

Brunch Bunch Network

SAC News & Happenings

Volume 6, August 2006.

Brought to you by the Sarasota Family YMCA Gold Seal Project



Brunch Bunch participants created awards for each other at the May support Group meeting after sharing tips about good sportsmanship.

Teamwork is the fuel that allows common people to produce uncommon results. ~Unknown



Afterschool/Youth Workers Survey

The National Afterschool Association recently conducted a national online survey of afterschool and youth workers across the nation to examine salary, compensation and benefits for afterschool staff. The survey was also designed to help determine how and why people join the afterschool field, staff turnover rate, and what would keep individuals from leaving the field. For more information on the project go to www.naaweb.org.

NAEYC News

FAQ: I run an afterschool program accredited by NAEYC. Is our program still recognized in the new system?

Answer: NAEYC is honoring the current school-age accreditation deadlines. This means that if your program is already accredited you will be recognized by them until your program applies for re-accreditation under the new system.

FAQ: How will unannounced visits from NAEYC affect school age programs?

Answer: After 9/16/06, school age programs involved in unannounced visits will be assessed on



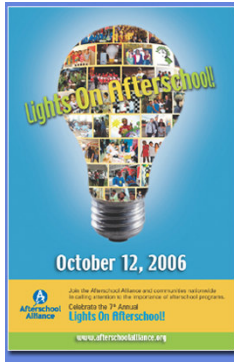
the Universal and Kindergarten criteria of the new self study during the time before the program expires.

FAQ: For programs going through re-accreditation under the new system, will school-age groups be observed?

Answer: If less than half of the group is made up of kindergartners, the group will not be assessed in the new system. If more than half of the children are kindergartners, the whole room is assessed.

FAQ: Is there any support available for NAEYC accredited programs who need to understand the re-invented system?

Answer: Yes, staff at the Gold Seal Project have been working hard to provide workshops on all the new policies, procedures, and standards to help guide programs through. If you are interested in more information or would like to consider attending our support group meetings, please contact us.



Plan to Participate in the Afterschool Alliance's 7th Annual Lights On Afterschool!

Lights On Afterschool! is on October 12th this year. It is a nationwide event celebrating afterschool programs and focusing on their importance to children, families and communities. All afterschool programs are encouraged to host an event. This is a great opportunity to highlight your program and show off the great things you do for children.

You can get ideas and a free event planning kit by going to www.afterschoolalliance.org or by contacting the Afterschool Alliance at (202) 347-2030. Programs that register will receive free posters and their events will be promoted to media and the public.



Sand Dough Sculptures

Summer fun drifting to sea? Try making sand sculptures that won't wash away with the tide. To make the dough, mix 1 c. sand, $\frac{1}{2}$ c. of cornstarch and 1 tsp. of alum together in a large bowl. Add $\frac{3}{4}$ c. of hot water and stir vigorously. Transfer the mixture to an old pot and cook over medium heat until thick. Cool completely. Encourage the children to use the sand dough to mold their own creations. Dry the finished pieces in the sun for several days.

~HighReach Learning



Training Opportunities

Friday & Saturday, December 1-2: After-School Solutions State Conference, Tampa
You can get more information at www.thechildrensforum.com/training.html or by contacting Jenn Faber at (239) 489-4386.

Plan ahead...

National AfterSchool Alliance Conference-
March 21-23, 2007 - 19th Annual NAA Conference in Phoenix, Arizona...
www.naaconference.org

Brunch Bunch Network Meeting

Topic: Bringing Yourself to Work: Are you a leader, a follower, or just along for the ride?
Date: August 23rd
Time: 10-11:30 a.m.
Place: Venice Gold Seal Project office



Please RSVP by August 21st

The beautiful thing about learning is that no one can take it away from you.

B.B. King

Free Stuff

Ringling Brothers has developed a health and fitness program available at no cost. Lesson plans can be downloaded and used to fit your curriculum needs at www.circusfit.com.



Please note: The county has changed our street address to 31 Center Road. However, you can still find us in the same offices in the South Bridge Office Park, suites 2 & 6.

Questions, comments or RSVP? Contact Trish Youssef at 492-9005 ext. 0.



