Greetings from the Child Care Project!

Been outside lately to enjoy the foliage before the snow falls? A good deal of the leaves are on the ground waiting for you to scuff through, listening to the rustle and crunch. It’s great exercise and fresh air is always good. You can do the nature walk thing and collect natural items for a collage when you get back. Children old enough to put their fingers in paste or hold a glue brush can do this activity with the right amount of supervision. School aged children can create more intricate patterns and designs or make representational depictions of things they saw on their walk. Did you know that an assemblage is similar to collage, but three dimensional? Now that adds a new, um, dimension to gluing things on paper.

While you’re out on the lawn or in the woods, there’s going to be science all around you. Take time to engage in the most important scientific process of all time – wonder! After the wondering pause to consider what questions the children might have. You might write them down when you get back so you can think more about them.

What the questions are doesn’t matter really, the wondering does.

One question might be, “Why do some trees still have leaves?” It can be helpful to have some background information, but here’s a relief – you don’t have to know the answer. Wondering is good for adults, too. Once you have the question, you can gather more information. Which trees? Are all the leaves still there? What are the similarities and differences between the trees holding their leaves? Take your time with this questioning and with imagining the answers. Seek the answers together. Science is about finding out, too. Check resources in the library, on the internet or in person with an “expert” (anyone who knows the answer). You might tie a ribbon around a tree that still has leaves and see how long they last into winter. Watch for math and science opportunities. A small tree may have a countable number of leaves and over a few days or weeks, you can record how many are left on a calendar or graph. If a tree has a large number of leaves left, you might estimate. Curious to learn more? Seek the answer. Now that’s math and science!

Happy Wondering,
**CCP Training Opportunities**

**Online registration is now being accepted at http://dartmouth.imodules.com/ccp.**
**Check out our complete registration and payment policies on page 7.**

Pre-registration with payment is required. Registration for December, January and February trainings will be accepted 1) through the mail and 2) online on a rolling basis beginning November 23, until a training fills. A wait list is kept for fully enrolled training. Neither phone nor email registrations are accepted. When using the paper registration form, please register only for trainings on the winter 2015-2016 registration form and use one form per person. We must receive your registration prior to training; walk-ins may not be accommodated.

The winter 2015-2016 paper registration form is on pages 7-8 and available at www.dartmouth.edu/~ccp.

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### December 2015

#### 1 Never Too Early, Part 2

**Dartmouth-Hitchcock Medical Center- Aud. E, Lebanon, NH • 6:30 - 8:30 pm**

This two-part training offered in collaboration with the Vermont Humanities Council offers an introduction to reading and sharing books and conversation with children. Take a journey into the world of children’s literature! In this lively, interactive workshop, learn the importance and joy of sharing picture books and stories with infants, toddlers and preschoolers. Through hands-on exploration of children’s books, learn about early literacy and related developmental issues. Learn ways to create a literacy-rich environment, and share practical ideas with others. Discover ways to make books come alive through animated reading, rhymes and extension activities that encourage language development. Take home ideas you can put to use immediately in your program, along with a free set of gift books. Humor and laughter is the 2015-16 theme. **Attendance at both sessions, November 24 and December 1 is required.** *Presenter: Brenda Metzler, MA, Vermont Humanities Council literacy trainer*

**VT Core Knowledge Areas**: 1, 3  
**NH Core Knowledge Areas**: 3, 4  
**CDA Subject Areas**: 2, 8

#### 5 Professionalism and Fundamentals for Early Childhood Professionals

**Course Wrap Up**

**Dartmouth-Hitchcock Medical Center- Aud. E, Lebanon, NH • 9:00 am - 3:00 pm**

This is the final session of Fundamentals, a 51-hour course providing a foundation of knowledge needed by early childhood professionals working with young children, birth to age eight. **This class is restricted to those enrolled in the entire series.**

This class will begin with an introduction to the NAEYC Code of Ethical Conduct and examination of the definitions of professionalism and confidentiality as they relate to the field of early childhood. The majority of the time will be reserved for presentation of final projects, reflection and course evaluation. **Lunch provided.** *Presenter: Lori Harris, MS, Early Childhood Education Consultant & Trainer*

**VT Core Knowledge Area**: 5  
**NH Core Knowledge Area**: 1  
**CDA Subject Area**: 6

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*Child Care Project Newsletter*
8  Get Organized and Earn More Money in 2016 and Beyond: Record Keeping and Tax Tips for Family Child Care Providers
Child Care Project- Conference Room, Hanover, NH • 6:30 - 8:30 pm • $10
This surprisingly lively annual workshop is a must for all new family child care providers, as well as home providers needing a reminder or encouragement to get organized in the upcoming year. It is appropriate whether you file your own taxes or use a tax preparer, accountant, etc. because it covers record keeping in detail. Easy systems of record keeping and tax preparation specific to the business of family child care will be introduced. Learn how you can maximize your deductions, thus increase your profit as a unique small home business. Any recent changes to the tax laws will be discussed.
Presenter: Jeffrey Kent, President, Kent Tax and Business Services, LLC

VT Core Knowledge Area: 5
NH Core Knowledge Area: 1
CDA Subject Area: 5

10  Creative Winter Fun with 3-5 Year Olds: Comparison of Process- and Product-Focused Literacy and Arts Activities for Preschoolers
Dartmouth-Hitchcock Medical Center- Aud. F, Lebanon, NH • 6:30 - 8:30 pm • $10
Join us to learn about and compare process- and product-focused preschool activities. Collect ideas that will help you plan some fun through the winter for the children in your program. Explore books with a winter theme and find out how to extend them with the visual arts, music, movement and dramatic play. Reading picture books and threading the content through hands-on projects helps children deepen the reading experience and connect with representational thinking, be it process or product. We are all creative so, come and discover the ease with which these lessons simplify the creative process and allow the individuality of each child to blossom.
Presenter: Lisa Aschbacher, Start With the Arts Instructor & VSA Vermont Regional Program Coordinator

