

## Building Families Early Childhood Area

Ann Stewart, LBSW, Director  
500 Fair Meadow Drive, Suite A  
Webster City, Iowa 50595  
515-832-1791 Ex: 201  
astewart@hamiltoncountymhsb.org

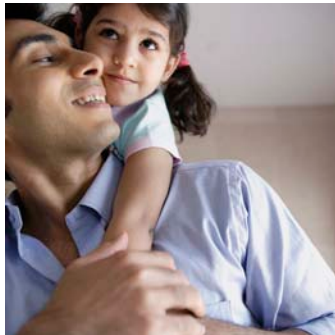
# Newsletter

## September 2011

### In The Spot Light

Deb Jordahl, family support worker for the Hamilton County HOPES program has been awarded a Child Development Associate credential in recognition of outstanding work with young children.

**Good job! Awesome! Hug yourself! I am proud of you! Kiss your brain! Give yourself a hug! Way to go! I like the way you did that! Keep up the good work!**



**Want to sponsor a parent education group? We pay for child care, the meal, and you assist with the space and handing out the fliers. Call Ann at 515-832-1791.**

Like us on **Facebook** and get updates on legislation and tips on parenting and childcare.

<http://www.facebook.com/home.php#!/BuildingFamilies>

### ECI News

Amy Danielson, from Humboldt is our new Early Childhood Education Consultant for Hamilton, Humboldt and Wright Counties. Amy has a Bachelor of Arts in Early Childhood Education from Wesleyan College in Mt. Pleasant. She has worked as a preschool teacher, Parents as Teachers Parent Educator, behavior disorder teacher and Special Education Teacher. Amy's husband Tim is the High School Special Education Teacher in West Bend. Amy and Tim reside in Humboldt. Amy and other ECI staff will be going on a "road trip" to visit all preschools and introduce Amy to the preschool staff. You can contact Amy at 515-832-3953.

[adanielson@hamiltoncountymhsb.org](mailto:adanielson@hamiltoncountymhsb.org) or [adanielson@carrollfrc.org](mailto:adanielson@carrollfrc.org)

### Professional Development

Coming this year sponsored by Building Families will be Positive Behavior and Intervention Supports and Early Learning Standards. The Gold Assessment class is being held September 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> and is currently full.

### Surveys---

In the next two months we plan to have several Survey Monkeys out to service providers, child care, and parents. Please plan to take the time to fill out the survey as it will assist us in identification of needs in our ECI area. Also please send the survey to your contacts as we hope to have as much input from our communities as possible. Thanks for your cooperation. ~ Ann



Building Families

## Parents Only!! Activity

### Cut and Paste

When a child can use his fingers and wrist well he can begin using scissors. Scissors is a tool he will utilize the rest of his life and he needs to develop the control in his fingers and wrist when he begins writing.

- ✚ Offer safe children's scissors and assist the child to monitor use.
- ✚ Let him hold the scissors so they are comfortable for him.
- ✚ Show him the blades and how they open and shut.
- ✚ Hold a thin strip of firm paper and let him snip it. He may cut it through or just make cuts.
- ✚ Offer positive feedback by saying "Your making snips with your paper, your cutting very carefully."
- ✚ Allow the child to hold the paper as he cuts but be there for help if he needs it.
- ✚ Then you can assist him in pasting the cut pieces together or if you used different colored paper, pasting the pieces on plain paper to make a picture.
- ✚ Always hang the picture on the refrigerator!

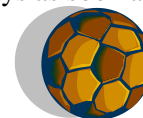


### BUILDING FAMILIES PROJECTS:

- ✚ HOPES in-home visitation
- ✚ Parenting Classes
- ✚ Ages and Stages Assessment
- ✚ Resource Information
- ✚ Preschool Scholarships
- ✚ Playground Safety Checks
- ✚ Positive Behavior and Intervention Supports
- ✚ Activity Kits

## Child Care Providers Only!!

Ages and Stages---Through Building Families and Prevent Child Abuse Iowa grants Building Families will be distributing Ages and Stages assessments to child care providers and centers in an effort to evaluate as many children aged 2 months through five years for developmental delays. Parents will complete the assessment and will send back to Building Families to evaluate. We need your assistance by handing out the assessments to the parents. In order to do this we will need the ages of the children you serve by month. Ann or the parent coordinator (to be hired) will be calling all providers for their children's ages. We will also provide this assessment to preschools if you are not already participating in the Ages and Stages assessment. Our goal is to identify developmental delays as soon as possible.



### Activity

#### "You've Got to Have Friends"

*Gail E. Joseph, Ph.D. & Phillip S. Strain, Ph.D. Center on Evidence Based Practices for Early Learning University of Colorado at Denver*

Early friendships are the most powerful predictor of long term adjustment. To make friends children need to be reciprocal in their interactions and responsive to others. Specific behaviors in play are directly related to having friends:

- ✚ Organizing Play – "Let's play trucks."
- ✚ Sharing –Children with friends ask a friend a request in the form of, "Can I have some paint" and they also share when a peer asks.
- ✚ Assisting Others –they can tell or show a friend how to do something.
- ✚ Giving compliments—appearances, another child's success, or something they did or made.

Using cooperative toys sets the stage for making friendships.

Balls	Puppets
Wagons	Two telephones
Teeter-totters	Dress-up clothes
Dramatic play materials	Tire swings
Rocking boats	Board games

*Use this link to read the entire article:*

<http://csefel.vanderbilt.edu/modules/module2/handout3.pdf>