

CONNECTIONS

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The Benefits of Fathering

Father's have a powerful influence on the development and future of their children. Research conducted by Dr. Kyle Pruett of the Yale Child Study found that when a father plays a visible and nurturing role in his children's lives the situation leads to better outcomes for his children and himself.

Children are more likely to:

- *Be better equipped to solve problems: less susceptible to peer pressure and have higher self-esteem.
 - *Stay in school longer: more likely to get A's and participate in extracurricular activities.
 - *Are more ambitious, competent, self-protective and self-reliant.
- Fathers are more likely to:
- *Have better overall health.
 - *Have more satisfaction with work.
 - *Have a higher self-esteem and more positive self-image.



There are a variety of negative outcomes tied to uninvolved fathers such as lower education rates, increased risk of drug & alcohol use and increased rates of teen pregnancy.

Fathers help children individuate. He is more willing to let a child out of his sight than the mom will. A father will stand 3 times the distance a mother will away from a child, which encourages exploration by their child. A mother will pick up their child the same way 9 of 10 times, yet a father will pick up his child differently 9 of 10 times.

Fathers use bigger words and longer sentences in less rhythmic sequences than a mother.

Infants who have time alone with their dad show richer social and exploratory behavior than children not exposed to such experiences.

Adapted from the Children's Trust Fund Fatherhood Kit



Happy Father's Day



Summer HFN Registration form is enclosed, return before June 22nd.

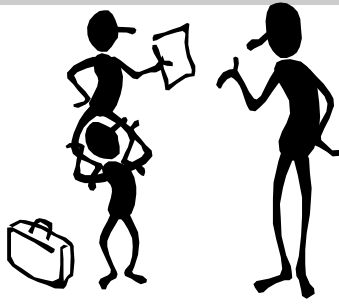
Inside this issue:

CPC news	2
Workshops & events	insert
Calendar	insert
Hull Family Network	3
Parenting Tips	4

Published by Maggie Ollerhead & Joan F. MacDonald

Hull Early Childhood Advisory Council

Community Partnerships for Children



**Complete your Hull
Early Childhood
Advisory Council
Needs Assessment
Now. Please, go to
www.town.hull.ma.us
click on Hull School
then either
Hull Family Network or
Community Partnerships
for Children**

How to make a Pencil Cup

You will need:

A medium plastic container (such as peanut butter jar or frosting can)

Construction paper

Assorted stickers

Crayons or markers

Craft glue

Cut construction paper to size of container. Using stickers, crayons or markers, let your child decorate the paper based on Dad's interests.

Glue the construction paper onto the container using craft glue.



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

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

There is a new needs assessment form that parents can fill out to help us in preparing for future activities. By filling out the assessment we will be able to see what workshops, events and other activities families are looking to have and also, which activities may not be valuable to families. The forms will be available at CPC & HFN events and activities along with an on-line version that can easily be filled out and automatically forwarded to us. The link to the online needs assessment is on the town website @ www.town.hull.ma.us, click on Hull School then either HFN or CPC. I encourage you to fill out the information so we can better serve you.

Make a Summer Memory Box

Whether or not your child enters school next fall, he's sure to be asked, "What did you do over the summer?" A fun way to answer is with a memory box:



1. Help your child glue cloth, wrapping paper or other material to the outside of a shoe box. Another option is to use calendar pages to cover the box and add events to the days.
2. Decorate the box with stickers, brochure pictures for potential visit sites or other art supplies.
3. During the summer, put reminders of special events in the box. Some examples are seashells, ticket stubs, brochures, photos and drawings. Bring crayons, scissors & glue sticks on vacation for an evening wind-down activity of cutting and pasting brochures from the day's event or drawing of the best part of that day's activities.
4. Have fun looking through the box as time passes, especially when someone asks, "What did you do over the summer?"

For easier storage, you can make a memory journal using a notebook and sheet protectors from an office supply store. Small items such as shells can be stored in a clip-in pencil case.

Hull Early Childhood Advisory Council

Hull Family Network

Note from the HFN Coordinator:

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

Last year, our lead agency, Massachusetts Department of Early Education And Care (EEC) began a process of combining the CPC and Family Network grants into one program. As a result, the family network has expanded its age range for some of our programs. We offer play and learn groups for children birth up to age 4 years, drop-in and play opportunities for children up to age 5 years, family events and parent education workshops for parents of children up to age 6 years. Older siblings are welcome to attend activities on a space available basis so don't hesitate to ask. We are here always to answer questions for families with children of all ages.

Every year we do some form of needs assessment to help guide us in planning the next year's events. This year we have added a few more questions to help complete data reports and to reflect some of the expanded age expectations of EEC. Although the form looks long, it really is simple. Please consider going on-line or completing the form during one of our activities.

Summer Beach Tips

The beach offers a variety of free and fun play time for children of all ages.

- ◆ Baby powder works like magic to remove wet sand from children in diapers as the talc in the powder dries out the moisture in the sand so it slides right off with the brush of a hand or t-shirt.
- ◆ Label all beach toys to help when cleaning up at the end of the day. Expect your toddler to want to try everyone else's toys on the beach as others will want to try yours.
- ◆ A small blow up pool can be used to contain a child just learning to crawl or if you have large free form folding gate it can be used to coral toddlers.
- ◆ Place a home wrist band made of tape and permanent marker on your child's arm with your cell phone number, beach location and address so that if they wander off, adults can help him find you more easily.



Scrip... a great way to raise money for the Hull Family Network!

See the enclosed scrip letter for details. By pre-purchasing gift certificates for your everyday purchases the HFN earns money to use for programming.



**Hull of a Day
Celebration
L Street Field
Saturday
June 26, 2010
Parade from A St. at 10
Events beginning at field
11:00 a.m.**

HULL PUBLIC SCHOOLS

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Hull, MA 02045

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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.

Soap on a rope is good, clean fun

Here's a fun and easy craft that will make any Dad happy of Father's Day: soap on a rope! So, forget the usual gifts this year, gather the following materials and get ready to have some good, clean fun.

Materials

- 3 white bars of soap (preferably Ivory)
- Cheese grater
- Twine (1/4 inch thick)
- Big mixing bowl
- Warm water
- Wax paper
- Food coloring (optional)
- Disposable gloves

Method

- Grate the white soap bars into your large bowl.
- Add warm water slowly until mix is like thick oatmeal.
- For colored soap, add food coloring – but remember to wear your gloves, as food coloring will stain your hands.
- Mix with hands or utensil and set aside.
- Lay out wax paper, then cut twine long enough so it can hang in the shower.
- Pat soap mixture into a ball around twine. Make sure twine is in the center of the ball.
- Place ball and twine on wax paper until dry (about 24 hours)