VT Core Knowledge Area: 3
NH Core Knowledge Area: 3
CDA Subject Area: 2

12  Creating Pleasant Mealtime Environments in Child Care
Dartmouth-Hitchcock Medical Center- Aud. F, Lebanon, NH • 6:30 - 8:30 pm • $10
Creating pleasant mealtime environments in child care influences children’s beliefs and attitudes about food and can impact their nutritional choices throughout life. Family-style meals promote the development of social, emotional, and gross and fine motor skills. Come learn the benefits of creating a pleasant mealtime environment and what this looks and feels like in a group setting. Examine practical tips for creating a successful mealtime environment in your own program. There will also be opportunities to discuss challenges and concerns around implementing family-style meals and ways to overcome these barriers. Cosponsored by Hunger Free Vermont.
Presenter: Ginger Farineau, Early Childhood Nutrition Specialist, Hunger Free VT

VT Core Knowledge Areas: 1, 3, 4
NH Core Knowledge Areas: 3, 4
CDA Subject Areas: 1, 2, 3, 8
Environmental Literacy in Action, Part 1
Dartmouth-Hitchcock Medical Center- Aud. E, Lebanon, NH • 6:30 - 8:30 pm • $15
Environmental literacy is much more than knowing every tree or bird out in the woods! It’s about establishing a sense of place, building knowledge about the connections between humans and the natural world, and the confidence to explore environmental topics in a patch of trees, by the pond, or right in the gym or school yard.

This training is designed to give school-age staff the understanding and skills needed to lead your own, partner with an expert, or embed an existing statewide environmental program. Build confidence leading groups informed by the “big ideas” linking us to nature. Experience tried and true, hands-on activities, tuned to the constraints and opportunities of afterschool programs even in winter. Walk away with the resources to identify local partners to assist you in developing quality environmental literacy experiences to your program.

Cosponsored by Vermont Afterschool, this training is in partnership with SWEEP (Statewide Environmental Education Programs) – a network of environmental educators across Vermont. Attendance on both dates, January 21 and 23 is required. Presenter: Lauren Chicote, Program Coordinator, Winooski Valley Park District and Board Member, Vermont SWEEP

VT Core Knowledge Areas: 1, 2, 3
NH Core Knowledge Areas: 2, 3, 4
CDA Subject Areas: 2, 3

Environmental Literacy in Action, Part 2
Dartmouth College Child Care Center- Multi & Outside, Hanover, NH • 10:00 am - 2:00 pm
See full description under January 21. Attendance on both dates, January 21 and 23 is required. There will be an hour-long break for lunch on your own. Presenter: Lauren Chicote, Program Coordinator, Winooski Valley Park District and Board Member, Vermont SWEEP

VT Core Knowledge Areas: 1, 2, 3
NH Core Knowledge Areas: 2, 3, 4
CDA Subject Areas: 2, 3

The Blue Brain: Being Male, Young and Energetic
Dartmouth-Hitchcock Medical Center- Aud. E, Lebanon, NH • 6:30 - 8:30 pm • $10
Let's debunk bad science. The male versus female brain "research" is filled with myths. Most of the differences in development are the result of nurture not nature. This presentation will examine the few innate differences in male and female brains then look at how parents, peers and society influence the wiring of our most complex system. The evening will conclude by exploring whether "rough and tumble play" belongs in childhood and offer time for action steps in addressing the blue brain. Presenter: Scott Noyes

VT Core Knowledge Areas: 1, 2, 3
NH Core Knowledge Areas: 2, 3, 4
CDA Subject Areas: 2, 3
9  **Children in the Shadow: Exploring Childhood Anxiety**  
**TU**  
Dartmouth-Hitchcock Medical Center- Aud. E, Lebanon, NH • 6:00 - 9:00 pm • $10  
Anxiety is the most common mental health diagnosis in children and adults. Those diagnosed are often in the shadow of others who are more outgoing. Therefore, we may be unaware of their anguish. This training examines the childhood fears, sensitivities and anxieties that may interfere with learning and maximizing full potential. The focus is on applying scientifically proven strategies of teaching the regulation of thought, physiology and behavior in the home and classroom environment. **Presenter:** Jeanine Fitzgerald, Certified Human Behavior Consultant, The Fitzgerald Institute  
**VT Core Knowledge Areas:** 1, 2, 3, 4  
**NH Core Knowledge Areas:** 2, 3, 4  
**CDA Subject Areas:** 1, 3, 4, 8  
**Advanced Specialized Child Care Services:** 3 hours

18  **The Cost of Quality in Early Childhood Education**  
**TH**  
Dartmouth-Hitchcock Medical Center- Aud. F, Lebanon, NH • 6:30 - 8:30 pm • $10  
What is the cost of quality in early childhood education? Together we will examine the expenses all programs incur and explore the cost associated with increasing quality. The monetary considerations of improving programs will be discussed. We will problem solve the affordability of increased professional development, moving up the STARS ladder and other financial issues related to enhancing programs.  
Though some of the information shared will be VT-specific, NH providers are welcome, as are both family child care home providers and center directors/administrators/owners. Cosponsored by VT Community Loan Fund. **Presenter:** Cindy Daniels, Business Development Specialist, Project SUCCESS, VT Community Loan Fund  
**VT Core Knowledge Area:** 5  
**NH Core Knowledge Area:** 1  
**CDA Subject Area:** 5

27  **Mother Goose Cares About Math and Science, Part 1**  
**SA**  
Dartmouth-Hitchcock Medical Center- Aud. F, Lebanon, NH • 9:00 am - 4:00 pm • $40  
Offered in collaboration with Vermont Center for the Book, this three-part training is for anyone in early childhood education working with children three to seven years old. Children are naturally compelled to explore the world around them. By providing tools and support for such active exploration, you can promote the development of mathematics, science, and language and literacy learning. **Mother Goose Cares About Math and Science will help you to:**  
- use math, science and literacy in your interactions with children;  
- use picture books and investigations to promote conversations, language skills and higher-order thinking;  
- engage children in hands-on investigations that help them explore math, science and literacy skills and concepts;  
- find diverse ways to use picture books for all kinds of learning; and  
- learn how to use math, science, and language and literacy standards.
Children Care Project Newsletter

Attendance on all three Saturdays, February 27, March 5 and March 12 is required. Each participant will receive an educator resource guide, more than 15 outstanding children’s books and a set of materials valued at $350; lunch will be on your own. One undergraduate or graduate credit will be available through Union Institute for an additional cost and require outside work; details provided at the first class. Space is limited to 25 people, with priority given to those within the Child Care Project coverage area. Presenter: Jennifer Keenan Wolfe, Early Education Program Principal

VT Core Knowledge Area: 3
NH Core Knowledge Area: 3
CDA Subject Area: 2

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**BFIS in VT**
www.brightfutures.dcf.state.vt.us

The Bright Futures Information System (BFIS) is a Vermont data management system designed and operated by the VT Child Development Division of the Department for Children and Families. Hundreds of statewide early care and education professional development opportunities (such as workshops, classes and conferences) are listed and updated regularly in the BFIS Course Calendar. Go to www.brightfutures.dcf.state.vt.us, click on Course Calendar under Resources for Early Childhood and Afterschool Professionals near the bottom of the page and start searching.

