



QUARTERLY NEWS!



Child Care Licensing Program Florida Department of Health in Pinellas County

Volume 1
Issue 2

CHILDREN'S CENTERS WINTER EDITION

Winter Weather, Florida Style

By Jorie Massarsky
CCLP Supervisor, Centers

While we don't often think of having "winter" in Florida, there is definitely a change in temperature from our normal 90's and it can sometimes get downright chilly outside.

Children still need to go outside at least twice a day in full day programs, even if it is cool. At this time of year, we have so many glorious blue-sky, no humidity days that are

perfect for running around and enjoying. Over the years, we have heard that when the temperature gets below 60 degrees, some people feel "it is too cold to take children outside," but this is absolutely not

the case. Up north, this is considered the first day of spring and everyone is outside enjoying the end of ice and



snow. However, certain protocols need to be put into place to ensure that children can enjoy their time outside.

That spare set of clothing that is normally shorts and a t-shirt now needs to be a long sleeve shirt and pants. A note can be sent home to parents advising them that children will be going outside on all days that it is not raining and they need appropriate clothing. Teachers should be

"At this time of year, we have so many glorious blue-sky, no humidity days that are perfect for running around and enjoying."

aware of who has complied with the request and who has not. Parents should be encouraged to dress their children in layers so that as the temperature warms, that extra sweatshirt or sweater can come off. Infants that are taken for walks in strollers or buggies can wear hats and be covered with blankets or quilts to ensure

they are warm and snuggly.

Directors can ask parents to donate outerwear, sweatpants, and long sleeve shirts that their families have outgrown to be kept for use if a child comes to care without a jacket or sweater.

Just as we recommend in the summer heat, in the cool winter, outside times can be shortened so that children go out more frequently but for shorter periods of time. The times can also be moved toward the middle of the day when the temperature is usually at its highest and the sun is directly overhead.

Finally, please remember that the indoor temperature of the children's center needs to be between 65 and 82 degrees. If there is a substantial morning chill and your heat isn't working, you need to check the thermostat to make sure that you are in compliance with the regulation.

Enjoy this break from the heat. In September, you will be saying, "when will this heat ever end?" **Well it's gone for now, so let's enjoy!**

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With Faith Bornoff, M.Ed.
Executive Director



The Pinellas County Child Care Licensing Program office is open Monday-Friday from 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Although I am hopeful there is never a reason for you to use our new after-hours service, there is now one available in the event that you do. The system allows you to leave a message for a return call on the next business day when calling outside of our office hours. I am aware that most of your Children's Centers have extended hours to accommodate the families you have enrolled, and emergencies can happen at any hour of the day. If the call is urgent in nature, and cannot wait until the next business day for a return call, there are instructions in the after-hours message that will allow you to contact someone right away.

Our office hours are separate from our operating hours. Please note, your Children's Center could receive an inspection visit during any of your operating hours. "Office hours" refers to the hours our office personnel are available to take calls. Our Licensing Specialists are very dedicated to their jobs and will work the hours necessary to fulfill their inspection responsibilities.

I hope this information is helpful, and allows for better communications between PCLB and you as a provider. Thank you for the work you do every day with the children of Pinellas County. Our future is in your hands, and we are grateful for your dedication.

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Child Care Licensing Program
Florida Department of Health in Pinellas County



Winter



MONTHLY TRAININGS



FEBRUARY 12, 2019

RECORD KEEPING FOR CHILDREN'S CENTERS is a four and a half (4 1/2) hour training comprised of an overview of regulations regarding record keeping including personnel, children, and facility records. Participants will receive a training packet that includes required and optional forms, and learn practical ideas for setting up and maintaining files in order to be in compliance with regulations. This training is appropriate for prospective or new owners/directors and as an update for current child care personnel with record keeping responsibilities. A certificate documenting four and a half (4.5) hours of annual inservice training will be issued.

REGISTRATION FEE: \$40.00 Prepaid non-refundable fee due prior to training

TIME: 8:30 AM. – 1:00 PM

LOCATION: Pinellas County Health Department, 8751 Ulmerton Road, Largo, Florida 33771

JANUARY 8, 2019

DIRECTOR'S ORIENTATION FOR INFANT CARE is a three (3) hour training comprised of regulations pertaining specifically to infant care, and best practices in caring for children from birth to 2 years of age. Participants will receive a training packet that includes a copy of the Infant Standards, required and sample forms, and brochures. This training is required for directors who plan to start an infant program. A certificate documenting three (3) hours of annual inservice training will be issued.

