

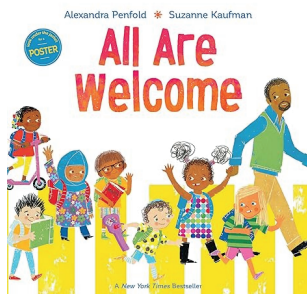
The Scoop in Family Child Care

December 2024 | Issue 42

Featured Book

An uplifting story about a school where all young children have a place, and are loved and appreciated for who they are. Readers will follow a group of children through a day in their school where everyone is welcomed with open arms. In this school, students from all

backgrounds learn from and celebrate each other's traditions. With vibrant images and a heartwarming story, this book celebrates a school community as a great common ground where families of all kinds connect and share in their children's education journey.



<https://youtu.be/O5gia39y5uo?si=9M10gQFgKluNNE9U>

Sensory

Family Sensory Bin

This sensory activity offers bright, inviting colors that will entice children to play and give them the chance to talk about themselves and their family.



Things you can include:

- Multi-colored pom-poms
- Plastic toy houses and furniture
- Toy characters and figurines
- A book to spark conversations about families

Art Project

"All About Us" Puzzle

Materials Needed

- Paper
- Coloring Utensils
- Glue
- Scissors
- Magazines



Instructions

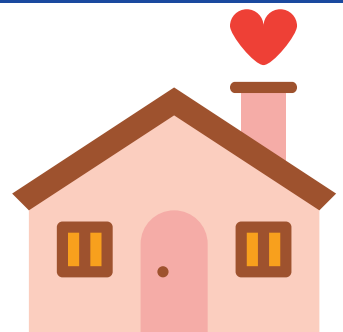
Cut out several large puzzle pieces of different shapes and sizes (but make sure they have a way to connect). Have children, staff, and family members draw on their puzzle pieces to make it their own. Once puzzle pieces are complete, assemble all the pieces on a wall to hang.

Finger Play

A House for Me

This is a nest for Mr. Bird
This is a hive for Ms. Bee
This is a hole for the bunny
And this is a house for me

This is a nest for Mr. Bird
This is a hive for Ms. Bee
This is a hole for the bunny
And this is a house for me



<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=1UnDgcKfOmA>

Nutrition

Friendship Salad

Show children the behavior you expect by adding several different kinds of fruit to represent good behavior.



Some of Our Favorites

- Apples
- Strawberries
- Sliced Pineapple
- Marshmallows
- Yogurt

9 More Picture Books About Community



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Referral Services

Submit Your Complete Update Survey

It's that time of year for you to fill out the Complete Update Survey! You should have received an email and paper copies over the past several weeks. You can also scan this QR code to fill out the form. The form should take about 15 minutes to complete.



If you have any questions, contact our Referral Specialist, Jessi, at jjuzman@salccc.org or (309) 686-3750, Option 3.

Trainings

ExceleRate Illinois Orientation for Licensed Family Child Care

Wednesday, December 18 | 6:30 p.m. - 8:30 p.m.

Online Via Zoom **OR** 3425 N. Dries Lane, Peoria, IL 61604

Presented by Heather Schichner, SAL Child Care Connection of Central Illinois

Registration Deadline: 11:55 p.m. on Tuesday, December 10

And

Free CPR Classes for eligible participants!

Register at www.salccc.org/provider-services/training

Health & Safety

Preventing Child Abuse & Neglect

1. Encourage parents to join in your activities and drop in whenever they can.
2. Respect children's personal boundaries.
3. Attend ongoing training to learn current information about the care, development, and guidance of children and child abuse issues.
4. Set up your space to make it easy to supervise all children at once.
5. Include quiet areas for children that can be seen by staff.

For more information, contact our Quality Specialist Team at (309) 686-3750, Option 9.

Grants

Individual Professional Development Funds are available now!

These funds assist child care providers in their pursuit of professional development, including a CDA for those interested in becoming teacher-qualified!

Learn more about how to apply for these funds and what they cover by going to www.salccc.org/provider-services/grant-opportunities

Home Child Care Network

Home Child Care Network is seeking licensed home care providers to join their **free** program. Their program offers free monthly training, technical support for grants and budgets, mental health support including screenings, and add-on rates for 2nd and 3rd shifts and weekends, with monthly payments guaranteed by the 15th of the month.

For more information, call (309) 685-8064

Higher Education Navigation

Thinking about advancing your Early Education Career?

Contact a Higher Education Navigator for Help:

1. Determining your educational goals
2. Identifying which programs are available to best fit your needs
3. Connecting you with Early Childhood Education scholarship opportunities
4. Acting as a point of contact with Higher Education Institutions
5. Completing your Gateways membership
6. CDA cohort
7. Other assistance as needed

Call (309) 686-3750 Option 7

Home Daycare Professional Group

Second Monday of the Month

6:30 p.m. - 8:00 p.m.

Zoom Meeting



For more information on any of our programs and services
Call: (309) 686-3750 | Fax: (309) 686-3850 | Visit: www.salccc.org
Child Care Assistance Program Option 2
Referrals Option 3
Training Registration Option 4
Grants Option 5
Smart Start Grant Expert Option 6
Higher Education Navigation Option 7
Quality Visits or Information on ExceleRate Option 9

SAL COMMUNITY SERVICES

Child Care Connection of Central Illinois

3425 N. Dries Ln
Peoria, IL 61604



@salchildcareconnection