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**Child Care Aware of NH**
http://nh.childcareaware.org

Providers can find information on workshops and training events being offered through Southern NH Services Child Care Resource & Referral Network. Searches can be filtered by catchment area and/or month from the home page (right hand side, mid-way down the page under Search For Training).

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**Online Training & Coursework**
http://northernlights.cdc.org/training/
online-training-and-coursework

Colleges and other sponsors of professional development all over the world offer online training. VT’s Northern Lights Career Development Center reviews and approves sponsors of online training that is not for college credit. These are approved sponsors whose modules and workshops may count as training hours required by the VT Child Development Division for licensing/registration, Step Ahead Recognition System for STARS application/renewal, Child Development Associate (CDA) for initial credential and/or VT Agency of Education for educator licensure renewal, and more.

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**Child Care Aware Training Academy**
http://naccrra.smarthorizons.org/child-care-providers.html

The Child Care Aware Training Academy™ offers more than 300 online training courses for center-based and family child care providers. Courses were developed by subject matter experts for providers working towards their Child Development Associate (CDA) credential, CDA renewal or annual training requirements. Training Academy courses are approved for Continuing Education Units (CEUs) and are offered to providers at no additional cost. Courses are available 24 hours a day, 365 days a year!
Child Care Project
Winter 2015-2016 Professional Development Registration Form

Name _____________________________________________  VT Quality Case ID _____________

Home Mailing Address _____________________________________________________________

Home Town, State & Zip _____________________________________________________________

Workplace Name ____________________________________  Workplace Town __________________

Email ___________________________________________________________________________

Phones:  Home ___________________  Work ___________________  Cell ___________________

Registration Policies

Registration: Pre-registration with payment is required. Registration is now accepted online at http://dartmouth.imodules.com/ccp or through the mail on a rolling basis, within the time frame below, until a training fills. A wait list will be kept for fully enrolled training. Neither phone nor email registrations are accepted. Seasonal registration forms are available prior to the first day of registration at www.dartmouth.edu/~ccp. Please register only for trainings printed on these forms; use one form per person. We must receive your registration prior to training and may not be able to accommodate walk-ins.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Season</th>
<th>Registration Opens</th>
<th>Training Dates</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Fall</td>
<td>Aug. 24</td>
<td>Sept. – Nov.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Winter</td>
<td>Nov. 23</td>
<td>Dec. – Feb.</td>
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Payment: Pay via credit card online or by check if mailing. Payment (or pre-approved scholarship) must accompany registration. Please make check payable to Child Care Project. Fees are as follows, unless otherwise noted in the training description.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Training/Series Length</th>
<th>Fee</th>
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<tr>
<td>2-3 hours</td>
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<tr>
<td>4-6 hours</td>
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<td>7-9 hours</td>
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<td>16-18 hours</td>
<td>$35</td>
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<td>19-21 hours</td>
<td>$40</td>
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Scholarships: Limited scholarships are available to child care providers facing significant financial need. Individuals in our coverage area may request assistance of $10 per academic year by calling the Child Care Project at (603) 646-3233 prior to registration.

Confirmation: Upon receipt of registration and payment, confirmation will be sent via email (or by phone if an email address is not provided). Reminder phone calls will be made one to three days prior to training.

Cancellation: If a training is canceled by the Child Care Project, registrants will be notified by email (or by phone if an email address is not provided). Cancellations will also be posted on our website. In the event of canceled training, credit will be issued toward a future training.

If you are unable to attend training for which you are registered, please call or email with as much advance notice as possible. If cancellation is received with at least 24 hours advance notice, credit will be issued toward future training. If you do not get into training for which you are wait listed, credit will be issued. Refunds are not available and credit is not given for “no shows.”

Training Credit: To redeem a training credit, registration must be made using the paper registration form sent via mail. Credits cannot be redeemed through the online registration site.

To register via mail, complete both sides of this form and mail with check to:
Child Care Project, 17 ½ Lebanon Street, Suite 2, Hanover, NH 03755
Workshop Selection: Check in the first column the training(s) you would like to attend.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Select</th>
<th>Date(s)</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Hours</th>
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<td>12/10/15</td>
<td>Creative Winter Fun with 3-5 Year Olds: Comparison of Process- &amp; Product-Focused Literacy &amp; Arts Activities for Preschoolers</td>
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<td>Creating Pleasant Mealtime Environments in Child Care</td>
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<td>01/21, 01/23/16</td>
<td>Environmental Literacy in Action, Parts 1 &amp; 2</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>01/28/16</td>
<td>The Blue Brain: Being Male, Young and Energetic</td>
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<td>02/18/16</td>
<td>The Cost of Quality in Early Childhood Education</td>
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<td>$10</td>
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<td></td>
<td>02/27, 03/05, 03/12/16</td>
<td>Mother Goose Cares About Math and Science, Parts 1-3</td>
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<td>$40</td>
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**Total Registration Fee $**

Payment Information

- [ ] Check Enclosed
  - Check Amount $ __________ Check # ________________

- [ ] Scholarship Awarded
  - Award Amount $ __________ Date of Award __________
  - Awarded By ________________________________

- [ ] Cancellation Credit Applied
  - Credit Amount $ __________ Date of Credit __________

To register via mail, complete both sides of this form and mail with check to:
Child Care Project, 17 ½ Lebanon Street, Suite 2, Hanover, NH 03755

OR

To register online with a credit card payment, go to http://dartmouth.imodules.com/ccp.
Other Training Opportunities

**CPR & First Aid Trainings**

Most classes require pre-registration and pre-payment; many are space limited and could be canceled in the event of low enrollment. Contact the individual site for more information or to register.

