



NREIC Collaborations

Fall 2011

Published for the Early Intervention Community of
Bergen, Hudson and Passaic Counties.

www.nreic.org
(973)-256-8484

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Casino Night



November 5, 2011
Saturday 7-11pm
The Bethwood
Totowa, New Jersey

The evening's proceeds will benefit our Special Needs Fund and
other Family Support Activities!

Tickets- \$100 per guest
Deluxe Buffet *Open Bar* \$150 in Play Money
*Great Prizes

100% Tax Deductible Sponsorships Available

Event- \$10,000 *Casino -\$3,500 *Dessert-\$1000 *Poker-\$500
*Roulette- \$250 *Craps-\$200 *Blackjack-\$125

Donation of prizes, gratefully accepted! If you have ideas on how
you would like to promote your business through a sponsorship at
our 9th Annual Casino Night, please contact our **Development
Coordinator, Lisa Weinstein at 973-256-8484 ext 214 or email
[Lisa @nreic.org](mailto:Lisa@nreic.org)**

*Notice herein of any workshop, seminar, conference, therapy, program, etc., not offered by
Helpful Hands, the Northeast Regional Early Intervention Collaborative, Inc. (NREIC) does not
constitute an endorsement of any specific organization, opinion or methodology by the NREIC*

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What's New

Attention EI Families

The Department of Health and Senior Services will be
inviting you to complete a Family Satisfaction Survey.

The Survey will ask you questions as how well the needs
of your child and family were met, if you had access to
resources and information, inclusion in your community,
and your overall feelings towards the Early Intervention
experience.

Our hope is that you go online and complete the brief
questionnaire.

Your input is very important and valuable to us. It allows
us to recognize our strengths and those areas that need
improvement.

If you do not have access to a computer, please call our
office at (973)256-8484 and we will be glad to complete
the survey with you over the phone.



WHO IS THE NREIC?

Helpful Hands

The Northeast Regional Early Intervention Collaborative, Inc.

Helpful Hands, also known as the NREIC, is a not-for-profit organization whose goal is to promote quality, family-centered early intervention services in Bergen, Hudson and Passaic counties. **Helpful Hands** offers family education and support, professional training and technical assistance, and serves as a link between the state agency for early intervention, the Department of Health & Senior Services (DHSS) and the region. The NREIC also serves as the regional single point of entry for EI and hub for regional data collection. **Helpful Hands** is one of four regional early intervention collaborative offices in New Jersey.

Helpful Hands is a collaboration of parents and professionals working on behalf of infants and toddlers with a variety of developmental delays and/or disabilities. **Helpful Hands** seeks to ensure that all families are empowered to help their child grow to his or her fullest potential.





The Northeast Regional Early Intervention Collaborative (NREIC)

Transitioning Your Child from Early Intervention to Preschool Special Education Services

Workshop Highlights

- The Transition Process and Timelines
- Components of the Federal Law –IDEA
- Inclusion/Least Restrictive Environment
- Eligibility Requirements
- Registration Requirements
- Parental Rights
- Family Resources
- Helpful Tips

Thursday, September 22, 2011

10:30am-12 noon

The CAPE Resource Center
327 E. Ridgewood Avenue
Paramus, NJ 07652

Wednesday, October 5, 2011

1:00-2:30pm

Passaic county Special Child
Health Services
775 Valley Road
Clifton, NJ 07013



Registration is required

Please call Michelle at 973-256-8484 or email michelle@nreic.org with your telephone number and number of people attending.

**Please note: Child care will not be available for this event. Events may be cancelled due to low registration or inclement weather .*

tdf

SPECIAL AUTISM-FRIENDLY PERFORMANCE



TDF is proud to present an
autism-friendly performance of

Disney
PRESENTS
THE
LION KING

Sunday, October 2, 2011 1:00 pm

Theatre Development Fund (TDF), the nation's largest not-for-profit service organization for the performing arts, is proud to announce our new Autism Theatre Initiative, making theatre accessible to children and adults on the autism spectrum, and their families. The first ever autism-friendly performance of a Broadway show will be Disney's landmark musical THE LION KING on Sunday, October 2, 2011 at 1pm.

Now in its 14th year, over 55 million people worldwide have come to discover the wonder, the majesty, and the truly one-of-a-kind experience that is THE LION KING. For this special performance, accommodations will be made including a supportive audience environment, designated quiet areas, adjustments to lights and sound, and online resource materials.

Tickets are being offered through TDF at affordable prices:

Orchestra (all seats) -- \$79
Front Mezzanine (Rows A-G) & Box Seats -- \$67.50
Mid Mezzanine (Rows H-J) -- \$57.50
Rear Mezzanine (Rows K-L) -- \$38.00

Limit 6 tickets per order.

