathryn Hile, Principal
911 Durham Road, 294-6260

Yalesville School -

Kent T. Hurlburt, Principal
415 Church Street, 284-6900

Quinnipiac Chamber of Commerce -

100 So. Turnpike Rd., 269-9891
The Chamber supports the W.E.C.A.R.E program as a link to the business community.

Spanish Community of Wallingford - (S.C.O.W)

284 Washington Street, 265-5866
Volunteer tutors are available for younger students with homework and reading. Summer volunteers encourage children to learn and play together.

Town of Wallingford - www.town.wallingford.ct.us - Park and Recreation Department -

6 Fairfield Boulevard, 294-2120
A variety of programs are provided year round for all ages.

Police Department - Youth Division -

135 North Main Street, 294-2825
This division provides safety and delinquency prevention programs as well as adolescent alcohol and drug information, assessment and referrals.

Youth & Social Services Department -

6 Fairfield Boulevard, 294-2175
This group provides programs, activities and services that promote a positive healthy family and community.

Visiting Nurse Association of Wallingford, Inc. -

135 N. Plains Industrial Road, 269-1475
www.wallingfordvna.com
The VNA provides traditional homecare services as well as community services. For more information on specific services, please contact the VNA or visit their website.

Wallingford Community Day Care Center -

80 Wharton Brook Drive, 294-4176
This unique day care center is available to children ages 6 weeks through 5. It also provides a before and after school program for 1st - 5th grades. Priority is given to the single working parent residing in Wallingford.

Wallingford Public Libraries -

200 North Main Street, 265-6754
400 Church St., Yalesville, 269-3688
www.wallingford.lioninc.org
You will find an outstanding collection of books, magazines, DVD's, museum passes and more. Free programs for adults and children of all ages are scheduled regularly.

YMCA - 81 South Elm Street, 269-4497

www.wallingfordymca.org
Youth programs for preschool age children fill kid's play hours with positive activities and caring adult attention.

Other Resources:

Child Guidance Clinic for Central Connecticut, 235-5767
Department of Children and Family Services
Care Line, 800-842-2288
MidState Medical Center, 694-8200
Yale New Haven Children's Hospital, 688-3333
W.E.C.A.R.E., 6 Fairfield Boulevard, 284-4019