Dartmouth-Hitchcock Medical Center Women’s Health Resource Center

*Heartsaver First Aid: Dec. 2, 6:00-9:00 pm. $55. Heartsaver First Aid and Adult, Child and Infant CPR Certification: Feb. 27, 9:00 am-3:00 pm. $110. On the Mall (9 Hanover Street) in Lebanon, NH. American Heart Association classes. Scholarships available. (603) 650-2600 or www.dartmouth-hitchcock.org/womens_resource_ctr/all_whrc_classes.html.*

Upper Valley Aquatic Center

*Red Cross CPR and First Aid Certification: Dec. 16, Jan. 6, Feb. 10, Mar. 9 or Mar. 30, 4:00-9:00 pm. $110. Red Cross CPR and First Aid Recertification: Feb. 17, 4:00-9:00 pm. $65. 100 Arboretum Lane in White River Junction, VT. Red Cross classes. Registration form online: http://uvacswim.org/swimming/safety/ or (802) 296-2850 x206.*

New London Hospital

*Heartsaver CPR Recertification: winter schedule TBD. Weber Room, 273 County Road in New London, NH. American Heart Association classes. Register online. www.newlondonhospital.org/events/courses_classes_schedule/# or (603) 526-5501.*

Valley Regional Hospital

*Heartsaver First Aid and Adult, Child and Infant CPR - New and Recertification: winter schedule TBD. 243 Elm Street in Claremont, NH. American Heart Association classes. Private courses for groups of six or more scheduled upon request. (603) 542-1839 or beth.thibault@vrh.org.*

www.ProCPR.org

*ProFirstAid Adult, Child & Infant CPR & First Aid Recertification: Online, $39.95. (888) 228-3911 or www.ProCPR.org. (Accepted in VT for recertification.)*

Upper Valley Ambulance, Inc. in Fairlee, VT is an American Heart Association Training Center; for CPR and first aid training information, contact Jody Gagnon at (802) 333-4043 x0.

White River Valley Ambulance in Bethel, VT offers CPR and first aid training in Bethel or at your site; call (802) 234-6800 for details.

You may also find a class by phoning your local fire station - many times they have trained staff willing to teach CPR and/or first aid - or your community recreation department.

**VT Essential Maintenance Practices for the Stabilization of Lead Paint**

Owners of child care facilities – including family child care homes – built before 1978 are required to attend this training once before getting registered. Owner or a person who has successfully completed an approved training program must then perform lead paint stabilization procedures annually. For information on upcoming Vermont Department of Health approved Essential Maintenance Practices training, visit LeadSafeVermont at www.lead_safe_vermont.org/html/landlords.html.

**VT Basic Specialized Child Care Services Training**

Specialized Child Care (SCCS) encompasses Vermont subsidized child care for children eligible under one of the following service needs:

- **Protective Services** for a child who has been a victim of abuse or neglect and child care is part of
a plan to support the child, thus reducing the risk of future abuse/neglect;

• **Family Support** for a child in a family experiencing significant stress where child care is part of a larger family plan to address specific issues;

• **Special Need** for a child in child care with a special physical or developmental need.

Providers must attend a 6-hour Basic SCCS training prior to signing the Provider Agreement, Part 3 and being granted SCCS status enabling them to care for children with a SCCS need. This training is offered annually in the fall through the Child Care Project. Other agencies throughout the state are still planning their Basic SCCS trainings. Search the BFIS Course Calendar for winter classes: www.brightfutures.dcf.state.vt.us.

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### Social Cognition I: Social Learning Instruction for K-12 Students

Offered by the Stern Center for Language and Learning, this graduate-level course is designed to provide participants with a conceptual understanding of the theoretical frameworks underlying social cognition assessment and intervention for individuals presenting with autism spectrum disorders (ASD) and related socio-cognitive deficits. The class meets from 3:30-6:30 pm on eleven Tuesdays from Jan. 12-May 24 in West Lebanon, NH. For more information, including a full description, costs and option to register, go to www.sterncenter.org/news-events/calendar/details?event_id=1690.

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### Free CCV Online Course for Afterschool Professionals

Vermont Afterschool is partnering with the VT Child Development Division to offer a 3-credit, online course for afterschool professionals through the Community College of Vermont (CCV). This is a tuition-free opportunity for those who are currently working in a licensed child care setting. **Afterschool Education and Development of the School-Age Child (EDU 2065)** focuses on afterschool education related to the development of school age children. Semester dates are Jan. 25-May 6. To register, email Karen Scott at karenscott@vermontafterschool.org for a Final Intent to Register form. This course always fills up fast, so early registration is recommended. Note that registration is NOT through CCV.

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### 2016 Peer Review Project for Early Childhood Education Licensure Cohort

The VT Child Development Division in collaboration with Northern Lights and Mary Johnson Children’s Center is offering a Peer Review Project beginning in Feb. 2016. The project is designed to assist experienced child care professionals to achieve Department of Education licensure with early childhood education endorsement through the peer review process.

The 10-month program will include a hybrid course combining on-line learning with four or five face-to-face meetings. Each program participant will be assigned a mentor/advisor for individual support. Minimum requirements include at least 3 years of experience working with young children and a Bachelor Degree. For more information and an application, visit http://northernlightscdc.org/career-pathways/college-and-university-pathways/early-educator-license-through-peer-review/ or contact Sherry Carlson at scarlson380@comcast.net. Space is limited. Applications are due Dec. 16.
Local Colleges with Evening & Online Early Childhood Education Classes

Community College of Vermont
Upper Valley campus
145 Billings Farm Road, Wilder, VT
(802) 295-8822 • www.ccv.edu

Spring semester runs Jan. 25-May 6; registration open now.