THE PARENTS CORNER

Hope When Parenting Gets Tough....

Parents Anonymous of New Jersey, Inc.

1-800-THE-KIDS

www.pa-of-nj.org

**24 Hour Family Stressline
1-800-843-5437**

**Parent Support Groups:
check out their on-line groups and
in-person groups.**



Mom 2 Mom

The Mom 2 Mom program is designed to provide a compassionate and encouraging environment for mothers of children with special needs to come together and share support.

By dialing our toll free number **1-877-914-6662 (1-877-914-MOM2)**, a mother of a child with special needs will receive the following services:

MOM2MOM Peer Support
Telephone Support
Support Groups
Referral to a Comprehensive Network of
Service Providers

**County Childcare
Resource and Referral
Agencies:
(800)329-2273
www.njaccrra.org**

Tufts University Child & Family WebGuide

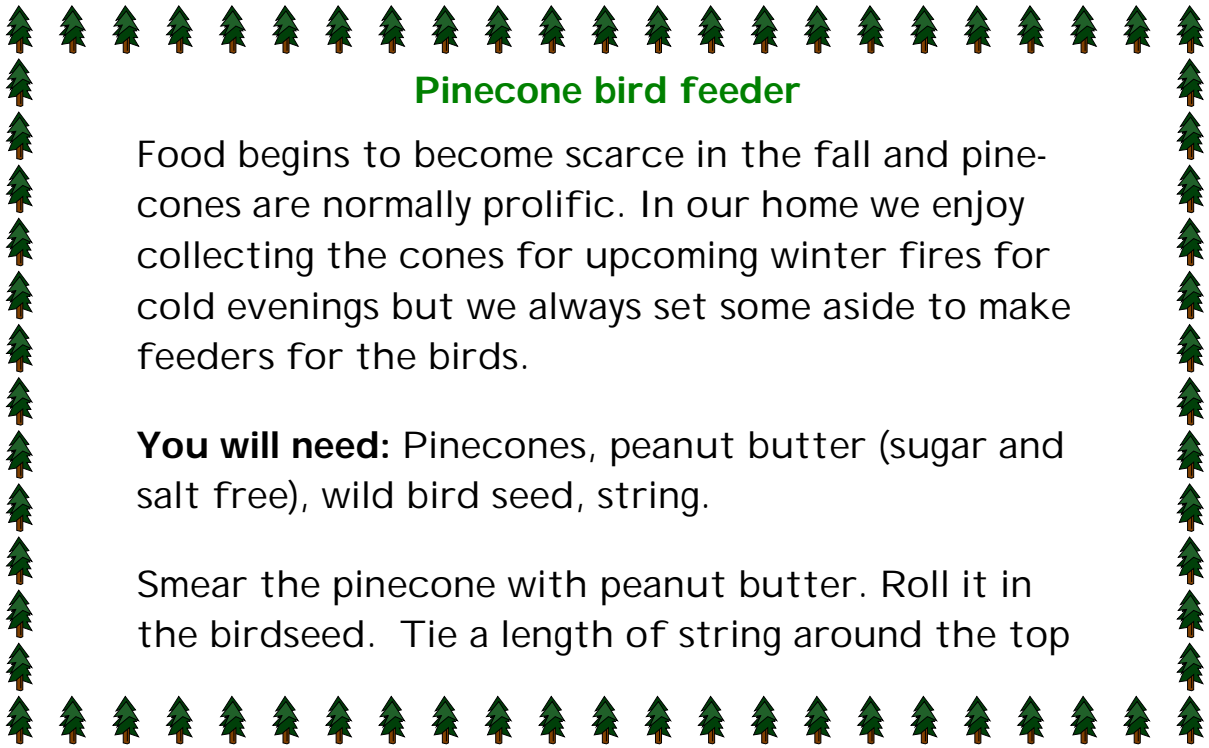
The WebGuide is a directory that evaluates, describes and provides links to hundreds of sites containing child development research and practical advice. Topics are selected on the basis of parent recommendations. The topics include child development, parenting, education, health and medical.

The WebGuide was created because many online searches for parent topics yield information that is inconsistent with child development research. The WebGuide selects sites that have the highest quality child development research and are parent friendly. You can check out the guide at www.cfw.tufts.edu.