REGISTRATION FEE: \$25.00 Prepaid non-refundable fee due prior to training

TIME: 9:00 A.M. - 12:00 Noon:

LOCATION: Pinellas County Health Department, 8751 Ulmerton Road, Largo, Florida 33771

MARCH 12, 2019

DIRECTOR'S ORIENTATION FOR INFANT CARE is a three (3) hour training comprised of regulations pertaining specifically to infant care, and best practices in caring for children from birth to 2 years of age. Participants will receive a training packet that includes a copy of the Infant Standards, required and sample forms, and brochures. This training is required for directors who plan to start an infant program. A certificate documenting three (3) hours of annual inservice training will be issued.

REGISTRATION FEE: \$25.00 Prepaid non-refundable fee due prior to training

TIME: 9:00 A.M. - 12:00 Noon:

LOCATION: Pinellas County Health Department, 8751 Ulmerton Road, Largo, Florida 33771

Children's Center Training Registration Form

Registration form and prepaid non-refundable fee due prior to training

(\$40.00) Record Keeping for Children's Centers

(\$25.00) Director's Orientation for Infant Care

Name (Please Print): _____ Telephone: _____

Center Name: _____

Street, City, & Zip Code: _____

Date of Training: _____ Fee Enclosed: _____

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Florida Department of Health in Pinellas County



Winter



Mission:

To protect, promote & improve the health of all people in Florida through integrated state, county & community efforts.



Ron DeSantis
Governor

Vision: To be the Healthiest State in the Nation

January 18, 2019

Dear Child Care Facility Owner/Operator:

There is an alarming increase in cases of hepatitis A in Florida, including in the Tampa Bay region. In 2018, the Florida Department of Health in Pinellas County (DOH-Pinellas) reported 113 cases of hepatitis A in Pinellas County alone. This is significantly higher than Pinellas County's previous five-year average of three reported cases. Hepatitis A is caused by a virus that attacks the liver and causes severe illness which can lead to hospitalization. The virus can contaminate food and water, spread from person to person and live on surfaces for months if not properly disinfected.

DOH-Pinellas wants to ensure that adults and children are protected from hepatitis A. **The most effective way to prevent hepatitis A infection is to get vaccinated.** The hepatitis A vaccine is safe and highly effective and is given in two doses, 6 to 12 months apart. The hepatitis A vaccine is available at most clinics and pharmacies in Pinellas County. **For a limited time, DOH-Pinellas is offering the vaccine at no cost to all residents and visitors at any of the clinic locations.**

Additionally, washing hands with soap and water for 20 seconds after using the restroom and changing diapers and prior to preparing and eating food can also prevent the spread of diseases such as hepatitis A, flu and norovirus (stomach flu).

The symptoms of hepatitis A can include fever, loss of appetite, nausea, vomiting, diarrhea, abdominal pain, fever, jaundice (yellowing of the skin or whites of the eyes), dark urine (orange or brown) and clay-colored stool (gray or white). **Most children under 6 years of age do not have symptoms when they have hepatitis A.** When symptoms are present, young children typically do not have jaundice, but most older children and adults with hepatitis A have jaundice.

If a staff member or attendee reports these symptoms, they should be excluded from the facility until they have been evaluated by a health care professional and cleared to return to the child care facility.

Along with this letter is an infographic that provides information on hepatitis A. For more information on hepatitis A, please visit www.cdc.gov/hepatitis/hav.

If you have any questions or have any concerns about hepatitis A, please contact DOH-Pinellas at 727-824-6932. Thank you for your assistance in preventing the spread of hepatitis A in Pinellas County.

Sincerely,

Kevin Baker, MPH, CPH, CHES
Epidemiology Program Manager
Florida Department of Health in Pinellas County

Florida Department of Health
in Pinellas County
205 Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. St. N. • St. Petersburg, FL 33701-3109
PHONE: (727) 824-6932 • FAX (727) 484-3865
FloridaHealth.gov

 Accredited Health Department
Public Health Accreditation Board

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What You Need To Know About **HEPATITIS A**

HOW IT'S SPREAD:

- Close contact with a person who has hepatitis A
- Eating food or drinking something contaminated with hepatitis A
- Touching a surface contaminated with hepatitis A
- Oral to anal, finger to anal or object to anal sexual contact with an infected partner

Hepatitis A is a virus that can harm your liver. It is passed through the feces of an infected person.



