

CONNECTIONS

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Summer Safety Tips *Release*

Summer is here and thousands of kids across Massachusetts are out of school. Summer vacation is a great time for parents to relax and spend more time with their children, but new activities and changes in schedules can create a number of challenges. More outdoor activity occurs and greater risks to your child's safety occur.

The Children's Trust Fund of Massachusetts offers parents a few tips that they should consider when talking to children about summer safety.



1. Never leave a child alone in a vehicle. Leaving children unattended in a car during hot weather is the leading cause of motor-vehicle-related fatalities nationwide for children under the age of 14.
2. Teach children the buddy system. Children are safer with another child than they are alone. They can use the system even when an adult is watching them in public areas.
3. Teach children to check with the adult in charge first. Teach children to check with the adult in charge before changing plans. This starts as early as 4 or 5 when moving around a large playground/park area.

4. Help them to identify trusted adults. Talk openly about whom a child should go to in an emergency. Cite specific examples of a police or fire man, the cashier at the store or another parent with children.

5. Teach children telephone skills and identifying information. Between ages 3 & 4 children should know their first & last names and address. Here in Hull where children get lost frequently on the beach, teach the child how to identify where you sit each time at the beach- my children learned early on that they needed to stay in front of the red roof when in the water. Place a temporary scotch tape bracelet with your name and cell number on their wrist while out in large venues.

6. Teach them to use appropriate safety equipment such as helmets or wrist/knee pads when on a bike or roller blades/ skates, life jackets on boats. It is the law in Massachusetts that children under the age of 16 must wear a helmet on a bike. If at all possible wear the equipment yourself, children learn best by example.

For additional hints on summer safety and how to keep your child safe in multiple settings, contact the Children's Trust fund at (888)775-4543 for the free brochure "10 Ways to Keep Children Safe" or go online to www.mctf.org

Adapted from the Children's Trust Fund News



Wayne Potash returns to the Hull Family Network for a night of Music Fun on Monday July 26th at 6:30 p.m. We will be outside weather permitting.

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Published by Maggie Ollerhead & Joan F. MacDonald

Hull Early Childhood Advisory Council

Community Partnerships for Children

Free "FUN FRIDAYS"

The Highland Street Foundation is sponsoring free admission on "Fun Fridays" at a different location each week this summer.

Friday, July 2

Plimoth Plantation

Admission to the Mayflower II is included.

137 Warren Ave. - Plymouth, MA

Friday, July 9

Franklin Park Zoo

1 Franklin Park Rd. - Dorchester, MA

Friday, July 16

Boston Harbor Island Alliance

Free ferry ride to Georges or Spectacle Island **

408 Atlantic Ave. - Boston, MA

Friday, July 23

JFK Presidential Library & Museum

Columbia Point - Boston, MA

Friday, July 30

Museum of Fine Arts

465 Huntington Ave. - Boston, MA

Friday, August 6

Peabody Essex Museum

161 Essex St. - Salem, MA

Friday, August 13

Old Sturbridge Village

1 Old Sturbridge Village Rd. - Sturbridge, MA

Friday, August 20

Institute of Contemporary Art

100 Northern Ave. - Boston, MA

Friday, August 27

Museum of Science

1 Science Park - Boston, MA

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From the CPC Coordinator's Desk.....

By Maggie Ollerhead - mollerhead@town.hull.ma.us

With the beginning of the new fiscal year comes many changes to the child care system. As of July 1st we will no longer have Community Care for Kids (CCK) in Quincy as our resource and referral agency. The new agency is Community Care Resource Center (CCRC) based out of Cambridge, MA. This agency will begin contacting current recipients of scholarships to renew paperwork. This is also the agency that parents will go to for applications and any other information regarding childcare/preschool assistance. To contact CCRC please call Randi Epstein at 617-547-1063 or email epstein@ccrcinc.org.

Summer Fun with Paper Dolls

Who remembers the fun of playing with paper dolls as a young child? Summertime is a great time to introduce your children to this play from your youth with the websites listed below. The practice coloring, cutting and using their creativity making up adventures for their dolls are wonderful ways to practice school skills. Want to learn more about paper dolls? See:

- "History of Paper Dolls," by Judy M. Johnson, Original Paper Doll Artists Guild, <http://www.opdag.com>

- "Artful Paper Dolls: New Ways to Play with a Traditional Form," by Terry Taylor (Lark, 2006), which provides photos, background and ideas on creating your own dolls.

To help your children create dolls about some of their favorite characters, you can also try:

- Welcome to Berenstain Bear Country!, <http://www.berenstainbears.com/> and select "Activities" from the left menu.