At Upper Valley campus (each 3 credits):
• EDU-1270: Introduction to Early Intervention with Holly Gaspar, Mondays, 6:00-8:45 pm
• PSY-2010: Child Development with Kathleen Ahern, Tuesdays, 6:00-8:45 pm

Online (each 3 credits):
• EDU-1030: Introduction to Early Childhood Education with Jackie Boyd or Sabrina Thomas
• EDU-1250: Fostering Creative Learning for Children with Suzanne Purcell
• EDU-1270: Introduction to Early Intervention with Florence Higgins
• EDU-2041: Leadership, Mentoring and Supervision for Early Childhood and Afterschool Practitioners with TBD
• EDU-2042: Early Childhood Education and Afterschool Program Management with Jannice Ellen
• EDU-2045: Curriculum Development for Early Childhood Education with Jackie Boyd
• EDU-2065: Afterschool Education & Development of the School-Aged Child with TBD
• EDU-2075: Literature for Children with Suzanne Purcell
• EDU-2110: Introduction to Exceptional Populations with Jenna Collins
• PSY-1020: Child Abuse & Neglect with Anie Sklar or Stacy Shortle
• PSY-2010: Child Development with Anie Sklar, Patricia Davenport or Erin Gabrielson
• PSY-2020: Infant & Toddler Development with Marie Olsen
• PSY-2025: Development of the Young Child: Ages 3-8 with Marie Olsen

Granite State College
Lebanon Academic Campus
24 Airport Road, West Lebanon, NH
Claremont Regional Campus
27 Pleasant Street, Claremont, NH
(603) 542-3841 • www.granite.edu

Winter term runs Jan. 4-Mar. 25; registration open now.

Face-to-face *note locations* (each 4 credits):
• EDU-605: Early Childhood Program Administration with Sarah Miner in Concord, NH; Saturdays, Jan. 16, Jan. 30, Feb. 13 and Mar. 12; 9:00 am-3:00 pm
• PSY-508: Child Development with Gail Gettens in Manchester, NH; Saturdays, Jan. 9, Jan. 23, Feb. 6 and Mar. 5; 9:00 am-3:00 pm

Online (each 4 credits):
• PSY-508: Child Development with Beth McKenna
• EDU-550: Foundations of Early Childhood Education with Elizabeth Reed
• EDU-551: Learning and Early Childhood Environments with Sarah Miner
• EDU-555: Language and Literacy Development with Barbara Krol-Sinclair
• EDU-601: Observation and Assessment in Early Childhood Education with Tessa McDonnell
• EDU-602: Young Children with Exceptionalities, Birth-Age 8 with Susan Dame
• EDU-603: Family and Community Relations in Early Childhood Education with Tracy Pond
• EDU-605: Early Childhood Program Administration with Joanne Mulligan

River Valley Community College
1 College Place, Claremont, NH
(800) 837-0658 • www.rivervalley.edu

Spring semester runs Jan. 19-May 9; registration open now.
Local ECE Professional Support Networks

Upper Valley Child Care Association
For: All Upper Valley child care center directors, administrators, family child care providers and early childhood professionals from both NH and VT

Meets: 2nd Tuesday of each month, 1:00-3:00 pm at Franklin Pierce University in West Lebanon, NH

Focus of upcoming meeting: Jan. 12: Intergenerational Programming training with Kendal at Hanover staff, including Sharon Miller-Dombroski, child care center director, at Kendal located at 80 Lyme Road in Hanover, NH. Open to all; no cost.

For more information, contact: Jeff Robbins at (603) 646-6610 or jeff.robbins@dartmouth.edu

Connections
For: All Orange County, VT child care and other professionals directly working with young children

Meets: 1st Wednesday of each month, 6:30-8:30 pm at Valley Cooperative Preschool in Bradford, VT

Focus of upcoming meetings: Pizza is served at all meetings, unless otherwise noted.

- Dec. 2: celebration of members with a provider appreciation dinner

- Jan. 6: CPR and Pediatric First Aid recertification training with Gary Collins from 6:00-9:00 pm at a location to be determined. Open to all, with limited space filled on a first-come, first-served basis. Charge of $45-50 for non-members. RSVP.

- Feb. 3: free training with Kelly Ault of the VT Early Childhood Alliance on advocacy skills and a review of 2016 legislative issues. If you're interested in what's happening at the state level and/or would like to learn how to speak up for our profession on the local level, join us. RSVP.

For more information or to RSVP, contact: Meri Saladino at (802) 222-4236 or petermerisal@gmail.com

Early Childhood Professionals Network
For: All home- and center-based providers from northern Windsor and southern Orange Counties in VT

Meets: 2nd Monday of each month, 6:30-8:30 pm at Dartmouth-Hitchcock Medical Center, Auditorium C or D in Lebanon, NH (unless otherwise noted)

Focus of upcoming meetings: All meetings begin with a pot-luck dinner and informal conversation, and conclude with distribution of curriculum materials to those in attendance, unless otherwise noted.

- Dec. 14: holiday party for members at Jesse's Restaurant

- Jan. 11: curriculum share - bring a winter-themed idea that you do with your children

- Feb. 8: grant review and cookie swap - bring your favorite cookies to share and leave with other great ones

For more information, contact: Rachel Hunter at (802) 886-1070 or Michelle Scott at (802) 356-2755, or email earlychildhoodprofessionalntwk@yahoo.com
Notes of Interest

**Congratulations**

Congratulations to the following family child care providers and center-based programs for moving up in VT’s Step Ahead Recognition System (STARS). Super work!

- **Melanie Dewey** of Randolph - 2 stars
- **Katie Ouelette** of Wilder - 2 stars
- **Michelle Scott** in White River Junction - 4 stars
- **Babble On Day Care** in White River Junction - 4 stars
- **Creative Preschool** in South Strafford - 4 stars
- **Norwich Nursery School** in Norwich - 4 stars
- **School Street Montessori** in Randolph - 4 stars
- **Woodstock Christian Childcare** in Woodstock - 3 stars

Kudos to **Lori Harris**, Executive Director of Children’s Center of the Upper Valley in Lebanon, NH and owner of The Center for Learning, Adventure and Discovery in Plainfield, NH for being named a 2016 Exceptional Master Leader by Child Care Exchange. Well deserved, Lori!

**New VT Child Care Financial Assistance & Licensing Director**

Jennifer Benedict has joined the Child Development Division (CDD) as Director of Child Care Licensing and Financial Assistance. Jennifer comes to the CDD from the Residential Licensing and Special Investigations Unit in the Family Services Division in the Department for Children and Families (DCF).

Jennifer has over eight years of experience working for DCF to improve the lives and outcomes of children with high needs and their families. She brings a solid foundation in policy and regulatory implementation, cross-sector systems collaboration and direct service in the field. She is passionate about ensuring the well-being of children and families in VT and brings professional proficiency, enthusiasm and a fresh perspective to our CDD work in child care. As the working mother of two young children, Jennifer understands first-hand the importance of great relationships and experiences for children and parents in early care and learning programs. She can be reached at (802) 769-6496 or jennifer.benedict@vermont.gov.

