



# Oahe Child Development Center

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## Early Head Start & Head Start News

[www.oahechild.com](http://www.oahechild.com)

April / May 2010

### Program News

On April 28th, the Zonta Club of Pierre & Fort Pierre presented a Service Award Grant to Oahe Child Development Center. Zonta is an international service organization of executives and professionals. The service award will be used for the Oahe Child Development Center Crisis Fund.

### Employee Anniversaries

The following employees have shown true dedication to Oahe Child Development Center with their years of service . Celebrating anniversaries are:

**Elaine St. Pierre - 5 years**

**Marie Molseed - 5 Years**

**Donna Green - 10 years**

**Leanne Hoffman - 10 years**

**PLEASE SAVE the entire cap from any Land O Lakes milk/orange juice product with the Save Five For Schools sticker on the top and your cash register receipts from Lynn's Dakotamart. Lynn's has stores in Elgin, North Dakota, Fort Thompson, Sturgis, Lead, Pierre, Faith, Custer, Spearfish, Belle Fourche and Hot Springs, South Dakota.**

**All proceeds will go into our crisis fund. Thank you for your participation.**

**Campbell's Soup Labels: Please save labels from your Campbell's soup products. Make sure to save the entire label so we can get credit in the *Labels For Education* program.**

## Pierre Center Class 1 - Miss Marie & Miss Brittany

The current theme for Class 1 is Soil and Seeds. Having read the story Wiggling Worms At Work, the children created Wiggling Works Of Art using biocolor paint, clothespins, and artificial fishing worms. Prior to this while doing the theme Under the Sea, the children made squid for a nutrition activity using hot dogs and spaghetti which were then boiled and eaten amidst much laughter! Our thanks to the kitchen staff Ms. Wendy and Ms. Lynn for helping us with all of our nutrition activities.



## Pierre Center Class 2- Miss Lauriann & Miss Kelli

Class 2 has been busy with spring activities. One of the highlights was our trip to Diana Melvin's farm. The children enjoyed getting to ride on the horse, Strawberry. Our last week of school we will be doing summer fun activities and going on field trips to the park, Classy's, trolley ride to the Dam, and bowling.

It has been a fun year getting to know the kids & watching them grow! Have a great summer!



## Hyde County Head Start - Natalie & Juliana

The Highmore Head Start has been wild about animals lately. We started out talking about our pets and it developed into a zoo animal theme the next week. One little boy brought his dad, the local veterinarian, and his grandpa's beautiful golden retriever in one day. We asked the vet a lot of funny, insightful questions. The children especially enjoyed playing with big zoo animals, building zoo cages with the blocks, and dressing up in the animal costumes in the dramatic play area.



## EHS Tri County 1, 2 & 3

We had an awesome family fun night in April, making race cars. Those that attended made a car out of a box using flags, numbers, pin stripes, headlights, taillights, tires, & markers. We went out to the grassy area in the front and did races. Some of the parents also received door prizes and each child got a racing hat.

The weather is getting nice and we all hope to do more outside. This includes activities on home visits and socials. Your input is important to us on activities and programs you would like to do with your children.

In the upcoming month we will be doing our carnival and having a picnic at the park. We will be providing a meal and a fun activity. Hope to see everyone there!!!

## Mental Health

### **Young Children's Exposure to Audible Television Has Implications For Language Acquisition and Brain Development**

In a recent study conducted in Washington State, it was found that young children and their adult caregivers uttered fewer vocalizations, used fewer words and engaged in fewer conversations when in the presence of audible television. On average, each additional hour of television exposure was associated with a decrease of 770 words the child heard from the adult. Lead researcher, Dimitri A. Christakis stated "The results of the study may explain association between television exposure and delayed language development." He further adds that this may also explain attentional and cognitive delays, since it has been posed that language and development is a critical component of brain development in early childhood.

#### These are some recommendations for parents and caregivers based on this research:

**For babies: Avoid TV for babies under age two. Choose activities that promote language development and brain growth such as talking, playing, reading, singing, and enjoying music.**

**For children over two:**

**If you allow TV time, choose age-appropriate programs.**

**Limit TV time to no more than two hours a day. Less is better.**

**Keep TV off during meals**

**Set "media-free" days, and plan fun things to do.**

**Avoid using TV as a reward.**

**Turn off TV when a chosen program is over.**

**Keep TV's out of bedrooms.**

# Have a Safe and Happy Summer!!

Check us out on the web at

[www.oahechild.com](http://www.oahechild.com)