Parent/Child Activities

Fall 2011

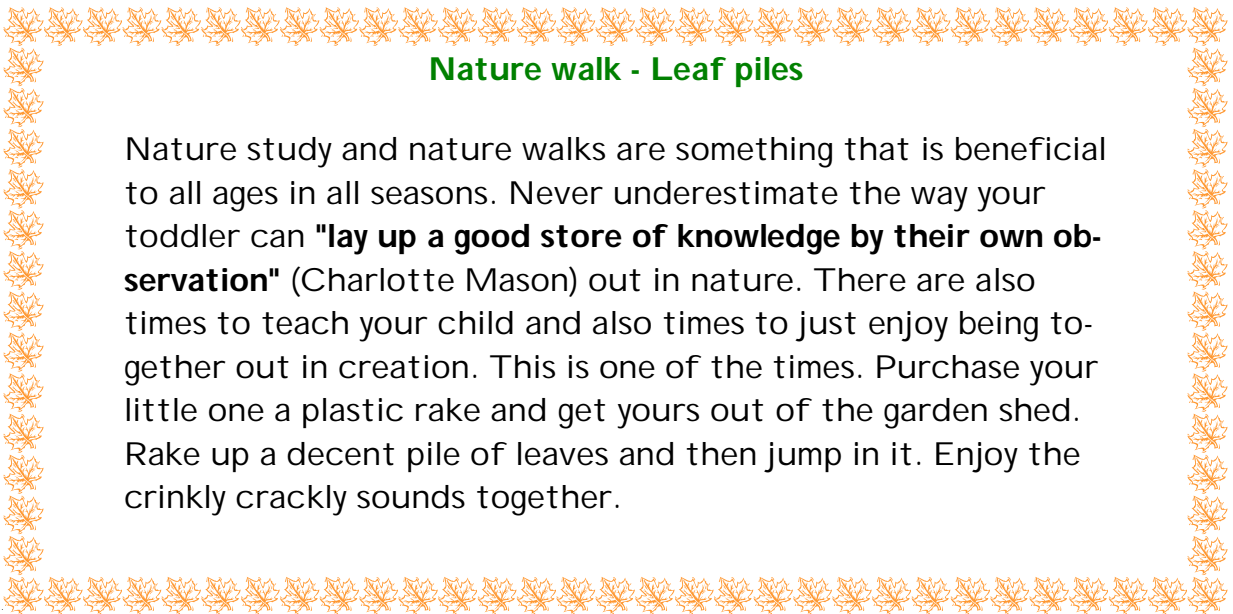


Pinecone bird feeder

Food begins to become scarce in the fall and pinecones are normally prolific. In our home we enjoy collecting the cones for upcoming winter fires for cold evenings but we always set some aside to make feeders for the birds.

You will need: Pinecones, peanut butter (sugar and salt free), wild bird seed, string.

Smear the pinecone with peanut butter. Roll it in the birdseed. Tie a length of string around the top



Nature walk - Leaf piles

Nature study and nature walks are something that is beneficial to all ages in all seasons. Never underestimate the way your toddler can "**lay up a good store of knowledge by their own observation**" (Charlotte Mason) out in nature. There are also times to teach your child and also times to just enjoy being together out in creation. This is one of the times. Purchase your little one a plastic rake and get yours out of the garden shed. Rake up a decent pile of leaves and then jump in it. Enjoy the crinkly crackly sounds together.

NJEIS Policy Highlights

ELIGIBILITY

To be eligible for early intervention services under the New Jersey Early Intervention System, a child must meet the criteria in at least one of the following two categories:

A. Developmental Delay

1. Developmental delay must be measured with appropriate diagnostic instruments and procedures, including clinical opinion in all of the following areas: (a) Physical (gross motor, fine motor, vision and hearing); (b) Cognition; (c) Communication; (d) Social or emotional; (e) Adaptive

2. In determining developmental delay, an adjustment of age for prematurity must be applied as follows: (a) No adjustment for infants born at or after 38 weeks gestation; (b) Adjustments prior to 38 weeks gestation are based on 40 weeks term; and (c) Adjustments end at 24 months of age.

3. An eligible child must demonstrate: (a) At least a 33% delay; or a score of at least 2.0 standard deviations below the mean in one developmental area; or (b) At least a 25% delay, or a score of at least 1.5 standard deviations below the mean in two or more of the developmental areas.

B. Conditions with High Probability

1. This category of eligibility includes children who have identified conditions but who may not be exhibiting delays in development at the time of eligibility.

2. Children are eligible who have a diagnosed physical and/or mental condition that has high probability of resulting in developmental delay. This eligibility must be documented by a signed statement or report from a physician; advanced practice nurse; or licensed clinical psychologist in the child's record that confirms: (a) high probability diagnosed condition; and (b) That the diagnosed condition for this child has a high probability of developmental delay.