**Revised 2015 Vermont Early Learning Standards (VELS)**

The newly revised 2015 VELS (birth through grade three) were approved by the State Board of Education in August. A cross-section of early childhood development and education stakeholders revised the VELS to better capture the essential areas of development and learning in the early childhood years from infancy through grade three. VELS is aligned with the Head Start Early Learning Outcomes Framework, Common Core State Standards in English Language Arts and Mathematics as well as the Next Generation of Science Standards.

You can access the 2015 VELS and download a copy from the Agency of Education website: http://education.vermont.gov/early-education/early-learning-standards#vels. For more information, contact Kate Rogers, Early Education Coordinator II at (802) 479-1454 or kate.rogers@vermont.gov.

**VT Child Care Providers Immunization Survey**

All licensed and registered child care providers in VT are required to report the immunization status of babies and children in their care to the State of VT each year. A Child Care Providers Immunization Survey was emailed to all VT licensed and registered providers on November 2. Providers have until February 5 to complete the survey. Contact the VT Department of Heath at (802) 863-7240 or (800) 640-4374 with questions.
Shared Services Vermont
Do you wish that you had a well written resource on biting at your fingertips to give to a parent who is dealing with a typical toddler behavior? Are you placing an order for art supplies and would love the best price and free shipping? Are you looking for a useful family survey for your STARS renewal? Would you like access to timely articles, blogs and publications to keep you up to date on all that is happening in the world of early care and education?

If you are a participant in VT’s Step Ahead Recognition System (STARS), either as a staff member in a STARS rated program or as a provider, you are eligible for free access to www.SharedServicesVT.org through December 2016. Shared Services VT is a one-stop shopping place for discounts, teacher and administrative resources, and so much more. Sign on today! For more information visit http://vermontbirthtofive.org/programs/shared-services/ or contact Didi Harris, VT Birth to Five Regional Manager at (802) 343-7450.

Project SUCCESS
The VT Community Loan Fund’s (VCLF) Project SUCCESS is a no cost program that provides VT early care and education program directors and owners with a wide range of business consulting and financial management training and support. One does not need to be a VCLF borrower to participate. Project SUCCESS is available to all new and existing child care businesses in VT, licensed centers and registered home-based providers as well as people interested in becoming licensed or registered.

Project SUCCESS staff provide tools and resources that can help child care programs to become more profitable and sustainable. Whether you are planning a new child care center or family child care home or considering how to improve or expand an existing one, a Business Development Specialist will meet with you at your home or center at a time that’s convenient for you. They’re flexible; they know you’re busy! For more information, visit www.investinvermont.org/borrowers/child-care/project-success or contact Cindy Daniels at (802) 224-9146.

Child Care Project Not Selling 2016 Calendar Keepers
The Child Care Project is no longer selling Calendar Keepers. For more information or to purchase this all-in-one record-keeping and tax preparation system for family child care providers, visit http://www.redleafpress.org/Redleaf-Calendar-Keeper-2016-P1344C1270.aspx.

Weekly Wednesday Words
This once a week (once every two weeks in the summer) email from the Child Care Project contains notes and flyers that we’ve collected throughout the week that might be of interest to you between quarterly newsletters, as well as a reminder of our upcoming professional development opportunities. If you or a colleague would like to be added to our email distribution list or if you have information to share, please let us know: (603) 646-3233 or child.care.project@dartmouth.edu.

Free VINS Pass Offer
Interested in taking a field trip or even a weekend outing with your own family? Thanks to continued funding provided by VT Starting Points, the Child Care Project has a free pass to the Vermont Institute of Natural Science’s (VINS) Nature Center located a quarter of a mile west of the Quechee Gorge at 6565 Woodstock Road (Route 4) in Quechee, VT. The pass is for child care providers and allows entrance to one adult and up to five children over age 2 (children under age 2 are welcome, but are always free and not included in the count) for a day. Contact us with a specific date request and we will email you a pass for that day. For more information on VINS, including year-round hours and driving directions, visit www.vinsweb.org or call (802) 359-5000.

Child Care Project Newsletter
Winter 2015-2016

The Family Place’s 13th Annual Gingerbread Festival
The Family Place’s Annual Gingerbread Festival will be held on Saturday, December 5 from 10:00 am-3:00 pm at Tracy Hall in Norwich, VT. The Gingerbread Festival is a fun-filled event for families that features: a display of over 80 gingerbread houses, a silent auction of the gingerbread houses and other auction items, a store with handcrafts and gift items, a café for a delicious lunch, a gingerbread house making demonstration, cookie decorating and fun activities for children. Admission is $10 per family or $5 per individual, and all proceeds benefit The Family Place. Please share with families. Call (802) 649-3268 or email gingerbread@the-family-place.org with any questions.

PTAN Child Care Inclusion Project
NH child care providers who are struggling to maintain a child with challenging behaviors or other special needs can call the Preschool Technical Assistance Network (PTAN) Helpline (1-888-584-8200) to request assistance. PTAN provides free services to NH child care providers: telephone consultation in the privacy of your program; on site consultation from consultants with expertise matched to your specific need; and individualized onsite staff development that improves your staff’s skills and satisfies licensing and credentialing requirements for in-service training. Visit http://ptan.seresc.net/blog/inclusive-child-care/preventing-child-care-expulsion/ for more information.

VT Subsidy Column
Many child care providers have called us with questions about the VT Child Care Financial Assistance Program (CCFAP, aka, Subsidy). We are happy to have this opportunity to share general information about the program with you. If you have any suggestions for this column or topics you would like us to cover, please let us know.

Geraldine, Kathy, Megan and Sue
The Family Place, (802) 649-3268

Application Process: When an application is received at The Family Place it is date stamped. If it is not signed or if sections are not filled out, it will be sent back to the applicant and will be date stamped again when (if) it is returned complete. The eligibility specialist is required by the State to act on it within 7 business days. (Applications are often processed within a few business days.) This means that very quickly a client will get something in the mail. It may be certificates, a denial letter, or a request for more information.

