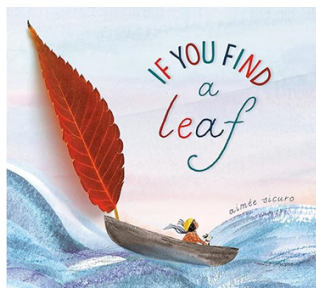


The Scoop in Family Child Care

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Featured Book

An exquisite picture book that celebrates the fall season and encourages children to see the colorful leaves around them in an entirely new way. The artist uses real leaves of vibrant hues to make her oh-so-charming illustrations. In this story, a young artist draws inspirations from the leaves she



collects, and every leaf sparks a new idea. Any young reader who turns the pages of this beautiful book will be inspired to use their imagination as they hunt for leaves this fall. And, for young readers who want to make their own leaf creations, there are tips for including leaves in their artwork and other fun crafts.

https://youtu.be/bnYFui4oKHc?si=1bJiVPnVr_7VRtTh

Sensory

Backyard Scavenger Hunt

Falling leaves, acorns, and pinecones will soon be making an appearance in your backyard, making it the perfect time to send the kids outside for a fall-themed scavenger hunt.



Things you can search for include:

- Leaves (red, yellow, brown, green)
- Rocks
- Seeds
- Pinecones or Pine Needles
- Squirrels and other critters

Art Project

Pine Cone Creatures

Materials Needed

- Pinecones
- Acorns
- Sticks
- Leaves
- Googly Eyes
- Glue



Instructions

Allow the children to put items together to create their very own creations. Will it be a squirrel, cat, or dog? Will it be a bus, plane, or train? Their imagination is the limit as they use natural materials to create.

Finger Play

Autumn Leaves are Falling

Autumn leaves are falling down
falling down

Autumn leaves are falling down
I love autumn

Raking leaves is so much fun
so much fun
so much fun

Raking leaves is so much fun
I love autumn



<https://youtu.be/blq51Vss5Xs?si=4kIKs1LNyKAFBU-k>

Nutrition

Fall Snack Mix

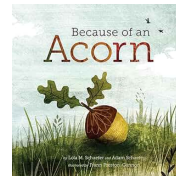
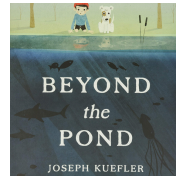
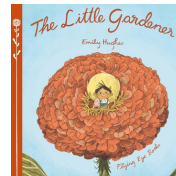
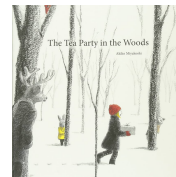
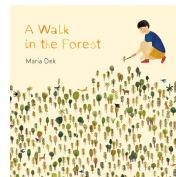
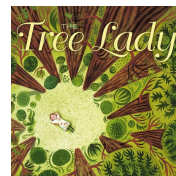
Using divided trays, have your kids make their own snack mix tray! This snack can be fully customized to each child.

Some of Our Favorites

- Goldfish
- Pretzels
- Teddy Grahams
- Raisins
- Chex Mix Cereal



Seasonal Books



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Referral Services

New Vacancy Updates Survey

You should have received a postcard in the mail announcing our upcoming Vacancy Updates survey. Starting in November, you should receive an email with a personalized link to a Jotform survey. We ask all providers to fill out this form when you get them to have the best dataset possible. If your vacancies change throughout the month, you can fill out the survey again through the email link or by going to our website.

If you have any questions, contact our Referral Specialist, Jessi, at jguzman@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

Fire Safety in Family Child Care

1. Have a comprehensive fire safety plan.
2. Smoke detectors are installed in key areas and tested monthly.
3. Fire extinguishers are placed in accessible areas and providers have been trained in their proper use.
4. Fire drills are practiced monthly to familiarize both providers and children with the exit routes and meeting points outside of the home.
5. Electrical outlets should have covers or be childproofed.
6. Any flammable materials, such as cleaning supplies and paper products, should be stored away from heat sources.

Grants

Did you know as a licensed child care program, you can apply for a training stipend?

This stipend can be used to cover the cost of required trainings for programs working towards or maintaining an ExceleRate Illinois Circle of Quality. The stipend can cover up to 80% of the training fee and the full cost of travel and/or lodging accommodations needed.

To learn more about this stipend and if your program qualifies, contact our Providers Services Manager, Kami, at kmclure@salccc.org or (309) 686-3750, Option 5.

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

November's Theme: Toys v. Materials



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