SYMPTOMS:

- Fever
- Feeling tired
- Stomach pain
- Nausea and vomiting
- Diarrhea
- Dark urine
- Gray-colored stool
- Yellowing of skin or eyes

If you think you may have hepatitis A, contact your doctor immediately.

HIGH-RISK GROUPS:

- Those who use drugs
- Those currently homeless or couch-surfing
- Men who have sex with men
- Those recently in jail or prison
- Travelers to countries where hepatitis A is common



PREVENTION:

GET VACCINATED

The Florida Department of Health in Pinellas County and most clinics offer the two-dose hepatitis A vaccine. Visit PinellasHealth.com or call 727-824-6932 for more info.

WASH YOUR HANDS

Use soap and water to wash hands after using the bathroom, changing a diaper and before eating or preparing food.



Florida Department of Health in Pinellas County Locations:

Clearwater
310 N. Myrtle Ave.
Clearwater, FL 33755

Mid-County
8751 Ulmerton Rd.
Largo, FL 33771

Pinellas Park
6350 76th Ave. N.
Pinellas Park, FL 33781

St. Petersburg
205 Dr. MLK Jr. St. N.
St. Petersburg, FL 33701

Tarpon Springs
301 S. Disston Ave.
Tarpon Springs, FL 34689



Creative Corner

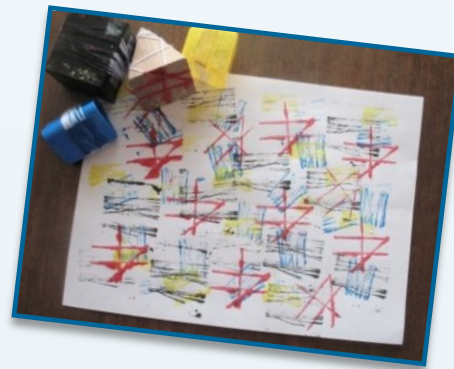
Fun, educational activities kids LOVE

Line Design Prints

Lots of things are made up of lines! Line designs can be straight, curvy, zigzagged, or wavy. Teach your children how to create lots and lots of line designs by wrapping string around wooden blocks and using them to create line-filled prints. Children can press the wrapped blocks onto plates filled with various colors of tempera paints. Challenge them to fill an entire paper with lines!

What You Need:

- Small boxes or wooden or plastic shapes
- String
- Tape
- Scissors
- Tempera paint
- Paper plates
- White paper



What You Do:

- Look around your learning environment for different types of lines with your children. Encourage them to think of words to describe all the different kinds of lines they find.
- Find several blocks or small boxes to use for creating a piece of art.
- Provide the children with lengths of string to use for wrapping the blocks. Tape one end to the block and then allow the children to wrap the shape—a great way to boost those fine motor skills. Once the string has been used up, tape the other end to secure it in place.
- Now, place small amounts of tempera paint in paper plates.
- Position a piece of paper next to each child along with the wrapped shapes.
- Invite the children to press the string-wrapped shapes in the tempera paint, a then stamp them onto the paper to create a line design.

Use the finished line design artwork as wrapping paper or for decorating the front of a handmade card!
See this and many other activities at: <https://www.education.com/activity/preschool/>

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Child Care Licensing Program

Florida Department of Health in Pinellas

8751 Ulmerton Road, Suite 2000

Largo, Florida 33771

(727) 507-4857

pclb.org

Mission

To protect and promote the health, safety, and mental development of children cared for in children's centers and family child care homes in Pinellas County.

Vision

Every child has access to quality child care and education in an environment that values diversity.

Values

Commitment
Integrity
Quality

Staff Spotlight

Paula Boardman

Senior Clerk, Children's Centers



I'm very excited to start my new career as the Senior Clerk for Centers with the Child Care Licensing Program at Department of Health.

I moved to Florida from North Dakota in July of 2017, so I went from the coldest state to the hottest state! I also lived in Massachusetts for 25 years, so yes, I'm a PATRIOTS fan!

I am married to Thomas Boardman and we have two awesome boys, Jacob and Jared. Jacob, my oldest son, completed his first year of college at the University of North Dakota but made the move to Florida in May of 2018. My younger son, Jared, is attending to Palm Harbor University High School.

Paula