Current Subsidy applications must be used. If you have subsidy applications on hand that you give out to parents, please make sure that they are dated “Revised 09/23/15” (bottom right corner of front page) or later. Here is a link to a current application to print: http://dcf.vermont.gov/sites/dcf/files/pdf/cdd/care/fap/CCFAP_Application_web.pdf.

Once a certificate is made, a notice will appear in the documents section of the provider’s BFIS account and the child’s name will appear on the invoice for payment.

Confidentiality: There is a consent form which is part of the application, but the parent may not have checked “Child Care Provider” when they filled out the application. If they have not, we can’t discuss their case with you because CCFAP is a confidential program. This includes whether or not they have applied for subsidy. Please consider adding “The Family Place, Child Care Financial Assistance Program” to the consent form that you have parents sign. Then you can fax or email it to us if you have questions about the parent’s subsidy and we will be able to talk to you.
At home, child care, or school, children occasionally become embroiled in conflict or a battle of wills with peers or adults — it’s inevitable. As ironic as it sounds, it’s even desirable. Some bickering and conflict in childhood helps kids discover positive ways of resolving disagreements. When learned well, the skills will come in handy at home and at work throughout life.

If respectful conflict resolution isn’t mastered during early childhood, the skills are much harder to learn; they rarely become second-nature to an adult. The consequence is reflected by domestic violence and assault crimes that shatter our neighborhoods.

In each developmental stage, children gradually expand their capacity to balance their personal rights, needs, and wants with those of others. As children learn to do that, they develop constructive social skills as well as their own character.

Key to teaching children to handle conflict is helping them identify their emotions. They must also, (and this is the hardest part!) learn to control how they express and act on their emotions. To become socially responsible, it’s critical that children exercise choice and decision-making power over their behavior.

There’s another challenge in conflict resolution. Children must learn to interpret others’ emotions. That requires recognizing that everyone has feelings and desires. Being sensitive to others and juggling differing perspectives and points of view is very challenging for young children. It takes time and practice.

Helping kids develop conflict resolution skills isn’t mysterious or complex, but it does take patience and a consistent approach. Here are tips to help you along:

- **Model a rich “feelings” vocabulary.** From infancy, begin putting words to emotions. Pair words with facial expressions; it helps children understand feeling. “When you squirm I can tell it’s frustrating getting your diaper changed. Hold on for just a minute longer.”

  Encourage toddlers to empathize by translating others’ body language: “That boy is upset; he’s crying because someone grabbed his toy from him. He wants it back.”

  With preschoolers, introduce words to name feelings associated with conflict such as: frightened, anxious, mad, scared, angry, worried, nervous, afraid, frustrated, confused, lonely, tricked, ignored, left out, embarrassed, mad, and unimportant.

- **Set the standard and enforce limits.** As children grow, share your belief and goals. Affirm everyone’s right to be safe — emotionally and physically. When children are old enough, lay down ground rules for solving disagreements. Identify behaviors that are, and are not, acceptable: “It’s unacceptable to throw toys. Tell me what’s wrong.”

- **Be a good example.** Tell children they can feel any way they wish, but they must control what they do. Illustrate the behavior you expect. If you don’t want children yelling, name-calling or belittling others, change your own ways first.

- **Encourage language as a problem solving tool.** Ask children to tell you what they want or need. Emphasize using language, rather than grunts, shoves or hits: “Tell me if you want more peas.” And remember, 18 month-old children can understand more language than they can speak. Model using language to get along with others: “Tonya, I want to build with blocks, too. May I sit by you, please?”
Help children cope with feelings constructively.
Be on hand to help children interpret their emotions:
“You seem really angry. It’s frustrating when someone gets a toy you wanted first. Crying didn’t help. Is there another toy you can play with while you wait for that one?”

Show children how to address problems without aggression. Focus on behavior, not name calling, and on what can be achieved, rather than blaming or shaming. Family educators encourage parents to use “I-Feel” statements and to teach children to use them as well. Here’s the format: You feel (fill in word/s) when you (fill in word/s) because (fill in word/s). You feel frustrated when you grab at the book because it might tear. Next time you would like me to (fill in word/s). Example: I feel frustrated when you grab at the book because it might tear. Next time you would like me to wait for me to ask you to turn the page.

Offer regular peer play in a positive setting. Well supervised and developmentally appropriate peer play gives children abundant chances to practice conflict resolution. Interview program staff on how they coach children’s skills. Observe the setting to see if it is arranged to help children succeed socially. For instance, are there enough toys for children to share without heated conflict? Are there toys that encourage cooperation and turn-taking, such as wagons, puppets, blocks, pretend play items or table games?

Offer choices to toddlers. Because they are just learning about emotions and language, toddlers need more help sorting things out in conflict. They can even distract themselves with their own tantrums. Interpret first. “Screaming isn’t working. Here are two things you can do.” When given a clear choice, toddlers are better able to calm down, focus and follow through. They’ll also need more reminders about their choices.

Take a stand against physical aggression and name-calling. Whenever aggression occurs, nip it in the bud: “I won’t let you hurt Tom. I’d never let him hit you, either. Think of another way to solve this.”

Resist solving problems for preschool children; instead guide with questions. When children turn to you for help, resist separating children, isolating them in chairs or telling them exactly what to do. Instead, coach them in the basic steps of problem solving.

Give each child a chance to speak. Ask questions that encourage them to analyze the situation and options. “What is the problem?” “What have you already tried to solve it?” “How did it work?” “Is there something else you can do?” After brainstorming possible alternatives, analyze the pros and cons of each solution together. By voting or verbal agreement, select and carry out a plan. If the problem recurs, go back to problem solving.

Offer feedback and appreciation. Comment on productive problem solving: “I heard you and Andy arguing over the red crayon. That was a good idea to reassure him you’d give it to him next.” Or: “I heard you telling Trisha you were angry she knocked down your block building; that was good self control.”

Explore ways to make amends after conflict. After conflict most kids go on about their play, but sometimes kids need help knowing how to mend fences. If it’s true, kids can say they are sorry. But there are other ways, too. I often ask, “If you want LaGreta to stay friends, what would make her feel better?” Sometimes a child says, “I’m sorry,” other times they give a hug, draw a picture or give a flower. Authentic amends is what’s important, not just lip service of “I’m sorry”.