- Welcome to Jan Brett's Home Page, <http://www.janbrett.com>, scroll down to select "Activities Pages" and then click on "Hedgie and Helga Costumes."

- To create their own dolls and clothes using templates, kids can go to "Paper Goodies from Judy's Place," <http://www.papergoodies.com> and select "Free downloads" from the left menu. The "JMJ Paper Doll Crafting Kit" includes trace-around templates for dresses, collars, bows and other decorations for dozens of different dress designs for the two full-color girl dolls.

- Take digital photographs of your family members standing in their bathing suits. Print the photos onto cardstock. Use scraps of fabric, scrapbook paper and clothing cut out from clothing ads to dress up your family.



Hull Early Childhood Advisory Council

Hull Family Network

Note from the HFN Coordinator:

Joan F. MacDonald, jmacdonald@town.hull.ma.us

Summer is here and so are we this year. We will be offering playgroups 4 mornings a week and I will be available by email or telephone for any questions if you aren't attending group. There will be several days that we are closed for group that are noted on our calendar. Our newsletter covers the entire summer so be sure to flip the calendar over to see our August dates in addition to July's calendar.

Thanks to a grant from the Target Foundation we are hosting a music concert with Wayne Potash on July 26th at 7 p.m. Bring your blankets or beach chairs and enjoy an evening of Music Fun outside on the lawn at the Jacobs School. If the weather doesn't cooperate we will come indoors.

We will do fall playgroup registration on Wed. September 8th and have groups resume on September 13.

Local Summer Resources

Summer is a great time to get out, explore and try some local events.

*The Hull Public Library offers a weekly storytelling session on Wednesday mornings at 10:30 and offers passes to a variety of local museums. They are also hosting Steve Rudolph Magic Show at 2:00 pm on July 7th and Radical Reptiles of Randolph on July 27th at 10 a.m.

*The South Shore Mom's & Dad's guide has a website with listing for a variety of activities, www.momsanddadsguide.com



*The Trustees of the Reservation, www.thetrustees.org, offers a variety of programs at Weir River Farm, World's End geared towards preschool and elementary aged children.

*The Hingham Library, www.hinghamlibrary.org offers age specific story times on Thursday at 10:30 and has a variety of other special events throughout the summer.

*Musician's and storytellers are offered weekly in July through the Cohasset Library (781) 383-1348. The website is www.cohassetlibrary.org.

Free "FUN FRIDAYS"

Continued

Grand Finale Weekend

Friday, September 3

New England Historic
Genealogical Society
Sports Museum
Boston, MA

EcoTarium
Worcester, MA

Cape Cod Museum of Art-
Dennis, MA

New Bedford Whaling Museum
New Bedford, MA

Concord Museum
Concord, MA

Stone Zoo
Stoneham, MA

Buttonwood Park Zoo
New Bedford, MA

Saturday, September 4

Edward Gorey House
Yarmouth Port, MA

Worcester Art Museum
Worcester, MA

USS Constitution Museum
- Charlestown, MA

Naismith Memorial Basketball
Hall of Fame
- Springfield, MA

American Textile History
Museum
- Lowell, MA

Discovery Museums
- Acton, MA

Cape Cod Children's Museum
- Mashpee, MA

Berkshire Museum-Pittsfield,
MA



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Check our website for additional
events and information at
www.town.hull.ma.us
click on the Hull Schools link

This newsletter is a
collaboration of
Hull Family Network
&
Community Partnerships for
Children

Sponsored by grants from the
Massachusetts Department of Early
Education and Care

What is the Hull Family Network?

The Hull Family Network supports all parents and caregivers who have children prenatal through age three. Our goal is to help parents create and maintain a healthy family environment as well as to promote family well being through parent education and community support.

Funded by the Mass. Dept. of Early Education and Care through a grant to the Hull Public Schools, the Hull Family Network provides playgroups, parent education workshops, parent support groups, family activities, and information on parenting and community resources. By providing family recreational activities and playgroups, we hope to help parents build connections that will extend beyond the HFN Center and be a support to them. By providing parent education workshops, support groups, and having an extensive parenting lending library, we hope to help parents enhance their child-rearing skills.

Our programs are free to all residents of the town of Hull who are pregnant or have children through the age of three. Most of our programs are offered at our center which is located at 180 Harborview Rd. We are open Monday-Thursday and are always happy to meet a new family.

Save your beach memories

Materials:

Shells, sea glass, rocks

Mix 1 part white glue

With 6 parts sand

(you may need more sand so have extra available)



Shape the sand into a castle or other favorite beach shape. Decorate with items from your day at the beach. Allow to harden (will dry hard as a rock).