3. Examples of high probability conditions noted in 34 CFR Part 303.16 include: (a) Chromosomal abnormalities; (b) Genetic or congenital disorders; (c) Severe sensory impairments, including vision and hearing; (d) Untreated inborn errors of metabolism; (e) Disorders reflecting disturbance of the development of the nervous system; (f) Congenital infections; (g) Disorders secondary to exposure to toxic substances, including fetal alcohol syndrome; (h) Severe attachment disorders; (i) Autism Spectrum Disorders

4. NJEIS has selected the following ten diagnoses that are known to result in developmental delay and have designated these as "Presumptive Eligibility Diagnoses". The child's early intervention record must clearly document the presence of the condition. A high probability statement or report from a physician; advanced practice nurse; or licensed clinical psychologist is not required for the following conditions: (a) Down Syndrome; (b) Fetal Alcohol Syndrome; (c) Hearing Impairment; (d) Vision Impairment; (e) Autism/PDD; (f) Spina Bifida; (g) Cerebral Palsy; (h) Trisomy 13, 18, etc.; (i) Fragile X; (j) Hydrocephalus

For further information on NJ Early Intervention Eligibility Criteria, please go to the following link:

<http://nj.gov/health/fhs/documents/njeis-02.pdf>

Tips for Families

How you can become more involved in your Individualized Family Service Plan (IFSP) Meetings

- Review your current IFSP ahead of time.
- Complete the IFSP review sheet with your service practitioner and note progress toward the present IFSP outcomes.
- Review your six month (or latest available) progress notes.
- Make a list of things you want your child to learn.
- Bring any information that your service coordinator and practitioners may not already have to the meeting, like medical reports, and provide real-life examples demonstrating what your child is doing at home.
- Advise everyone at the meeting of any major changes coming up for your family, such as a new baby or location move.
- Discuss the ways you help your child to learn new things.
- Review your family rights book and ask your service coordinator for any clarifications.
- Participate in the discussion by giving your opinion. Remember, families are an essential part of the IFSP team.
- Engage in active listening by restating and/or responding in some verbal or non-verbal way to comments made during the meeting.
- If any information seems unclear, ask for clarification before the meeting ends.
- By working in partnership with your service coordinator and practitioners, a good IFSP for your family will be developed!

*information adapted from the CPNJ/Building Blocks EIP Parent Handbook



Location Change for Ongoing Early Intervention Services

If a family wishes to change the location of ongoing early intervention services for their child (for example, from home to daycare) then the family **MUST** notify their service coordinator of the requested change in location ASAP because the system will need time to prepare for the new service location.

Upcoming Conferences

Autism New Jersey

29th Annual Conference
Thursday and Friday
October 13-14, 2011
Atlantic City Convention
Center

To register please go to:

www.autismnj.org/RegisterNow.aspx

New Trends and Treatments for Patients with Cerebral Palsy, Traumatic Brain Injuries, Spinal Cord Injuries and Complex Medical Needs.

*Free Conference for Families, Patients and
Health Care Providers*

Saturday, November 5, 2011
Hilton East Brunswick Hotel and
Executive Meeting Center
3 Tower Center Boulevard
East Brunswick, NJ

Call 877-649-1883 to register or
www.sci-tbiconference.com

National Caregivers Conference

*Recognizing the Year of the
Family Caregiver*

Thursday, October 27, 2011
Renaissance Woodbridge
Hotel
Iselin, New Jersey

Register online at:
www.nationalcaregiversconference.org

Hold the Date!

Arab American Communities and Disabilities Conference

*Getting to know you,
Getting to know us*

Saturday, December 10, 2011
Double Tree Hotel
Somerset, NJ
8am-4pm

The registration brochure will be available
in October 2011.

Visit The Boggs Center web site:
<http://rwjms.umdj.edu/boggscenter> or
call Elizabeth Ong at 732-235-9327 to
receive a brochure in the mail.

Family Resources

DDD SERVICES APPLICATION PROCESS NOW AVAILABLE ONLINE

The New Jersey Division of Developmental Disabilities is excited to announce that our application to determine eligibility for services can now be downloaded online at:

<http://www.nj.gov/humanservices/ddd/services/apply/>

We ask that you begin the process by completing these forms:

[DDD Application for Eligibility](#)

[Applicant Information Form](#)

[DHS Notice of Privacy Practice](#)

[Acknowledgement Form](#)

[Adaptive Behavior Summary](#)

Once you complete these forms, it is important that you mail them to **the Community Services Office that serves the county in which you live.** Address the envelope to the "Division of Developmental Disabilities Intake." After DDD receives your *Application for Eligibility* and *Applicant Information Form*, a staff person will call you. The rest of the application materials will then be mailed to you so a determination can be made.

NJ Parent Link

The Early Childhood, Parenting and Professional Resource Center

Your Information Source for:

Health & Wellness
Ages & Stages
Child Care & Preschool
Family Support Services

Parenting & Early Learning
Career & Family Transitions
Advocacy & Leadership
Professional Resources

www.njparentlink.nj.gov

NJ Parent Link:

Linking Parents and Professionals to New Jersey's Early Childhood Services and Resources