



Oahe Child Development Center

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Early Head Start & Head Start News

www.oahechild.com

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Growing Up Reading

Talking to your child helps expand vocabulary, develop background knowledge, and inspire a curiosity about the world – all of which help with learning to read!

Reading and talking with babies and toddlers plays an important role in developing their vocabulary. Typically, more words are used in written language than in spoken language. The more you read to children, the larger vocabulary they will develop. Research has shown children learn new words by: Hearing a word over and over. Hearing words spoken by the important people in their lives example: Mom, Dad, siblings, grandparents. Hearing words in a meaningful context – during conversation at dinner, in the car, while playing and while reading.

What parents can do to help children grow up reading. 1. Create or learn songs to expand your child's vocabulary. Use songs to describe your daily routines. 2. Read stories such as The Three Bears or Three Billy Goats Gruff. Act out the stories using small, medium, and large stuffed animals. 3. Play "I Spy" with your child using words that describe an object's position. ("I spy something on the carpet, in front of the couch, next to the dog.") Expand this activity by playing "Simon Says" using directional words. ("Simons says put your hand above your head.")

Here is a book list of 10 of the best loved children's books for children 0 to 5 years old.



1. Bear Snores On by Karma Wilson.
2. Big Little by Leslie Patricelli,
3. Brown Bear, Brown Bear, What Do You See? by Bill Martin Jr.
4. Barnyard Dance by Sandra Boynton.
5. Dr. Seuss's ABC: An Amazing Alphabet Book by Dr. Seuss.
6. Love You Good Night by Jon Buller & Susan Schade.
7. Peek-A-Moo! By Marie Torres Cimarusti.
8. Sometimes I Like to Curl Up in a Ball by Vicki Churchill.
9. The Monster at the End of This Book by Jon Stone.
- 10 I Kissed the Baby by Mary Murphy.



Enjoy the time with your children and happy reading!

Pierre Kindergarten Orientation Dates:

St. Joseph School: February 27th at 5:30 in Maguire Hall

Buchanan School: February 28th at 5:30 in the library

McKinley School: February 28th at 5:30 in the conference room

Jefferson School: March 1st at 5:30 in the library

Washington School: March 1st at 5:30 in the library.

Pierre Kindergarten Screenings are March 21, 22, and 23

Highmore Kindergarten screen and child find is March 14th.

Murdo Kindergarten screen and child find is April 25.

Onida child find is May 8, 9, & 10.

Fort Pierre Kindergarten Round up is March 9th.



Sully County **Miss Jessica**

In our Sully County classroom, we have been leaping into learning! So far this year we have been focusing on everything from colors, letters, and numbers to various science experiments and fine and gross motor activities. In the fall we had fun with fire safety, homecoming and Halloween. And, just before the holidays, we were able to go on a field trip to the Capital to see the trees and feed the geese. The children are all very creative and bring their own wonderful, fun personalities to the room—making any activity we do, a blast!

Recently the biggest hit in the classroom has been our science experiments! The students love being scientists and really diving into things, making their own questions and predictions, and simply seeing how things work. Our last two experiments have involved milk and food coloring, and grapes and raisins. Our milk and food coloring experiment showed the children the marble effect food coloring can have on milk when dish soap is added to the mix. The children were able to make their own swirl patterns. It was exciting for all to see each other's different color mixtures. Our grapes and raisins experiment is ongoing. The students began by putting water in a balloon to resemble a grape and then covering the balloon with tape. Afterwards, we popped the water balloon, and squeezed out all of the water. This gave our once grape-like balloon, a raisin look. Now we have raisins in a bag of water, to see if they will soak up the water and turn into grapes. Our experiment results are still up for question, as we observe the bag each day!

The children are growing and maturing so much each and every day. Each day brings new experiences and we are excited to see what the remainder of our year holds.

Class 4

Miss Caitlin and Miss Brittany

We have had a very busy year since coming back from our holiday break. We have been learning how to sign letters and a word to go along with that letter. We have learned about different animals, such as penguins and bears. On a regular basis we work on numbers and shapes. In the coming months Class 4 will be learning about different pets, dental hygiene, nursery rhymes, and many other topics.



Our Trip to the Capitol



Singing "I Love You"

Class 3
Miss Tauna and
Miss Tami

Class 3 has traveled back in time, we're learning about dinosaurs! It's amazing how much the children already know about dinosaurs.



In February we will be learning about taking care of our hearts. We will learn about the importance of eating healthy foods and exercising to strengthen our muscles and bones.



Hyde County
Early Head Start
Miss Leanne

We have not had very good turn outs for our Socializations, due to illnesses this winter. We will only be having one Socialization in February. Staff will be attending a meeting in Pierre. We will return to two Socials per month in March. For those of you who have been dealing with sicknesses, we wish you well and hope to see you again in the coming months. Also, thank you for calling and letting me know when you have a sickness in your home. This helps us to not pass the germs on to others, and keeping the illness from going in a continuous cycle.

HELP TO SAVE FOR OUR PROGRAM

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.

Oahe Child Development Center is also participating in the The CAMPBELLS *Labels for Education* program which is a great way to get FREE merchandise for our school.



Thank you for your participation.

A parent resource room is available at Oahe Child Development Center with books, videos and brochures on a variety of parenting topics. Please ask the receptionist or any of the staff if you are unsure where it is located.

Child Assessment Scores

The most important goal of the Oahe Child Development curriculum is to help children become more enthusiastic learners and increase their school readiness skills. The activities planned, the way the environment is organized, the materials and toys selected, the daily routine and the adult interaction with the child(ren), are all designed to accomplish the goals of the curriculum. Teaching Strategies GOLD is the primary curriculum and assessment tool used with the three to five year old children, along with a variety of resources to achieve positive educational experiences. Teachers observe children as they participate in everyday activities and then assess their progress on objectives three times a year.

The Head Start program collects data on children's progress in the areas of physical (both gross motor and fine motor), cognitive, social/emotional, language, literacy, and math. Information is used to individualize each child's needs, plan activities for the classroom, plan for staff professional development and for program improvement.

After all assessment information is collected teachers enter child's data into the Teaching Strategies GOLD computer checkpoint system. Performance expectations for reporting purposes compare children's skills, knowledge and behavior to widely held expectations for each age or class/grade level. For the first checkpoint, it is reasonable to expect children to be demonstrating skills at the lower end of the expectation levels.

All teachers completed the first assessment of each child and the second assessment will be completed at the end of January, 2012. The following is the results of the first assessment completed on the children enrolled in Oahe Child Development Center's Head Start program.

In the area of Social Emotional	<i>111 children or 52% were below expectations 82 children or 39% were meeting expectations and 18 children or 9% were exceeding expectations.</i>
In the area of Gross Motor	117 children or 55% were below expectations 88 children or 42 % were meeting expectations and 7 children or 3% were exceeding expectations.
In the area of Fine Motor	<i>72 children or 34% were below expectations 131 children or 62% were meeting expectations and 8 children or 4% were exceeding expectations.</i>
In the area of Cognitive	115 children or 54% were below expectations 84 children or 40% were meeting expectations and 12 children or 6% were exceeding expectations.
In the area of Language	<i>111 children or 52% were below expectations 90 children or 43% were meeting expectations 10 children or 5% were exceeding expectations.</i>
In the area of Literacy	129 children or 61% were below expectations 53 children or 25% were meeting expectations and 8 children or 4 % were exceeding expectations.
In the area of Math	<i>138 children or 65% were below expectations 49 children or 23% were meeting expectations and 4 children or 2% were exceeding expectations.</i>