The following young children’s books focus on people peaceably settling disputes (with a special emphasis on diverse makeup and outlook). The Jane Addams Children’s Book Awards have been presented annually since 1953. The awards are given to the children's books published the preceding year that effectively promote the cause of peace, social justice, world community and the equality of the sexes and all races as well as meeting conventional standards for excellence. For more information about the Jane Addams Peace Association, the Children’s Book Awards and other valuable resources, visit www.janeaddamspeace.org/.

### 2000 Honor Book for Younger Children
*When Sophie Gets Angry - Really, Really, Angry*, written and illustrated by Molly Bang and published by Scholastic Press in 1999. When Sophie gets angry, really, really angry, she roars! She roars loud and hot and then runs, and runs until she finds peace in a large tree. Calmed at last, she heads back home to her waiting, loving family. A marvelous book for read-to-me children about a girl with big feelings and energy, and the room to express them.

### 2004 Winner Book for Younger Children
*Harvesting Hope: The Story of Cesar Chavez*, written by Kathleen Krull, illustrated by Yuyi Morales and published by Harcourt Children’s Books in 2003. When economic misfortune hit, Cesar began working in the agricultural fields as a young child. Appalled by the horrific living conditions of farm workers and their families, he became a leader of the 1965 strike against the grape growers. In this retelling, the reader is taken on the protest march that led to the first contract for fair employment for farm workers - a moving story of courage and the fight for justice.

### 2005 Honor Book for Younger Children
*Hot Day on Abbott Avenue*, written by Karen English, illustrated by Javaka Steptoe and published by Houghton Mifflin in 2004. A rhythmic, poetic text moves this story from a best-friend-breakup day to a forgetting-what-you-were-mad-about day. Written with sensitivity, humor and a sense of community, reflected brilliantly in the collage art, the book speaks eloquently about making peace in the world of little children. A testimonial to the soothing influence of Double Dutch and blue ice-pops.

### 2005 Honor Book for Younger Children
*Henry and the Kite Dragon*, written by Bruce Edward Hall, illustrated by William Low and published by Philomel Books in 2004. Henry loves living in Chinatown in New York, especially helping his friend make and fly beautiful kites. Henry avoids the neighborhood park whenever Toni Guglione and his friends are there because the Italian kids always cause trouble. In a confrontation between the two groups of children, a new truth come out that leads to cooperation and an agreement.

### 2007 Honor Book for Younger Children
*Crossing Bok Chitto: A Choctaw Tale of Friendship & Freedom*, written by Tim Tingle, illustrated by Jeanne Rorex Bridges and published by Cinco Puntos Press in 2006. The Choctaw people live on one side of the River Bok Chitto; plantation owners and enslaved African Americans live on the other. A secret friendship between a Choctaw girl and an African American boy is the first link in a chain of humanity that spirits the boy’s family across the river to freedom.

### 2013 Honor Book for Younger Children
*We March*, written and illustrated by Shane W. Evans and published by Roaring Book Press in 2012. A rare book, *We March* is written so simply it will resonate with children as young as four, but so clearly it will inform and touch children through third grade. In a flowing poem of single sentences, we follow a young boy as he is woken early and with his family heads out to participate in the March on Washington. Children gain an understanding how it must feel to be part of a huge peaceful, determined and hopeful movement.
While it’s snowing, place a clean baking sheet or cookie sheet outside to collect the fresh flakes. Then, start “cooking”!

**Sugar On Snow (Maple Candy)**
made syrup • snow
A New England favorite: heat maple syrup in a pan to around 234 F degrees and drizzle it in strips over packed snow. Because it cools so quickly, it does not have a chance to crystallize and instead, as if by alchemy, transforms into a taffy-like treat that can then be swirled onto a popsicle stick.¹

**Vegan Coconut Maple Snow Cream**
8 cups snow • 1 can coconut milk • 2 tablespoons maple syrup
Chill the can of coconut milk and skim off the cream (or leave it on if you want a more decadent dish). Put the snow in a large bowl, stir in ingredients, lightly mix until combined.¹

**Peppermint Snow Ice Cream**
8 cups snow • 14-oz can sweetened condensed milk • 1 teaspoon peppermint extract
If you want, place the can of milk outside and allow it to chill. Put the snow in a large bowl, stir in chilled milk and peppermint. Lightly mix until combined.¹

**Real Snow Cones**
1 cup sugar • 1 cup water • unsweetened juice • 4 scoops snow
In a small saucepan, boil sugar and water until the sugar has completely dissolved. Let cool to room temperature. Then add your favorite unsweetened juice. Once completely cool, drizzle it over scoops of fresh snow.²

**Snow Pancakes**
1 cup firmly packed dry snow • 1 cup flour • 1-1.5 cups milk • pinch of salt • butter or oil
Mix snow, flour, milk and salt thoroughly to make a batter. Heat butter or oil in a skillet until hot. Drop spoonfuls of mix onto the hot pan and cook one side. Flip over to finish. Serve with lemon juice and sugar or maple syrup.³

**Hot Cocoa Snow Slushie**
3 ounces of your favorite chocolate • 2 teaspoons cocoa powder • 1.5 tablespoons sugar • 1.5 cups milk • 3 cups snow • whipped cream
Chop the chocolate into little pieces and melt in a double boiler over simmering water. Add cocoa and sugar, stir constantly until blended. Remove from heat and stir in 1/2 cup milk until smooth, and cool to room temperature. Once cool, add the remaining milk and stir the mix into snow until slushie-like. Top with whipped cream.¹

Most snow is just as clean as any drinking water. Snow is formed as ice crystals cling to particles of dust or pollen, but these are the same tiny particles we normally breathe. And as snowflakes fall, they shun the soot and other air pollutants that raindrops are better suited at attracting. Just avoid snow that has been on the ground for a while and has picked up dirt.¹

What Is Inside...

Welcome Letter  p. 1  
CCP Training Opportunities  p. 2  
CCP Professional Development Registration Policies  p. 7  
CCP Winter 2015-16 Professional Development Registration Form  p. 8  
Other Training Opportunities  p. 9  
Local ECE Professional Support Networks  p. 12  
Notes of Interest  p. 13  
VT Subsidy Column  p. 14  
Teaching Children to Resolve Conflict Respectfully  p. 16  
Jane Addams Children’s Book Awards Winners  p. 18  
Serve Them Snow  p. 19

The Child Care Project is a Granite United Way partner agency.